

News from the Parishes of Holy Family, Pensby and Our Lady & St. John, Heswall

OUR PARISH CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN DURING THIS CURRENT LOCKDOWN

As per the latest [Government Guidelines](#) both our Parish Churches are allowed to remain open for Mass. However, as a community, we must all do our bit to ensure that we are keeping each other safe. We can do this by making sure that we are familiar with the rules that have been set:

- ★ Please sanitise your hands on arrival and when leaving church.
- ★ Please wear a face covering when in church, ensuring your nose and mouth are covered.
- ★ Please sit where the stewards direct you, and remain in that seat throughout the service.
- ★ Please do not kneel as this reduces the distance to the person in front of you.
- ★ Please stand and sit at the same time as the congregation to maintain distancing to the person in front of you.
- ★ At communion, please maintain a single file and keep distanced from the person in front of you.
- ★ Approach the minister with your mask on and arms outstretched, receiving the host in your hand.
- ★ Move away from the minister and slip your mask open and place the host in your mouth.
- ★ Replace your mask and leave church, please do not return to a seat, or stand at the back of church.
- ★ Please do not mingle outside church, but leave the premises promptly.

It is appreciated that some of these requested may cause concern for some people, but our aim is to ensure that as far as possible our activities do not contribute to the spread of the virus. We do not know who has the virus, we must act as though we all have it and behave in a manner which seeks to protect others in our group.

Please be reminded that in these difficult times ***there is no duty to come to church, and no obligation to attend Mass on Sunday.*** Currently infection rates on the Wirral are at their highest levels ever. The government has issued advice for those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, summarised below:

- ★ The new national lockdown guidance, which applies to everyone, means that you must not leave or be outside of your home and garden, except for limited purposes which are set out in that guidance.
- ★ We are advising clinically extremely vulnerable people to stay at home as much as possible.
- ★ You can still go outside for exercise or to attend health appointments, but try to keep all contact with others outside of your household to a minimum, and avoid busy areas.
- ★ You may receive further advice from your medical professionals.

Don't forget that you can watch Mass from the parish via our [YouTube](#) channel as well as from our [Diocesan Cathedral in Shrewsbury](#).

Thank you for your co-operation & understanding.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

Leprosy is a tragic condition that isolates people from loved ones and society. Despite that the leper approaches Jesus and pleads on his knees, "If you want to, you can cure me." 'Feeling sorry' is a weak expression for Jesus' reaction. A colloquial translation of the original Greek would be 'feeling gutted.' Jesus reacts with compassion. Compassion is the ability to identify with a suffering person and to enter that person's world with care and love. This is shown by Jesus stretching out and touching the man. Only then does he say, "Of course I want to. Be cured." At once the leprosy leaves the man and he is cured. Jesus then warns him sternly to say nothing to anyone but go and show himself to the priest and make the offering prescribed by Moses as evidence of his cure. The man takes no notice and talks about it freely, so Jesus can no longer go openly into any town, but people still flock to see him out in the countryside. Contemporary miracles of healing are often a compassionate word or touch and the gift of continued presence and welcome to sufferers by the community of family and Church.



Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 14th February 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sun 14th February | 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) <i>Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed</i> | 9:30 am | Holy Family | Mass - Mr D. Collister |
| | | 11:15 am | OLSJ | Mass - Parishioners |
| Mon 15th February | Ferial | 9:30 am | OLSJ | Mass - Intentions of Rodger Hemington |
| Tues 16th February | Shrove Tuesday | 8:30 am | YouTube | Mass - Mr Collister & Family |
| Wed 17th February | Ash Wednesday | 9:30 am | Holy Family | Mass - Michael McDonagh R.I.P. |
| | | 7:00 pm | OLSJ | Mass - Gerard Topping Anniversary |
| Thurs 18th February | Thursday after Ash Wednesday | 9:30 am | OLSJ | Mass - Derry & Martin O'Brien R.I.P. |
| Fri 19th February | Friday after Ash Wednesday | 10:45 am | YouTube | Mass - Edward Wilson Funeral Mass |
| Sat 20th February | Saturday after Ash Wednesday | 12 noon | Holy Family | Mass - Richard Furlong R.I.P. |
| Sun 21st February | 1st Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week I) | 9:30 am | Holy Family | Mass - Intentions of Eileen Cantillon |
| | | 11:15 am | OLSJ | Mass - Parishioners |

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

**Edward (Ted) Wilson, William Frederick
Beaumont & Mary Susan McNulty**

who have recently died. May their souls rest in
peace. Please remember to pray for their families
at this difficult time.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those
in both parishes who are sick at home or in
hospital, including:

Catherine Maschke,

Gerry Smith,

Joe Lucas,

John Moroney,

Ken Davies,

Madge McGrath,

David Gorman,

Carol Ross,

Imelda Atherton,

Eileen Millard,

Pauline Pritchard,

Deacon Philip White,

Sara Bull,

Lil Skinner,

William Kerin,

David Johnston,

Phil Shaw,

Eileen Roberts,

Irene Fitzpatrick,

Frances Ford,

Maureen Jones,

Moira Griffiths-Parr,

Andrew Whittingham-Jones,

John McNulty,

Samantha Stevens,

Tony Newby

Please get in touch if there are any alterations.



**Wednesday
17th February 2021**

There will be **two** Masses on Ash Wednesday:

Holy Family at 9:30 am

&

OLSJ at 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated slightly differently
this year in accordance with the guidance issued by
The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

- The Ashes will be prepared without the use of oil or water.
- The Ashes will be blessed in the usual way after the Homily.
- The Priest will say, just once, to the whole congregation "Repent, and believe in the Gospel".
- The Distribution of ashes will take place at the end of Mass **before** Communion.
- Ashes will be distributed by sprinkling the Ashes on the top of the head without saying anything. The faithful **must also keep their face coverings** in place during the distribution of Ashes.
- Having received ashes, communion will be distributed by ministers at either side of the church in the usual manner. After which you are asked to leave the church.



Our **Children's Liturgy Pages** are being designed by one of our young parishioners who is volunteering with the Children's Liturgy Team for her Duke of Edinburgh award. She will be designing the activity sheets each week by hand.

Gift Aid – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The end of the tax year is drawing ever closer. If you Gift Aid your offertory donation it is important that you check you are paying sufficient tax to cover the amount we will reclaim under Gift Aid. If you are no longer paying tax or not enough tax to cover the claim you should contact us urgently:

Holy Family: Fred Taylor 342 5922

OLSJ: Bernard Larkin 342 5517

Catholic universe

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH

We are aware that at the moment you may be unable to get to church and collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE.

Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on **0161 820 5722** and they will arrange it for you.

Paper Copy

SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS @ £25.00

SPECIAL OFFER 12 Months @ £99.00

Digital Copy

SPECIAL OFFER 12 Months @ £55.00

Paper & Digital Copy

EASTER SPECIAL OFFER 12 months @ £115.00



'Walk For Water' – Action for Lent

Holy Family Justice & Peace Group

This year Cafod are appealing for support of the many poor people who suffer simply because of their need for drinking water, something we all take for granted. Cafod tells us how individuals need to walk many miles everyday simply to supply their family with water.

To help us join in this campaign we are asking parishioners (from either parish) to provide either **Volunteers** to walk, or, **Sponsors** who will offer their support for each mile walked.

For example, sponsorship could be at 50p per mile and limited to 40 miles, to provide a donation of £20. The distance and limit will be at the discretion of the individual sponsor. The donations will be collected at the end of Lent. Cafod envelopes will be available for cash or cheques and bank transfers can be arranged.

Volunteers can be individuals, families or other groupings, give themselves a 'fun' name or simply remain anonymous. Sponsors can select their Volunteers or choose to be randomly allocated to a Volunteer and also to remain anonymous if preferred.

Will those willing to help, either as Volunteers or Sponsors please contact :

Fred Taylor at 342-5922 or any J&P member.

walk.cafod.org.uk



Year of St Joseph

Prayer from the Roman Missal

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

Ancient Prayer to Saint Joseph

Oh Saint Joseph whose protection is so strong, so great, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain from your Divine Son for me all spiritual blessings through Christ Our Lord, so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh Saint Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name, and kiss His fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.



Pray for those with Coronavirus

Please keep everyone who is currently suffering from Coronavirus in your prayers. We especially pray for Father Paul O'Grady, the Parish Priest at St. Winefride's, Neston as he continues to make a recovery from Coronavirus.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to God,
who alone makes us dwell in safety:
For all who are affected by coronavirus,
through illness or isolation or anxiety,
that they may find relief and recovery:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are guiding our nation at this time,
and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,
that through their skill and insights
many will be restored to health:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the vulnerable and the fearful,
for the gravely ill and the dying,
that they may know your comfort and peace:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the intercession of Mary, Help of Christians and
Health of the Sick: *Hail Mary...*

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

WARNING Covid-19 Vaccine Scams

You may have seen in the media that the police are warning people about a number of Covid-19 Vaccine scams going on. Police have warned that fraudsters are sending out fake text messages, emails and phone calls in an attempt to steal people's personal data and financial details.

REMEMBER....

- ⇒ You will **NEVER** be asked to pay for the vaccine....it's free for everyone.
- ⇒ You should **NEVER** give out your personal details over the phone or via text or email.

The NHS will **NEVER** ask you to press a button on your keypad or send a text to confirm you want the vaccine, and will **NEVER** ask for payment or for your bank details.



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION

A Message of Thanks from The FairTrade Foundation

Dear Justice & Peace Group, Holy Family Church,

I hope you are safe and well, and 2021 has started as well as possible in these uncertain and challenging times.

I'm writing today as the unprecedented events of the last year have meant that we are delayed in saying thank you for the generous donation you made last year. Thank you so much for your donation last February - please accept my sincere apologies for the delay acknowledging your gift and sharing [this certificate](#) as a small token of our appreciation.

It's been a challenging time for us all, and for the farmers Fairtrade exists to support too. It's made your support even more valuable in helping us to extend our reach and deepen the impact of Fairtrade across the world at this crucial time.

Faced with the dual threat of a public health emergency and global supply chain disruption impacting orders and prices, Fairtrade has been on the front line throughout the pandemic, supporting farmers and workers to protect their communities, and safely continue growing and harvesting many of our favourite products.

It's brought into focus just how important the Fairtrade Minimum Price and Premium are, in protecting producers from cruelly volatile world markets, and having extra cash to invest in their local priorities. It's also a powerful reminder that there are still many more farmers and workers we need to reach with the unique benefits of Fairtrade.

Your donation will help us do exactly that. It allows us to run projects that bring Fairtrade to more farmers and workers, challenge unfair trade and deliver programmes that allow farmers to tackle threats such as climate change and the coronavirus pandemic.

Finally, I'm pleased to invite you to our upcoming '[Choose the World you Want](#)' virtual festival starting later this month, and if you haven't already, you can [sign up to our mailing list](#) to be updated about Fairtrade's latest news, campaigns and fundraising activities.

Thank you once again for your support for Fairtrade!

Adam Gardner

Head of Campaigns
The Fairtrade Foundation



Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team (SYMT) News Update

We have received a letter from SYMT and below is information that could be of interest to you all, especially young Catholics. Over the last few months the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team have had some great success with online ministry. We thought it might be good just to draw your attention to some of the great work that has been done.

 **Last May we started our YouTube channel** – Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team SYMT. This has grown from strength to strength with regular live broadcasts and constant content renewal. This would be a great resource for some of your parishioners, particularly the young. There will be even more exciting and new content coming up in the coming weeks.

 **Social Media** – We have always had a presence on social media we have Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts but this has grown since last March with a considerable increase in content and traffic across the platforms. Way to access information regarding SYMT Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team – Online Ministry Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching for @Shrewsbury_ymt Find us on YouTube by searching for Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team – SYMT, don't forget to subscribe so you know when we go live or release new content.

Some future events we want to draw your attention to:

The Collective – This is a group of young adults (18+) who are meeting together for faith and friendship. The meetings run via Zoom by the team the aim is to reach out to young adults who want to grow in their faith. The dates for the collective are: 4th February, 4th March and the 1st April. Anyone interested should email: youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Altar Servers Day – After the success of the servers day last year we decided to go online with our day this year. This year it will be running on the 27th of March via zoom. More information will be coming out via email in the coming weeks. For now if you would be interested the please do let us know but emailing: youth@dicoeseofshrewsbury.org

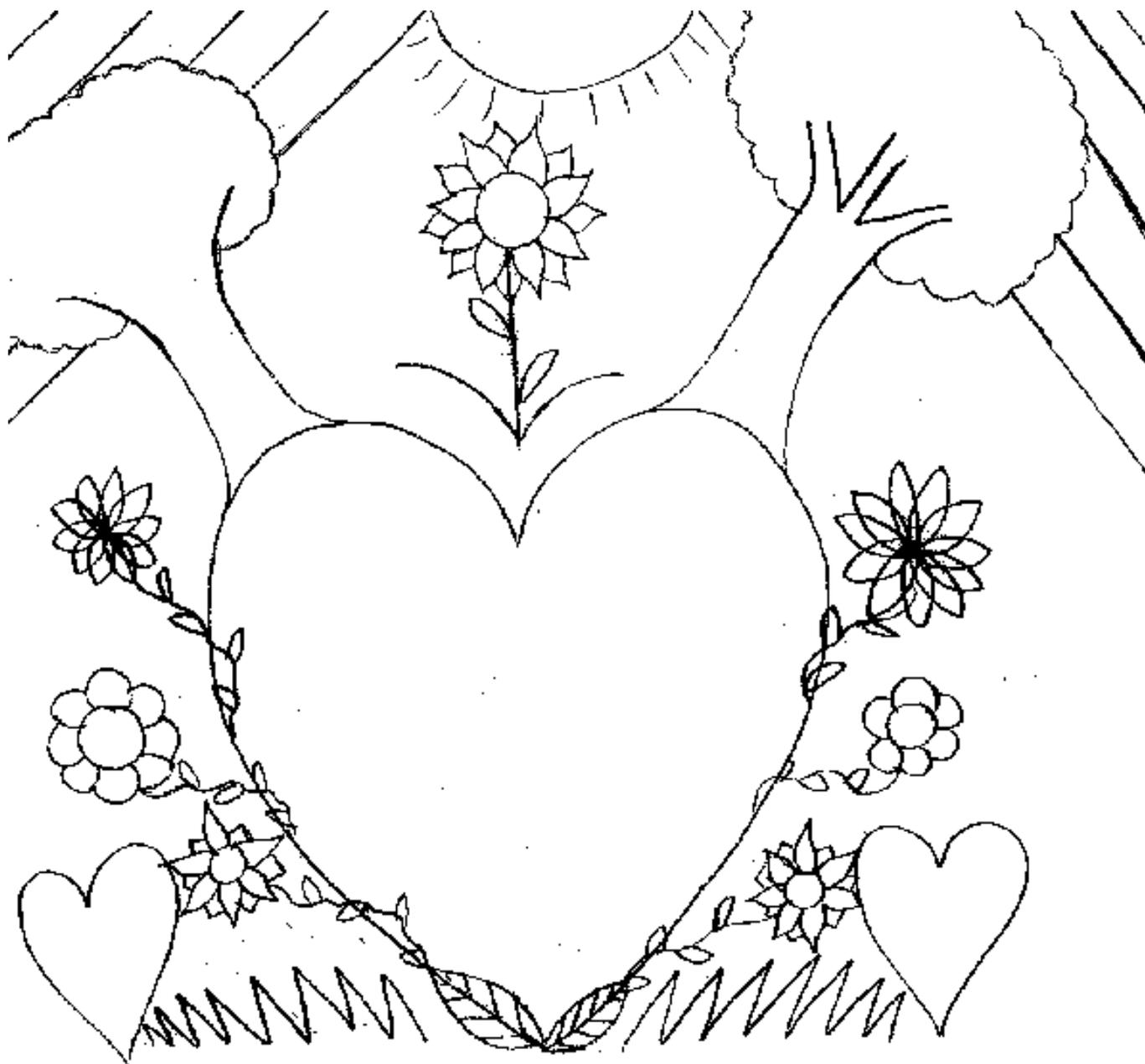
Lent and Easter - There is an exciting programme in place for Lent and Easter – more information to follow.



Children's Sunday Liturgy Page

This week's Children's Liturgy video can now be viewed from our YouTube channel or click on this link

[Children's Liturgy YouTube Video](#)



Inside the heart, write a prayer
about what you are thankful for



Children's Sunday Liturgy Page

This week's Children's Liturgy video can now be viewed from our YouTube channel or click on this link

[Children's Liturgy YouTube Video](#)

One day a _____
 came to Jesus. "If
 you _____ to, You
 can make me well,"
 he said. "Of course
 I _____ to!"
 replied Jesus, and
 he made him well.
 The man was so
 happy, he _____
 everyone.

Use these words to
 fill in the blanks:

want
 Jesus
 told
 leper
 want



Love creates a family

Sharing our way of living in the family

Everyone is part of a family and is invited

21st Jan - Love shares

18th Feb - Love reaches out

18th March - Love uplifts

29th April - Love heals

27th May - Love creates a home

16th Sept - Love generates wisdom

14th Oct - Love unites

All sessions will take place on Zoom from 7.30 to 8.30pm

To participate please email families@focolare.org.uk



An Invitation to Join the Focolare Families Zoom Sessions

Parishioners, Victoria and Gianni Interi would like to invite you to a series of special online events. If you are interested and/or want to talk to them about these, please ring 07966620159 or email interis@ginteri.co.uk

The pandemic has brought into focus the importance of relationships, care and connection, inviting many of us to re-evaluate our lifestyles and priorities. Within the Focolare Movement, the New Families, made up of families from all over the world, aim to bring the spirit of being a family everywhere by putting the words of the Gospel into action - in their homes, communities and wider society so as to contribute towards building the one human family.

From January 2021, the New Families in GB are launching a course looking at the different aspects of Love and how we can live these practically in our lives together as families - whether it is how we work, share, communicate, reach out to others and find a balance.

We are all part of a family and so the course is open to all who are interested in its topics. We take inspiration from living the Gospel, those from all faiths and convictions are welcome.

To participate in any of the GB Families' sessions, please email families@focolare.org.uk. A single zoom link for all the sessions will be sent.

Watch Masses said
by Father Stephen
on our YouTube
channel Our Lady and St
John Heswall

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw)



Visit the parish

Website



at

www.rcchp.org.uk

Do you know
anyone that doesn't
have access to the
internet?
 A paper copy of the
weekly newsletter can be
sent to them in the post.
Just drop a line to the
Parish Secretary.

**Ways to
Stay in
Touch with
Parish News**

Visit the
Holy Family Pensby
Facebook page



 Sign up for the
weekly parish
newsletter via email
To join send an email to
Victoria Hanlon
[contact@ourladyand
stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)

Have your contact
details changed
recently?
If they have,
please let the
Parish Secretary
know.
[contact@ourladyand
stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)