

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

## ✠ May They Rest in Peace ✠

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

**Andrew Whittingham-Jones, Doreen  
Devereux and Tony Reilly**

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,

Sara Bull,

Lil Skinner,

William Kerin,

David Johnston,

Phil Shaw,

Eileen Roberts,

Irene Fitzpatrick,

Frances Ford,

Maureen Jones,

Moira Griffiths-Parr,

John McNulty,

Samantha Stevens,

John Charles Smith,

Father Paul O'Grady,

John Gibbings



## Covid-19 Update

Although the current Covid-19 Government  
restrictions will be easing slightly as of Monday,  
as a community we must continue to do our bit  
to ensure that we are still keeping each other  
safe. There will be no changes to the way we  
operate in church and during Mass.

## When coming to Mass remember to.....



Use hand sanitiser on your way in  
and on your way out of church.



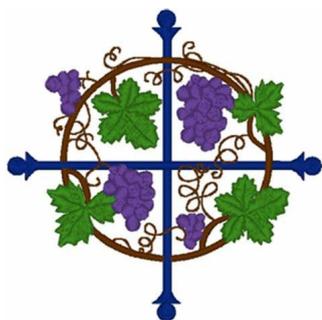
Wear a mask or face covering  
that covers both your mouth **and**  
nose, when entering church and  
during the duration your time  
inside the church.



Ensure that you stay a safe  
distance away from people who  
aren't from your household **at all**  
**times** when in church.

## Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

*By Father Stephen*



The vine is one of the most powerful images in the Bible for God's relationship with his people. Israel is the vine brought out of Egypt and a choice vine planted by God. She is also a vineyard planted and tended by God. Jesus builds on this image by calling himself the 'true' vine and his Father the vinedresser. This image is profound, since the vine and the branches unlike a tree trunk and its limbs are often virtually indistinguishable, and since there is a mutual interchange of life between them.

The vine must be both nurtured and pruned, symbolising the inevitable suffering of the disciples in imitation of Jesus. The vines must bear fruit that will lead the full discipleship, and unfruitful vines wither and are used only for firewood. This reflects the double image of vine/vineyard in the Old Testament. Despite the tender care the vineyard owner (God) lavished on the vineyard in Isaiah, sadly it yields the wild grapes of bloodshed rather than justice, and outcries rather than righteousness. Jesus abiding presence is not static but must be nurtured and it can wither. Not even John's great vision of the union of God and humanity takes away the mystery of human freedom and the need to grow in responsive love.

### Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 2nd May 2021

Sun 2nd May	5th Sunday of Easter (Psalter Week I)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Brian Cantillon R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - David Birch R.I.P. Anniversary
Mon (Bank Holiday) 3rd May	Ss Philip & James	<b>10:00 am</b>	OLSJ	Mass - In thanksgiving to Our Lady of Mount Carmel for Prayers Answered
Tues 4th May	The English Martyrs	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Marie Daley R.I.P.
Wed 5th May	Ferial	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Mary Burke R.I.P.
Thurs 6th May	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Katie Davies R.I.P.
		12 noon	YouTube	Andrew Whittingham-Jones Funeral Mass
Fri 7th May	Ferial	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Intentions of Beryl Gernon
Sat 8th May	Ferial	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Mary Teresa Murphy
Sun 9th May	6th Sunday of Easter (Psalter Week II)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Parishioners
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - In Thanksgiving for Ladymount School

**A message from Bishop Mark:****THE CARE OF CREATION**

At a time of growing concern for the care of creation, the Church brings to the environmental concerns of our time the perspective of God's creation and the place of humanity within creation. The Church across the country is taking practical steps with IFM (Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Limited), based in our Shrewsbury Diocese and supplying all 22 dioceses and over 100 schools with 71% green energy and with a 29% carbon offset. The offset schemes include renewable boreholes in Eritrea and a new energy plant in Bangladesh using household waste (including landfill), to reduce the methane being produced and provide renewable power. IFM is also using its buying power to drive the demand for "green gas" in the UK.

**HOPE FOR JUSTICE**

Change lives. End slavery.

**Wirral Hope for Justice Group  
Family Friendly Quiz**

Hope for Justice is a growing movement whose aim is to fight against the injustice of slavery, an evil which is found today even within our own country. A local branch has been formed in Bebington and they are seeking to raise awareness of this issue and to invite others to join them. As an initial fund raiser they are inviting families, individuals or groups to join in a family friendly quiz, via zoom, on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of June at 7.30 pm.**

For more information please contact:

[wirralhopeforjustice@gmail.com](mailto:wirralhopeforjustice@gmail.com)

To join the Quiz log on to the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7984900658?pwd=VUJRCmRRNIRJVi9NUU9TMDRhQ3VWQT09>

Meeting ID: 798 490 0658 Passcode: 7w19Hk

**DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY****Diocesan Job Vacancy**

**Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Limited** is a Catholic organisation currently recruiting an Administrator. The Company purchases gas, electricity, fuel oil and biomass for the majority of Catholic Dioceses in England and Wales. The role is working with others in the department processing invoices, collecting data and general administration duties. This is a full-time post: 35 hours Monday to Friday based at the Curial Office, Birkenhead, Wirral. Salary: £16K to 19K dependant on experience.

**Closing date 28th May 2021**

**Please send CV to Pauline McCulloch**

[recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

*For further details please visit the website*

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curial/vacancies>

**Mary's Meals - Pray in May Appeal**

Since our humble beginnings, Mary's Meals, named after Mary the Mother of Jesus, has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from those who support us. **This May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in prayer to celebrate the wonderful work of Mary's Meals and give thanks that we are now reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day.** We also pray for God's continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through His providence it will always flourish, enabling us to reach more hungry children. For more information visit:

[www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay)



### News From Assam

Don't forget that the Monthly Assam Collection will take place **THIS Sunday, 2nd May** after Mass at Holy Family.

Many thanks for your continued support, prayers and generosity.

### The Plight of India

There are no right words that can express what we feel at the sight of so much tragedy among the millions of poor people in India, caused by the out-of-control Covid virus. No man is an island. If all we can do is pray for 'our neighbour' then let us at least do that.



*Pope Francis has invited Catholics and 30 Marian Shrines around the*

*world, including the Shrine at Walsingham, to dedicate the month of May to a marathon of prayer for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic.*

The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham has been selected to start the month of prayer on Saturday May 1. Shrine Rector Mgr Philip Moger and the Shrine Team will be praying. The event will start with an address of the Holy Father and liturgical programme in Rome at 5pm UK time. The rosary from Walsingham will be streamed around 6pm.

The recitation of the rosary will be live streamed from Walsingham to the Vatican Television Centre so that Pope Francis can join in live. The Walsingham Intention is for those who have died from the pandemic across the world. The broadcast will be supported by EWTN and is best watched through the Shrine's Facebook Page or YouTube Walsingham Catholic TV.

### A big thank you from CAFOD

We have received several letters from CAFOD thanking us for the donations received in response to the 'Walk for Water' campaign. They say:

*'Thank you for organising a Walk for Water event. It means so much to us that you have reached out to our brothers and sisters around the world, when life here at home is quite changed. Your collective efforts will help to bring clean, fresh water to those who are thirsty, food to those who are hungry and shelter to those who don't have a home.. At CAFOD, we firmly believe that no one should be beyond the reach of the love and support they need to thrive. At CAFOD there are thousands of committed individuals working on your behalf around the world during this time of crisis to show them the love that Christ shows to us.'*



**Thank you** for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.



## MISSIO PLANT SALE

Parishioners, John and Mary Scott are doing their annual Plant Sale to raise money for Missio. A large selection of Heritage tomato plants from USA, France, Italy, as well as popular English varieties, are now available for sale from their greenhouse, together with lettuce, chilli, pepper, cucumber and heritage rhubarb varieties plus some flowering plants as well.

All proceeds go directly to MISSIO, the Pope's own missionary society, in support of their worldwide missions.

In accordance with current lockdown restrictions, parishioners can come individually to their garden in Baskerville Road to see what is available.

Please contact MARY SCOTT on 342 1277 or 07913 925763 to arrange a suitable day and time.



## LADYMOUNT RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ladymount Catholic Primary School, Portal Road, Pensby, Wirral is the Primary school of our two parishes. Children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 are due to begin Primary School in September 2021.

If you have not yet completed your application form for a school place please phone Wirral Borough Council, as soon as possible, on 0151 606 2345 and ask for the Schools Admissions Department and they will arrange for you to complete the necessary forms. You will need to advise them that you wish your child to be admitted to Ladymount.

## LADYMOUNT PRE-SCHOOL

Ladymount has a Pre-School and take children from the age of 2 ½ years of age. If you would like to apply for a place at the Pre School, please contact Gill Potter on telephone number 0151 648 8005.



**Oxfam**



### Volunteers Needed!

Oxfam's Heswall Shop has now opened and we're currently looking for some fantastic new volunteers to join a great team. Ideally, you'll be able to provide 4-8 hours a week; but, we're very flexible to people's situations and exiting commitments!

Right now, we've got volunteer roles such as:

- Valuables & Collectables Volunteer
- Till Operator
- Oxfam Online Shop Volunteer
- Tuesday Shift Volunteers (morning and/or afternoon)
- Books Volunteer
- Social Media Volunteer

**Interested?** Click on the link below and type in **Heswall**. We'd love to hear from you.

<https://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer-with-us/volunteer-in-an-oxfam-shop/>



*Does your child need a little bit of extra support with their Maths or English or need some 11+ tuition?*

Parishioner, Victoria Interi offers one-on-one English, Maths or 11+ tuition for children aged 4-11. For further details please call Victoria on 07976638833.



## Christian Aid Week 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Christian Aid helps the poorest people in the poorest countries of the world, irrespective of race, religion and nationality. It was founded in 1946 to help people displaced by the Second World War and is now in its 75th year.

In Christian Aid Week, we are holding in our thoughts and prayers the people of Kenya, who

are greatly affected by the climate crisis. Kenya is a country which is experiencing extreme weather conditions from severe drought to flooding.

*“When Rose was a child, there was plenty of rain that fell at the right time. It provided ample nutritious food to eat. Now Rose’s community lives with drought and hunger for months at a time. When the rains do come, they can be too heavy and lead to flooding. Across Kenya, damaged crops struggled to grow. There is an earth dam just minutes from Rose’s home which collects rainwater. It should be a lifeline to help her withstand unpredictable weather. But it runs out of water too quickly, forcing Rose, age 67, to walk long and exhausting journeys to fetch water for her grandchildren. The coronavirus pandemic has only made this lack of water more critical for Rose’s family as handwashing with soap and water is vital to stay safe against the virus. With a reliable source of water, Rose could grow fresh vegetables to eat, improve her livelihood and better protect her family from coronavirus.”*  
(Christian Aid. Stand together against the climate crisis.)

Christian Aid aims to support its partners in Kenya to build better earth or cement dams to harvest more water, to sow drought-tolerant crops and worldwide to campaign for climate justice.

To support Christian Aid,

- Pick up an envelope from the back of church and later place in one of the buckets;
- Donate now at [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)
- Call **08080 006 006**.
- Cheques can be sent to **Christian Aid, P.O. Box 100, London SE1 7RT**.

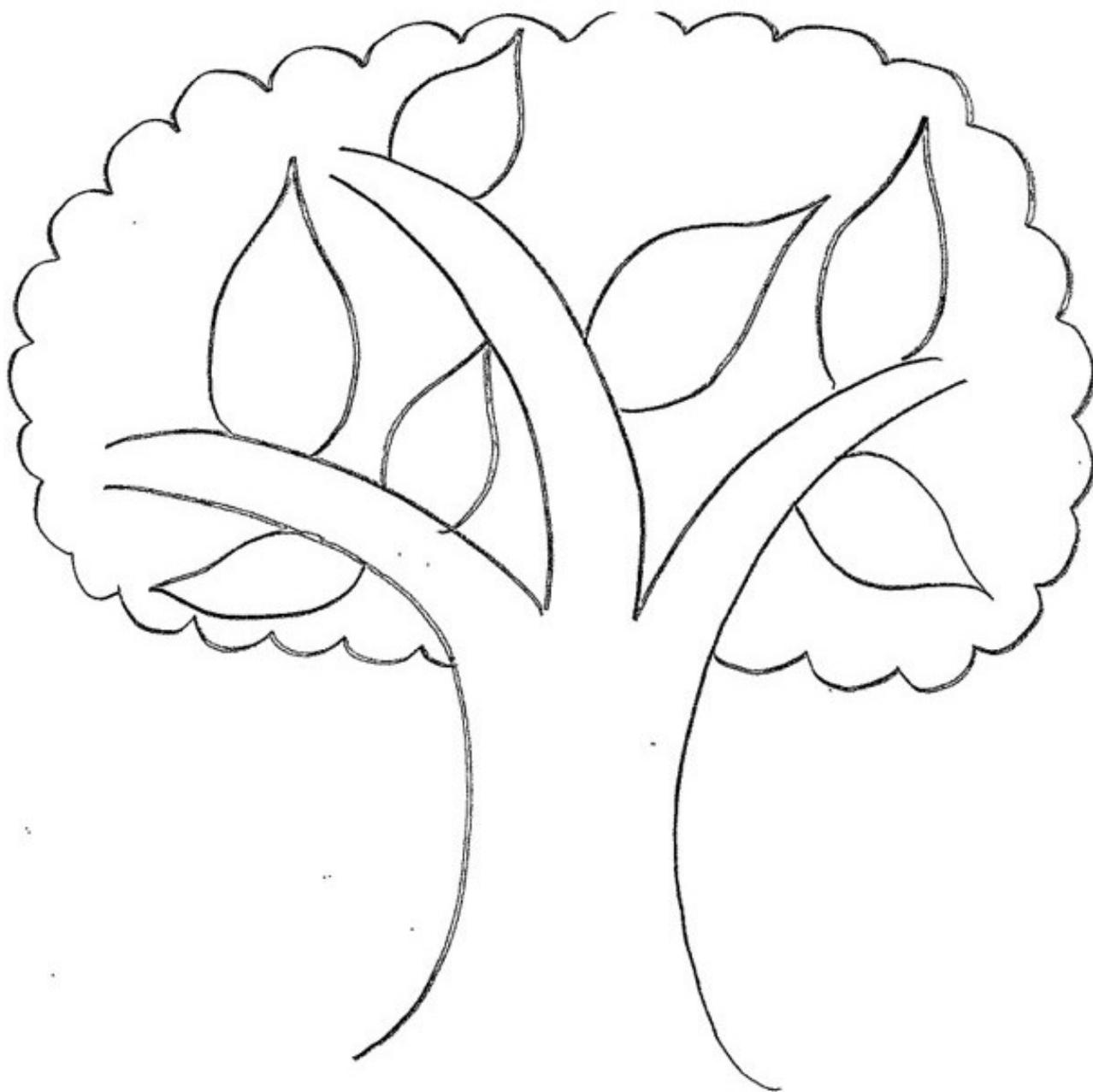
For those who enjoy a quiz, Quiztian Aid will be held on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m.** This fun-filled online quiz is suitable for all the family! You can sign up for more information at [caweek.org/quiztianaid](http://caweek.org/quiztianaid)

Or why not choose a charity gift for a friend or family member at [charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk/?](http://charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk/?)

**Please be generous!**

Heswall Christian Aid Committee.

## Children's Liturgy



Jesus said 'I am the  
vine; you are the  
branches'

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw>



Visit the parish

Website



at

[www.rcchp.org.uk](http://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@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)



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