

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

Olive Edwards & Carole Ann Welsh

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

Weekday Mass Changes

Week Beginning 22nd August

This coming week, there will be no Masses at either church during the week. Instead, there will be the opportunity for Private Prayer at the usual time of Mass at both churches.



Baptism Congratulations

We warmly welcome

James Harper who was baptised at Holy Family last Sunday, 15th August.

We also warmly welcome **Orla Keenan** who was baptised at Our Lady and St John's last Sunday, 15th August.

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,

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,

Pauline Chapman,

Peter Ryan



Please get in touch if you would like to add or remove someone from the list.

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 15th August 2021

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------|---|
| Sun 22nd August | 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week I) | 9:30 am | Holy Family | Mass - Trish & Vince Hallam 50th Wedding Anniversary |
| | | 11:15 am | OLSJ | Mass - Viv Pennell R.I.P. |
| Mon 23rd August | St Rose of Lima | 9:30 - 10:00 am | OLSJ | Private Prayer |
| Tues 24th August | St Bartholomew | | | No Mass |
| Wed 25th August | St Thomas of Hereford | 9:30 - 10:00 am | Holy Family | Private Prayer |
| Thurs 26th August | Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God Barberi | 9:30 - 10:00 am | OLSJ | Private Prayer |
| Fri 27th August | St Monica | | | No Mass |
| Sat 28th August | St Augustine | 12 noon | Holy Family | Mass - Charles Burchell R.I.P. |
| | | 1 pm | OLSJ | Helen Charlesworth & Thomas Evans Wedding Service |
| Sun 29th August | 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) | 9:30 am | Holy Family | Mass - Parishioners |
| | | 11:15 am | OLSJ | Mass - Ernest Pocock R.I.P. |

✠ Lives of the Saints of the Week ✠

St Bartholomew

Bartholomew is names in the list apostles and is generally identified with Nathaniel of Cana, the "Israelite without guile" (John 1:47), who was led to Jesus by the apostle Philip (3 May). He is said to have preached the gospel in India and Armenia where tradition indicates he was martyred.

St Thomas of Hereford

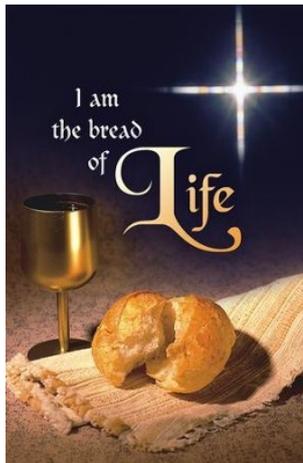
Bishop (1218 - 1282). From a powerful Norman family, he took part in the Council of Lyon 1245. Twice chancellor of Oxford and briefly chancellor of England, he was elected Bishop of Hereford and was an energetic pastor in Herefordshire and South Shropshire. Excommunicated by the archbishop of Canterbury, after a dispute over jurisdiction, he was vindicated by Rome, where he died.

St Monica

(332 - 387) Monica was probably born in Tagaste (Algeria) and died in Ostia (Italy). Before her marriage, her faith bore fruit in her recovery from a drinking problem and later helped bring her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Following years of penance and prayer, for her brilliant but wayward son, St Augustine, Monica lived to see his conversion. She is remembered for her persistence and patience in prayer.

St Augustine of Hippo

Bishop and doctor of the Church (354 - 430). Difficult and wayward in his youth, Augustine came late to the love of God. However, he threw himself wholeheartedly into his Christian commitment and was one of the greatest bishops in the history of the Church with his See being at Hippo.



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

After hearing Jesus' discourse on himself as the Bread of Life, many of Jesus' disciples leave him and go back to their former way of life. Jesus then turns to the Twelve and asks whether they want to leave him too. Beyond problems with Church teaching and practice, beyond active involvement in social care and concern and even personal struggles, there is Jesus present saying, "Do you want to go too?" Even the most profound revelation of Jesus that he is God's wisdom for humanity and that all who eat his flesh and drink his blood will have fullness of life, does not take away the mystery of human freedom.

God's gifts are extraordinary and inviting but when faced with them, people can choose to return to their former life. Amid often conflicting claims about what it means to be a Catholic today, we can hear Peter's words to Jesus resounding through the centuries: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God." It is a good idea to read again chapter 6 of the Gospel according to John and reflect on how these words of Jesus are Spirit and life.

Coronavirus Update

Many parishioners are wondering why we continue to ask people who come to mass to wear a mask and sanitise their hands on the way into church, even though it is no longer compulsory to wear one when out and about.

According to the latest data received from the Wirral Public Health, the infection rates locally on the Wirral, are still significantly high, with a large number of new cases still being identified each week. The Bishops Council have advised all parishes that measures to be taken in churches should be guided by the local infection rate, as it varies substantially across the country.

| Week ending | Rate per 100,000 | New cases in week |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 6 August | 273 | 888 |
| 30 July | 306 | 995 |
| 23 July | 363 | 1,117 |
| 16 July | 517 | 1,709 |
| 9 July | 507 | 1,686 |
| 2 July | 426 | 1,393 |
| 25 June | 228 | 722 |
| 18 June | 144 | 466 |
| 11 June | 77 | 250 |

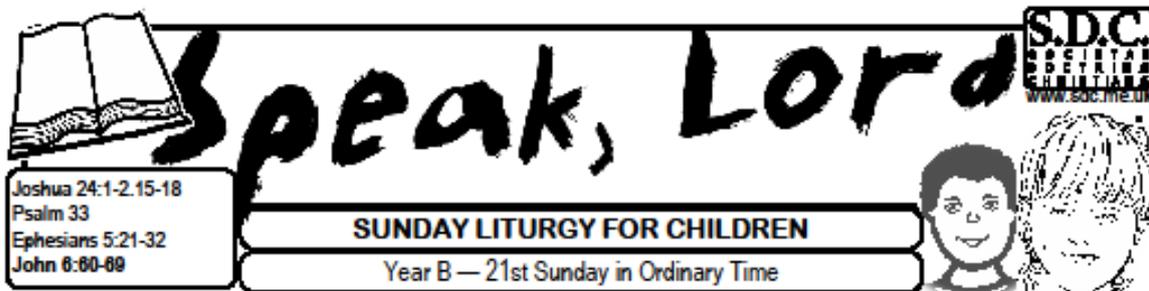
Due to the current high infection rate on the Wirral we continue to ask our parishioners to be understanding and continue to follow the guidelines we set out when coming to Mass:

- Sanitise your hands as you come into and leave church.
- Wear a face covering for the care and consideration of others unless you are exempt.
- "Check in" or provide contact details for NHS test and trace.
- Do not kneel during mass as this reduces the distance to the person in front of you.
- Communion will remain at the end of mass, please keep your mask on to receive communion in the hand, and as you move away remove your mask to consume the host, replace your mask and then please leave church immediately after communion.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Children's Liturgy - Sunday 15th August

Don't forget that you can follow this week's Children's Liturgy on our



Speak, Lord

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 33
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

SUNDAY LITURGY FOR CHILDREN

Year B — 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



FOLLOWING JESUS

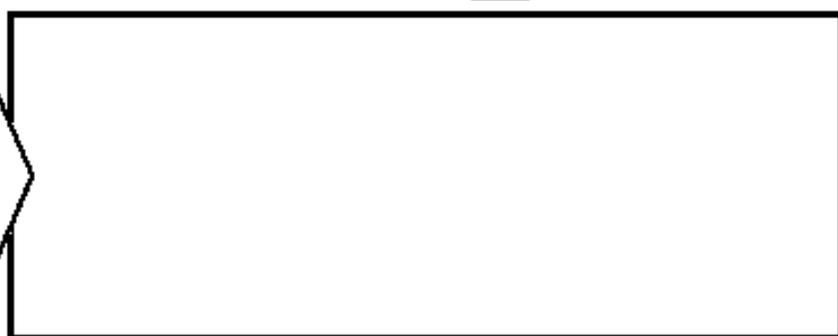
Some people did not believe what Jesus said. They started to leave him ...

Peter said ...



We will not
leave you. We know
you are the head
one. We want to
follow you.

How can I show I really believe? Draw a picture of something you do to show you believe and follow Jesus.



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)



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Do you know
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Just drop a line to the
Parish Secretary.

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