

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 soul of

Agnes "Nessie" Handley

who has recently died. May her soul rest in peace.

Please remember to pray for her families at this difficult time.



Baptism Congratulations

We warmly welcome **Mia and Milo Hasson** to our Parish.

Mia and Milo were baptised at Our Lady & St John last Sunday, 31st October.

NEW IN! - Mass Intention Envelopes

We are happy to announce that we now have dedicated Mass Intention envelopes at the back of both our parish churches.

This will hopefully simplify the process for anyone wishing to request a Mass to be offered for their private intention. Simply fill out the information on the envelope, include your offering and either hand it to Father, Deacon Jeff, one of the stewards, or put it in the offertory buckets in church on your way out.

HOLY FAMILY R.C. CHURCH & ST. JOHN R.C. CHURCH
OUR LADY & ST. JOHN R.C. CHURCH

MASS OFFERING(S)

Intentions:.....

Please circle Sick RIP Anniversary Other

Any special day or date (if available):.....

Please circle which Church the Mass is to be offered in

Holy Family Our Lady and St John

Please put your offering inside this envelope and pass it to one of the clergy
Thank you.

John P. Nolan, Publishing, Froxson

If you are a UK taxpayer, please don't forget to fill out the Gift Aid form at the back, so that the parish can claim the tax back!

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,

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,

Peter Ryan,

Bernard Davies



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

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 7th November 2021

Sun 7th November	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - In Thanksgiving
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Parishioners
Mon 8th November	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - November Dead List
Tues 9th November	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica of the Most Holy Redeemer	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - David Morley 7th Anniversary
Wed 10th November	St Leo the Great	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - November Dead List
Thurs 11th November	St Martin of Tours			No Mass
Fri 12th November	St Josaphat			No Mass
Sat 13th November	BVM on Saturday	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Remembrance Mass for Winifred Kieran
Sun 14th November	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week I)  Remembrance Sunday 	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Dora Noonan R.I.P. Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Parishioners

✠ Lives of the Saints of the Week ✠



The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

This feast celebrates our unity with the Church in Rome. The Basilica of St John Lateran also known as the Basilica of Our Saviour, is the parish church of the Pope and is the first publicly dedicated basilica in Christendom.

St Leo the Great

Pope, Doctor of the Church

Elected Pope in 440, Leo died on this day in Rome in 461. He tried to protect the city from the devastation of the Barbarian invasion. His surviving letters illustrate the leadership and guidance he exercised as Bishop of Rome towards other churches in the West. He is remembered for the clarity of his thought on the two natures of Christ, affirmed at the Council of Chalcedon, for his eloquent sermons and for the prayers he composed for the Roman liturgy.

St Martin of Tours

Bishop (c. 316 - 397)

Martin was born in Pannonia (Hungary) and buried in Tours (France). As a catechumen, he was unable in conscience, to continue with military service. At 18, Martin was baptised, became a hermit and thereafter, worked to establish monasticism. He was bishop of Tours for 25 years. One of the first non-martyrs to be venerated as a saint, he is remembered for his generosity to the poor, for arguing against the persecution of heretics and for his evangelisation and pastoral care.



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

The gospel of this Sunday contrasts the grandstanding of the rapacious and ambitious scribes and other rich people with the action of a poor widow who is full of faith and humility. Jesus' criticism of the race for honours and advantages and the contrasting praise of the woman are timely. Jesus is soon to enter the sanctuary of heaven, having offered himself once for all and been placed in the ranks of the most humiliated.

You can imagine the various attitudes and feelings of those who brought their offerings into the temple. There is the pride and self-sufficiency of the wealthy who have no intention of hiding their generosity, which in fact makes no inroads into their wealth. Then you have the discretion and humility of the poor widow. She drops two small coins into the treasury, contributing all she has to live on. Which of the two offerings pleases God more? Jesus exalts the offering of the poor woman because it foreshadows his own offering of his body and blood under the humble signs of bread and wine.

The humble widow offered to God all that she had to live on. In the Mass Jesus really does give himself to us together with all we need to live on.



STELLA MARIS

SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

This is our annual collection of items for our Seafarers which will be distributed to crew members who will dock in Liverpool during the Christmas period. Here is a list of items which would be appreciated for our Seafarers:

- Chocolate, Sweets, Toblerone
- Shower Gel (Men & Women)
- Deodorant (Men & Women) - *Roll On Deodorants Only*
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Woolly hats, Scarves & Gloves
- Socks
- Playing Cards and Dice
- Pocket games (Chess, dominoes backgammon etc)
- Mini Jigsaws

Any of the above can be put into the box in the **Church Porch at OLSJ** or deliver to **Joan Larkin at 14 Speedwell Drive, Barnston CH60 2SZ**.

Last day for donations is **Tuesday 7th December**. If you need any further information please contact Joan on 0151 342 5517. Thank you

Stella Maris is the charity formerly know as The Apolostleship of the Sea.

OLSJ Sunday Mass 11.15am Readers

The current rota is due to end soon and all previous readers have been contacted to see who would like to continue reading. If you would like to join the reader team and be on the rota please contact Bernie Hailwood on 342 6918 (answerphone available) or email bhail@btinternet.com - no later than November 15th.

Currently:-- the reader will do first reading, psalm, second reading, the gospel acclamation, no bidding

Spiritual Formation : Dates for the Diary

Christmas is coming... which means that so, too, is the (largely!) forgotten season of Advent.

Would you like to prepare for this special time and celebrate Christmas more deeply?

Come and join us for an evening of reflection and see if that helps.

Themes and Speakers: Advent Faith (Fr David Roberts); Advent Hope (Miss Barbara Davies); Advent Charity (Deacon Tony Crisp).

When: Wednesday 24th November, 1st December and 8th December at 7pm.

Where: St Catherine's Parish Hall. Transport can be arranged.

Please contact: Barbara on 0745025273



Coronavirus Update - Latest Wirral Figures

Week ending	Rate per 100,000	Current cases/week
4th November	374	1212
27th October	382	1238
20th October	420	1363
13th October	369	1196
6th October	256	830
29th September	310	1005
22nd September	254	824
16th September	322	1043
9th September	336	1088
3 September	298	967
27 August	300	975
20 August	296	962
13 August	293	951
6 August	273	888
30 July	306	995



Monthly Assam Collection Totals

The next Assam collection will take place at Holy Family church this **Sunday 7th November 2021**.

Thank you for your continued support.



REMEMBERING
DECEASED MEMBERS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

November
List

Remembering Those Who Have Died

November is nearly upon us and once again, we will be remembering in our prayers, all those who have died. If you have a particular person/people that you would like to be remembered and prayed for in the November List, please place their names in one of the November List envelopes (available at the back of church) and either pass it to Father Stephen or Deacon Jeff or just put it through the presbytery door.

In addition to the Masses said for the intentions of those on the November List, Father Stephen will also be offering Masses for the **Deceased of the Parish** during the past year, on **Thursday 25th November** at 7pm Mass at Our Lady and St John and also on **Saturday 27th November** at 12 noon Mass at Holy Family.

CAFOD Family Fast - THANK YOU

A big THANK YOU for everyone who contributed to this year's appeal. In addition to sums sent direct, envelopes handed in at Holy Family amounted to £330. This included a very generous gift of £160. The money has now been sent to Cafod.



Cafod has promised to make use of this money where it is needed most- the poor of those countries who are suffering worst as a result of climate change but who have contributed least.



Justice & Peace Group

Meetings of the group are to resume with the next meeting on **Monday 15th November**, at 7.30pm in the sacristy at the Holy Family Church. The meeting is open to all parishioners from either parish.

LOST PROPERTY

A People's Missal has been found with the inscription;

*"to Michael on his confirmation 17th July 1980,
Fr John Woods"*

If this belongs to you, please contact Steve Burke on 07534362555



First Forgiveness & First Holy Communion 2022

If you have a child who is in Year 3 or above, he or she will be eligible to

celebrate these important sacraments in 2022. Children in Year 3 at Ladymount will follow a programme of preparation there. For children who are in other schools, there will be a parish programme of preparation taking place in the parish room at Our Lady and St John. If you wish your child to take part in the parish programme, please contact Father Stephen on 342 6581 or email father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk



With the start of Advent only a couple of weeks away, Christmas stock is now available at both our piety stalls at the back of both of our Parish Churches.

Please remember to **park considerately** when coming to Mass at either of our parish churches. Please do not block access to driveways or park in a way that could restrict access to the road.



Thank you for your help and understanding.

Reminder of our recent changes to our Covid Rules

Weekday Church Opening

Our Lady and St John's church will be open during the day from 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. People will be able to come into church, even if Mass isn't on, to say a prayer. There will be no steward on duty, but people entering church are encouraged to remember to sanitise their hands, wear a face mask and maintain social distancing.

Candles

We are reintroducing votive candles back to both our parish churches during the weekdays only, as our weekend Masses tend to be very busy. If you are attending Mass during the week and would like to light a candle, please do so **BEFORE** Mass to avoid congestion on the way out of church.

Track and Trace

We are no longer asking for your details for NHS Track and Trace purposes. The QR codes will remain inside the churches for you to use, if you are able to do so.

Not changed

We still need to maintain distancing in church, which is most important on Saturday and Sundays when churches are busy. To enable the maximum number of people to be safely seated in church please allow the stewards to show you to a seat so that we make the best use of each row, reducing the risk of turning people away because the church is full. We will still try and fill the church from the front to reduce the number of people passing the ends of full rows. Thankyou for your cooperation with this, and for continuing to wear face coverings and sanitising your hands.

These restrictions have been lifted, but we will continue to monitor the local infection rate and reintroduce them, if it is thought necessary, for the safety of our parishioners.

Christmas Mass Dates and Times

Although we are not yet into November, it is time to think ahead and plan for Christmas.

This year, although the Covid rules have relaxed somewhat, we are mindful that Covid is still present and numbers are not decreasing. As such, this year, Father Stephen has decided that it would be prudent to have a booking system in place for all the Christmas Masses. As capacity at both churches is limited and to avoid disappointment and turn people away, we are asking all our parishioners to book a seat in advance for one of our Christmas Masses.

Here is how it will work:

- From **THIS WEEKEND** and all during November, parishioners attending Mass will be able to pick up a **Christmas Mass reservation form**. The form will ask how many people the reservation is for and which is your first and second preferred Mass time.
- At the cut off point of the end of November, all the requests will be collected and we will try to allocate everyone a seat at their preferred Mass time and venue.
- By mid-December, we will inform everyone of their Mass and seat allocation.

This isn't ideal but it is the fairest way for us to ensure that we can seat everyone safely at one of our Christmas Masses. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Our planned Christmas Mass times will be as follows:

Friday 24th December	6pm Vigil Mass	Our Lady and St John
Friday 24th December	Midnight Mass	Holy Family
Saturday 25th December	9:30am Christmas Day Mass	Holy Family
Saturday 25th December	11:15am Christmas Day Mass	Our Lady and St John



It goes without saying, that nearer the time, should the Government advice change with regards to large gatherings over Christmas, we will have to revise our plans.

Please note that our Christmas Masses will be available to watch live from our YouTube channel.

Wirral Food Bank Advent Challenge

The Food Bank has given this suggested list of items to collect during November to be distributed during the month of December (Advent) for those in need on the Wirral. You can either collect your own items and take them directly to their warehouse (address below - by 6th December) or alternatively leave them in the Food Bank collections boxes at the back of either parish churches. Thank you for your continued support.

Make someone's Christmas a happy one

HOW TO USE THIS CALENDAR

Find a sturdy container large enough to hold the 30 items as listed below.

Each day of November, check the date square on the calendar and place the named item in your box.

Drop your filled container off at our warehouse (address below) by the 1st week of December. We are open Mon – Thur from 10am to 1.30pm. We close for Christmas at 12pm on Thursday 23 December.

You can also donate money if you wish by visiting our Give As You Live Page (details below).

NOVEMBER 2021





13 Coffee	23 Sugar	24 Custard	9 Toothpaste/ Toothbrush
25 Pasta Sauce	12 Jam	20 Washing Up Liquid	7 Tinned Meat
4 Tinned Fish	21 Deodorant	2 Coffee	18 Tinned Fruit
10 Nappies	26 Biscuits	22 Shampoo	17 Tinned Spaghetti
14 Toilet Rolls	19 Pasta Sauce	11 Rice	27 Soap
6 Chocolate Bars	30 Tinned Potatoes	3 Tinned Tomatoes	8 Instant Mash
16 Packet Soup	5 Shower Gel	29 Squash	1 Rice Pudding
		15 Tinned Fruit	28 UHT Milk

Warehouse Address
Unit 14, Wirral Business Centre, Dock Road, Birkenhead CH41 1JW

To Donate
<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/wirralfoodbank>





Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund

Heswall Disabled Children Holiday Fund

Fundraising & Information Event



This year we are holding a **fundraising and information event** at the URC, Heswall on **Saturday 13th November, 12 noon until 2pm**. All are welcome to come and have a cuppa and a chat. We will be able to let you know what we have been up to recently and there will be a few stalls where you can buy a cake, have a go on our Tombola etc. Please join us, everyone welcome.





Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund

Heswall Disabled Children Holiday Fund

christmas raffle!!

I am Joan Larkin, a parishioner at OLSJ and one of the Committee members at HDCHF and I hope you can help.

The great news in 2021 is that we were fortunate enough to be able to hold residential camps; one at Barnstondale, our usual venue, and another at Barton Camp in the South West. With all that has been going on this was no small feat but, more importantly, I can't imagine a time when our work has been of greater importance to the children and the families we support.

To raise further vital funds, we are again holding a **Christmas Raffle** which will draw on **Saturday 18th December 2021**. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a book of five.

The prizes are: 1st £200, 2nd £100, 3rd £50 and other prizes.

If you would like to purchase a ticket(s) or help sell some, please contact me, Joan Larkin, by telephone on 07542213158 or via email raffle@heswallcamp.org.uk. Each ticket purchased will raise valuable funds for the charity and will be very much appreciated.

Children's Liturgy

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

JESUS SPEAKS ABOUT GIVING



Some rich people gave a lot of money.



A poor widow had only two coins – she gave both as an offering.

Jesus said: "The p_____ w_____ gave m_____

than the others. She gave e_____g she had.

What can you give?

Draw a picture or write about something you can offer to God.



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)