

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



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*



A Warm Welcome 3rd Heswall Scout Group!

We would like to welcome some representatives of 3rd Heswall Scout Group to our Remembrance Mass at Holy Family today. Unfortunately, we cannot do a full parade due to Covid restrictions but we are pleased that some of our members can be with you this morning.

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.

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 14th November 2021

Sun 14th November	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week I)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Dora Noonan R.I.P. Anniversary
	 Remembrance Sunday 	11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Parishioners
Mon 15th November	St Albert the Great			No Mass
Tues 16th November	St Edmund of Abingdon, St Margaret of Scotland & St Gertrude			No Mass
Wed 17th November	St Hilda, St Hugh of Lincoln & St Elizabeth of Hungary			No Mass
Thurs 18th November	The Dedication of the Basilicas of the Apostles Peter and Paul in Rome			No Mass
Fri 19th November	Ferial			No Mass
Sat 20th November	BVM on Saturday	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - November Dead List
Sun 21st November	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Psalter Week II)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Brian Cantillon R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Parishioners

✠ Lives of the Saints of the Week ✠

St Albert the Great

Bishop, religious, doctor of the church
Born in Lauingen, Germany, about 1200 and died on this day in 1280 in Cologne. The 'Universal Doctor' was a Dominican friar and teacher. St Thomas Aquinas was his pupil. He is remembered for the outstanding breadth of his learning which he brought to the service of his theology.

St Edmund of Abingdon

Bishop (c. 1175 - 1240)
Edmund was born in Abingdon (Oxon). He was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in 1233. He is venerated as a reforming bishop, peacemaker and spiritual writer

St Margaret of Scotland

Married woman, Queen (c. 1046 - 1093)
Born in Hungary, Margaret died in Edinburgh. She was of Anglo-Saxon and Hungarian parentage, finding refuge from the Norman conquest of England with Malcolm III whom she married in 1070. She founded monasteries and sponsored major reforms of Church life.

St Hilda

Abbess (616 - 680)
Hilda was born in Northumbria and died in Whitby. She became a nun at 33, later moving to the double monastery of Whitby, which then became a great centre of learning, arts and literature. Her monastery hosted the decisive synod of 644 where she accepted the decision to follow Rome's customs.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

Today's gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' discourse on the end times in which he predicts the destruction of the temple and the return of the Son of Man in glory. Yet Jesus does not give a timetable for these events but tells a parable about reading the signs of the times for 'as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

Perhaps we are not too different from Mark's community that expected Jesus to return in their lifetime to inaugurate the kind of reign of God envisaged by the prophet Daniel in today's First Reading. Yet despite the cries among the early Christians, "Maranatha, come, Lord Jesus!" Jesus did not return and we exist between the times: the time of the first coming of Christ in humility and the time of his return in glory. Jesus says: "Before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Jesus in his humanity shares the uncertainty of human history, and he will later pray that the hour of suffering may pass from him, even as the promise that his word will endure is fulfilled.



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.

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



Have you heard the Good News?

Mary's Meals seeks to bring joy to those who are marginalised; those who feel like they have been overlooked and forgotten. From November to January, every gift given to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. Your kindness will help us serve life-changing school meals and will bring joy to more than two million children around the world – including those affected by natural disasters, conflict and the ongoing Covid pandemic. There are many ways to donate, including choosing Mary's Meals gift cards as a meaningful gift this Christmas. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove Thank you.



Coronavirus Update - Latest Wirral Figures

Week ending	Rate per 100,000	Current cases/week
11th November	347	1124
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



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.

THANK YOU

Missio Red Boxes

The recent collection in Holy Family raised an amount of **£350**. Many thanks to all who contributed.

Caritas

The recent collection in Holy Family raised an amount of **£150**. Many thanks to all who contributed.



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.

Is this yours?

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





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.

A Catholic Chaplain in Strangeways

Holy Family Justice and Peace Group invite you to listen to a talk given by Joanne Hornby, who is the Catholic Chaplain in Strangeways prison.



HM Prison Manchester is a high-security men's prison known as Strangeways, a former official name derived from the area in which it is located, until it was rebuilt following a major riot in 1990.

It is a local prison, holding prisoners remanded into custody from courts in the Manchester area and Category A prisoners (those whose escape would be highly dangerous). Its population is 750.

"I was in prison, and you visited me."

Speaker Joanne Hornby will brief you on her work as a Catholic Chaplain in this daunting and challenging place. She will tell you about Covid and lockdown in a world which most of us only glimpse on television.

The talk will take place via Zoom on **Tuesday 30th November at 7.30 to 8.15 pm**. If you are interested and would like to sign up for the talk, please email Keith Taylor SKeithTayl2@outlook.com



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



Wirral Ark
Fighting homelessness in Wirral

Ark Christmas Cards

For the next few weeks these beautiful cards, in support of a local charity, will be available after Sunday Mass at Holy Family church.

Wirral Ark helps the homeless and they are celebrating their 30th anniversary this year. Over this time, they have provided shelter for over 5,000 homeless in our area and are well worthy of our support.

For those who are unable to get to mass, we can arrange delivery. To do so, please contact either Ann Grandy at 342-5901 or Fred Taylor at 342-5922.

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:

- 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

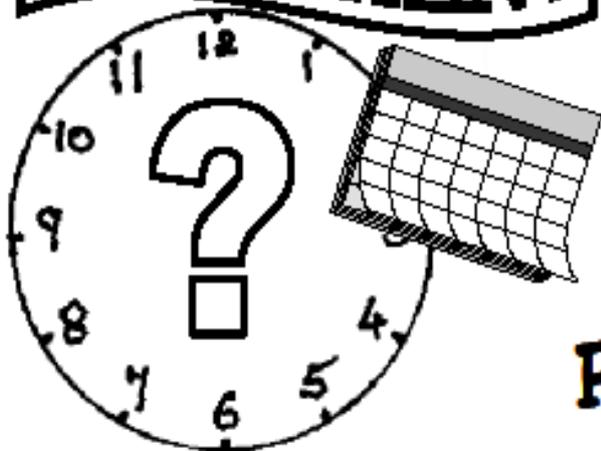
To Donate
<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/wirralfoodbank>

Children's Liturgy

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

AT THE END OF TIME JESUS WILL COME AGAIN

BUT WHEN?



No one knows

when except

G _____ the

F _____

HOW CAN YOU
GET READY FOR
JESUS WHEN HE
COMES AGAIN?

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)