

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



Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

Families affected by the conflict in Ukraine urgently need food, water and shelter. CAFOD is working closely with Caritas Ukraine, Caritas Poland and others, who are already there delivering practical help to those most in need.

A retiring collection will be held after all Sunday Masses this weekend. If you prefer, you can also donate directly to Cafod via their website at cafod.org.uk/ukraine.

Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine.

Great News

As restrictions for Covid ease, from this weekend onwards, we will be bringing the collection back to its usual place, in the middle of Mass.



Family Fast Day

Friday 11th March

You can donate by using the

Cafod Envelopes or direct at cafod.org.uk/lent.



Don't forget to hand back your Cafod Family Fast envelope via the offertory basket any time during March. There will also be a separate retiring collection for Cafod's Family Fast (if you prefer not to give using an envelope) at the end of the month.

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,
- John Moroney,
- Ken Davies,
- David Gorman,
- 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,
- Anne Crowden,
- Anne Henry,
- Mary Wrigley,
- Lauren,
- Eileen Lamberton,
- Matthew O'Keeffe,
- Gerald Sanderson



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

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 13th March 2022

Sun 13th March	2nd Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Teresa Brabander R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Rodger Hemington R.I.P. 1st Anniversary
Mon 14th March	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Celebration of Word and Communion
Tues 15th March	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Celebration of Word and Communion
Wed 16th March	Ferial			No Mass
Thurs 17th March	St Patrick 			No Mass
Fri 18th March	St Cyril of Jerusalem			No Mass
Sat 19th March	St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Mrs A.
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - RMM Safe Descent of Kilimanjaro Charity Climb
Sun 20th March	3rd Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Thanksgiving (AL)
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Bridie Kitt R.I.P.



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

The three Synoptic Gospels all give an account of the Transfiguration but each has a different emphasis. While Matthew and Mark place it **after** Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem, Luke puts it **before** Jesus 'resolutely sets out for Jerusalem.' (9:51) Only Luke has Jesus praying and only in Luke is there a conversation with Moses and Elijah about 'his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.'

Themes dear to Luke emerge. As Jesus journeys to Jerusalem Luke includes the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the Importunate Widow and the Unjust Judge, the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, as well as significant teaching about discipleship and repentance. Luke's account of the Transfiguration functions as does the appearance to Moses at the burning bush as God's preparation for and approval of his ministry of prophecy and teaching.

Like Moses, Jesus has in depth encounters with God his Father. In Exodus Moses' face shines as he talks to the Lord. This also fits in with Luke's stress on Jesus in prayer. Prayer is opening yourself to the mystery of God, raising your mind and heart to God. All the key events of Jesus' life are preceded in Luke by a time of prayer.



Stations of the Cross

During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at Our Lady and St John's church following each weekday morning Mass. If you wish to join the rota to lead this devotion, please contact Joan Gibson on 342 3787.

Tea, Coffee & Chat



Reminder that refreshments will be served every Sunday morning after Mass at Our Lady and St John. Everyone welcome.

Come and join us for a cuppa and a chat every Monday morning after Monday Mass at Our Lady and St John.



Come and Pray the Rosary

The Rosary will be prayed at Our Lady and St John's church at **9:30am each Saturday**, for the sick in the parish and our families. Please do come and join us.



Shrewsbury Diocese
Lourdes Pilgrimage

Join us on the 2022 Diocese of Shrewsbury Pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer

We are delighted to be able to return to Lourdes after an absence of two years. The Pilgrimage is from **29th July - 4th August** by air and 28th July - 5th August by coach. Overland prices start at £440 and by air at £710.

For brochures and booking forms please visit the pilgrimage website at

www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or contact the Pilgrimage Office, Curial Offices, 2 Park Rd South, Prenton, Wirral, CH43 4UX.

Parish Stitchcraft Group



The Parish Stitch-craft group has now restarted. The group meet each Tuesday at 10:30 am until 12:30 pm in the Meeting Room at Our Lady and St John's. If you would like to join us just come along as new members are always welcome. (The group follow all relevant covid protocols).

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



Overland by Jumbulance with the Wirral Across Group

Dates – Thu 19th to Sat 28th May

Taking sick and disabled people to Lourdes
Vacancies for sick or disabled people (some Covid restrictions may apply)
Helpers and nurses, also required - *is a Doctor available?*

Cost? £950 – half price for nurses and young people - financial help available.

For all enquiries, please contact, **Tony Murphy**
0788-1656-974 or tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk
www.across.org.uk



CAFOD 200K Challenge - Lenten Appeal – an opportunity to join in

So far there has been a good start with three groups and one individual taking up the challenge.

- **The Holy Strollers** have managed a casual 17k
- **The Soul Seekers** 18k
- **The Littlewood Wanderers** also 18k
- Outstanding is **The Barnsdale Biker** who has spurned the 200k and set himself a target of a virtual crossing of the entire country – a total of 346k! Virtual, since this is being done on an exercise bike because of disability.

What the challengers need is more sponsors -from either of our parishes. Please speak to Fred Taylor [342-5922] or any Justice & Peace group member. It would be great if others took up the challenge as well.



Ladymount Catholic Primary School - Mini Vinnies fundraising for CAFOD

We are the Mini Vinnies and are a part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We meet in school each week to pray, discuss and support however we can to help make a difference in our communities and in other parts of the world.

Throughout Lent, we will be fundraising for CAFOD to stop poverty and hunger around the world. We will be organising sessions for the children to join in walking against hunger.

Please follow this link Walk Against Hunger to a Just Giving page we have set up for donations: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/ladymount-walk-against-hunger>



News fom Assam

Firstly we wish to acknowledge a very generous anonymous donation of £400. Thank you so much.

Secondly, Fr. Philip has written to tell us of how they are responding in Assam to Pope Francis initiative in calling for a **Synod**. He says

'At the moment, seminars are held in each parish to disseminate the thought pattern of our Pope Francis on synod and bring about the synodality of the Church. As you are aware that our Church (lay faithful) although old but the majority of the faithful are still illiterate and so it takes time to trickle down the crux of the synodal process. But the process has began. It is going on in vigorously and people are beginning to wake up to this thought.'



Confirmation Preparation Classes 2022

Confirmation preparation classes will begin on Sunday 10th April with an initial meeting for both candidates and parents at 7pm in the Meeting Room at Our Lady and St John, Heswall.

Further preparation classes for candidates will take place on Sunday 24th April, 8th May, 15th May, 22nd May & 12th June at the Scout Hut in Marksway, Pensby from 6pm—7:30pm.

If you would like to enrol your child onto this programme, please either let Father Stephen know, or email the parish secretary at contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk.

Children from Year 8 onwards are eligible for Confirmation.

TAKE FIVE OVER TEA**WITH YOUR FAMILY****AND LOVED ONES**

Take Five to Stop Fraud is a national campaign that helps consumers confidently challenge any requests for their personal or financial information or to transfer money to a criminal's account. The aim of Take Five Over Tea is to encourage people to put the kettle on and sit down with their parents/grandparents or anyone else they think may be particularly vulnerable to financial fraud, whether that's in the comfort of their own home or even virtually! Fraud and scams have a devastating impact on those who fall for them and with criminals becoming more sophisticated in their approaches, we're here to provide you with the knowledge and confidence to Stop and Challenge any requests for your information

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

We all think we're savvy when it comes to fraud and scams, but the truth is any one of us can fall for one, especially in the heat of the moment. Criminals are increasingly becoming more sophisticated, using tactics such as social engineering and number spoofing, to gain our trust and make it harder for us to spot the obvious signs of a scam as easily. By taking the time to talk to your loved ones, including those who are not online, they have a much better chance of spotting a scam, and more importantly, preventing themselves from falling for one

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST FRAUD AND SCAMS?

If you receive a request to provide personal or financial information whether that's over the phone, in an email, online or through social media always remember: Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money.

STOP: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

CHALLENGE: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

PROTECT: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

For more information on Take Five and advice on keeping safe from fraud and scams, visit us at <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk>, where you can also access our full suite of campaign materials in our toolkit, which includes print-ready collateral for sharing with your family and friends.

Watch Sunday Mass 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

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

Have your contact details changed recently?
If they have, please let the Parish Secretary know.

contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk