

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
Hugh Gribbin, Teresa Grumley, Patricia O'Driscoll & Bernadette Wiles
 who have recently died.
 May their souls rest in peace.

Hugh Gribbin's Funeral Mass will be held at
Holy Family on Friday 16th December
at 12 noon.

Teresa Grumley's Funeral Mass will be held at
Holy Family on Tuesday 20th December at
10:15 am.

Patricia O'Driscoll's Funeral Mass will be held
 at **Holy Family on Tuesday 20th December at**
2:30 pm.

Bernadette Wiles' Funeral Mass will be held at
Our Lady & St John on Tuesday 3rd January
at 12 noon.

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



Confession



Holy Family: 11:45am - 12 noon on Saturdays

Our Lady & St John: 5:15pm - 5:45pm on Saturdays

Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those in
 both parishes who are sick at home or in
 hospital, including:

- Ken Davies
- David Gorman
- Imelda Atherton
- Sara Bull
- David Johnston
- Phil Shaw
- Eileen Roberts
- Irene Fitzpatrick
- Frances Ford
- Maureen Jones
- John McNulty
- John Charles Smith
- Peter Ryan
- Bernard Davies
- Lauren
- Gerald Sanderson
- Carol Ross
- Kevin Doyle
- Anne O'Keeffe
- Andrew Deacon
- Molly Turner
- Joe Hemington
- Fred McCloud



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

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, our
 families and all the suffering in our world today.
 Please do come and join us.

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 4th December 2022

Sun 11th December	Third Sunday of Advent (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Parishioners
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Holy Souls
		5:00 pm	OLSJ	Advent Carol Service
Mon 12th December	Our Lady of Guadalupe	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Josephine Burbridge Anniversary
Tues 13th December	St Lucy	9:00 am	OLSJ	Celebration of Word and Communion
Wed 14th December	St John of the Cross	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Molly Turner (sick)
Thurs 15th December	Ferial	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Maureen Birch & Raymond Coonan
Fri 16th December	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	No Mass
		12 noon	Holy Family	Hugh Gibbin Funeral Mass
Sat 17th December	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come Pray the Rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Helen Ryan Anniversary
		1:00 pm	OLSJ	Michael Ivory & Amelia Varley Wedding
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Dan Miller R.I.P.
Sun 18th December	Fourth Sunday of Advent (Psalter Week IV) Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Eileen Davies Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - O'Brien Family



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

John the Baptist filled with the Holy Spirit, like Amos and Isaiah, castigated the religious leaders of his day, proclaimed the coming wrath of God and pointed to one coming who is even stronger than he. John now sits in Herod's prison awaiting death because he confronted with God's word the powerful and violent people of his day. John wonders if his life really has been worthwhile and asks his disciples

to go and ask whether Jesus really is the one who is to come.

Jesus' answer is as much a challenge to John as is his life to us today. Jesus is not the stronger one who will usher in the day of wrath and winnow the wheat and the chaff. Jesus is the one whose deeds gather up the deepest hopes of Isaiah: the blind see again, the deaf hear, the lame walk, lepers are cured and able to rejoin their families, the poor receive the news that God is on their side. John who has lived proclaiming God's word, must now wait for death sustained by faith and hope in that word.

John is for us a symbol of hopes proclaimed and hopes transformed. Our Church is not a Church of the powerful but a Church of the poor, the mourners and those who hope for justice.

Christmas Mass Times 2022

Saturday 24th December

6pm Christmas Vigil Mass - Our Lady & St. John

11:30pm Carols - Our Lady & St. John

Midnight Mass - Our Lady & St. John

Sunday 25th December

9:30am The Nativity of the Lord - Holy Family

11:15am The Nativity of the Lord - Our Lady & St. John

This year there will be NO ticketing system and all Masses will operate on a first-come first-serve basis. Please note that there will be no social distancing policies in place. Stewards will be there to help seat people. Masks will be available as always, should you wish to wear one but it is not compulsory.

**Carol Singing with Port Sunlight
Lyceum Band
17th December 11am**



Please join us and the other churches in Heswall to sing Christmas Carols together outside Heswall Library. Just one way to remind others of the real story of Christmas.

Heswall Farmers' Market will also be open from 10am so you will be able to do a little Christmas shopping too.

Parishioner Outreach at Christmas Time THANK YOU



This year a group of parishioners from both our parish churches, who regularly visit the sick and housebound, delivered a card and small Christmas Tree to those who are unable to come to Mass. The card and tree, were a small reminder to those who are sick and housebound, that we, as a parish, are thinking of them and keeping them all in our prayers this Christmas time. The recipients were delighted with the card and trees.

**Advent Service &
10th Anniversary Celebration of the
Meeting Room at Our Lady and St
John**



Sunday 11th December at 5pm

OLSJ Stitchcraft Group

The Stitchcraft group reopen on Tuesday 10th January 2023. New members are always welcome. The group meets each Tuesday from 10am until 12:30pm and develop a variety of crafting activities.



OLSJ Piety Stall

Do come and have a look at the lovely selection of Christmas cards, advent calendars, diaries, candles and other gifts for sale at the back of Church. All items individually priced.

Please put money for any Piety Stall items, in the wall box by the defibrillator.

THANK YOU!

We have received a thank you message from The Wirral Arc Charity for our part [Suzy Smallwood of Holy Family Justice and Peace group] in supporting the Christian Aid Group's Cake Sale. This raised the sum of £267 for our local charity for the Homeless – much needed at this present time.



Poppy Appeal - THANK YOU!

A huge thank you from the organisers of the annual Poppy Appeal. This year our parish raised **£86.60** and our district as a whole, raised £24,963.36. Without your help, they would be unable to continue their vital welfare and benevolent work.

OLSJ Children's Liturgy Group News



Our Children's Liturgy group will be singing at the Advent Service (Sunday 11th December, 5pm at Our Lady & St. John). Please speak to a member of the Children's Liturgy team if your child would like to join in. We will be singing 'Away in a Manger' with actions and there will be a video on the church YouTube channel, so children can practise it at home too.

This weekend is also **Lego Church!** We have so many new and exciting things, thanks to the generosity of the parish and the funds raised from the cake sale. There is no need to book to attend, just come along.

Parish First Holy Communion Programme

We are having an information meeting about the First Holy Communion Programme on **Thursday 8th December at 6pm in the OLSJ Meeting Room**. If you would like your child to make this special Sacrament next year, please speak to Father Stephen or email our Parish Catechist, Laura Jones, laura.jones2010@hotmail.co.uk

Wirral String Orchestra and Chorus present their
Christmas Concert

Saturday 17th December at 7:30pm at
St. Hildeburgh's Church, Hoylake

Handel Messiah (excerpts), Corellie Oboe Concerto, Boyce Symphony No. 2 plus music by Rutter, Leroy Anderson and traditional Christmas Carols.



THE CLATTERBRIDGE
CANCER CHARITY

Tickets £8 - see poster for where to purchase
or can be bought on the door.

All proceeds go to the Clatterbridge Cancer



Wirral Ark

Fighting homelessness in Wirral

Ark Christmas Cards

These cards are now all sold and £200 has now been sent to this local charity. The Justice & Peace group would like to thank all those parishioners who generously contributed to help others in this way, at a time when we need to spend carefully.



SHOPPING LIST

TINNED MEAT

TINNED FRUIT

SQUASH

TINNED TOMATOES

TINNED FISH

BISCUITS

JAM

NAPPIES (SIZE 6)

WASHING-UP LIQUID

TOOTHBRUSHES

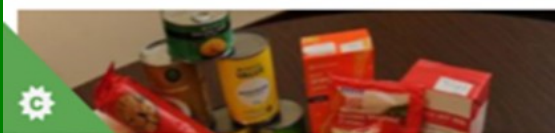
TOOTHPASTE

DEODORANT

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

BEANS

PASTA



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
anybody 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



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

contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

Sign up for the
weekly parish
newsletter via email
To join send an email to
Victoria Hanlon
contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

