

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

Eileen's Funeral Mass will be held at **Holy
Family on Tuesday 21st November
at 11:30 am**

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

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
- Ken & Sara Bull
- David Johnston
- Phil Shaw
- Frances Ford
- John McNulty
- John Charles Smith
- Peter Ryan
- Bernard Davies
- Gerald Sanderson
- Carol Ross
- Kevin Doyle
- Molly Turner
- Joe Hemington
- Fred McCloud
- Lin Thompson
- Gary & Alan
- Phyllis Driscoll & Family
- Koumar Ray
- Claire Roddick
- Helen Boyd
- Moira Griffiths-Parr
- Frances Firth
- Gerry Smith
- Ian Butler



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

It may be too early to mention Christmas just
yet, but for those of you who like to plan
ahead, here are the times of our Masses over
the Christmas weekend.

Christmas Mass Times 2023

Sunday 24th December

9:30am 4th Sunday of Advent - Holy Family

11:15am 4th Sunday of Advent - Our Lady & St. John

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

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

Midnight Mass - Our Lady & St. John

Monday 25th December

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

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

Confession

Holy Family:

11:45am - 12 noon on Saturdays

Our Lady & St John:

5:15pm - 5:45pm on Saturdays



Masses for week commencing Sunday 19th November 2023

Sunday 19th November	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Week I</i> Safeguarding Sunday	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Margaret Doolan R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Richard & Florence Eckles & Sheila Adonis Anniversary
Monday 20th November	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Holy Souls
Tuesday 21st November	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9:00 am	OLSJ	Celebration of Word & Communion
		11:30 am	Holy Family	Eileen Cantillon Funeral Mass
Wednesday 22nd November	St Cecilia	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Holy Souls
Thursday 23rd November	Ss Clement & Columban	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Holy Souls
Friday 24th November	Ss Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Rona Mills Birthday Anniversary
Saturday 25th November	BVM on Saturday	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come pray the rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Denis Francis Vaz
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Pamela Diable
Sunday 26th November	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe <i>Psalter Week II</i> Day of Special Prayer for Young People	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Dora Noonan RIP Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Fred & Janine Overton R.I.P.


Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

In today's gospel the master gives five talents, three talents and one talent to his servants. A talent was a coin that was worth almost 20 years pay for a servant or a labourer, so the first servant actually got 100 years' salary and the second got 40 years' in advance. Without further instructions the master departs. The first two servants go off quickly and double their gifts, but the man who got only 20 years' pay simply goes and buries it in the ground. He knows his master is a demanding man and he is scared to use his talent in case he ends up making a loss. Upon returning the master asks what happened to his money. The first two who have doubled their gift are called 'good and faithful servants.' They are placed in charge of even more possessions and welcomed into the joy of their master. The man with one talent makes excuses. The master berates him as wicked and lazy. He gives his talent to the one who has ten and exiles the timid servant to the outer darkness to weep and gnash his teeth. We have all been given some role by God and every baptised Christian has been called to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, a task we cannot shirk.



MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS NOVEMBER DEAD LIST

Place in this envelope the names of your deceased Parents, Relatives, Friends and all for whom you wish to pray.

Holy Mass will be offered for them during the month of November.

'Have pity on me at least you, my friends, for the Hand of the Lord hath touched me.'

Return as soon as possible to the Church or Presbytery.

November is the Month of The Holy Souls

The envelopes for the Remembrance of your Loved Ones and Offerings are now available in the porch at both churches.

- **At Holy Family**, please place your completed envelopes in the basket by the Sacred Heart Statue.
- **At OLSJ**, please place your completed envelopes in the basket by the altar.
- **Alternatively**, you can post the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

May we take this opportunity to remind you, because we receive so many Intentions during this month that it's simply not possible to say an Individual Mass for each and every intention. The Mass is simply styled as "Holy Souls", please rest assured however that Masses will be said regularly throughout November and in the coming months, and all your intentions are remembered at those Masses.



HOUR OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

You're warmly invited to come and pray with us on the first Friday of every month at Our Lady and St John's, for an **hour**

of prayer for Peace in Reparation to The Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**Our next prayer gathering will take place on Friday
1st December at 2:30pm.**

If you can't be with us in person, please join us in private prayer wherever you are that day. We especially invite the sick and housebound to be with us in spirit and prayers. Following the Hour of Prayer for Peace we'll have tea and coffee in the Meeting Room.



First Forgiveness & First Holy Communion 2024

If you have a child who is in Year 3 or above, he or she will be eligible to celebrate these important sacraments in 2024. 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 stephen.coonan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Holy Family Parish, Gaza City

For the last 7 years our 2 parishes have sent Christmas greetings of prayer and support to Holy Family Parish in Gaza. After many hundreds of years of a Roman Catholic presence in the region, Holy Family is the last remaining Roman Catholic Church. The priests, nuns and parishioners are all determined to maintain that Catholic presence, even in conflict conditions and ask us particularly to remember their community in our prayers for peace.

Although a recent Israeli missile strike disrupted a service there, the church, hall and school remain relatively unscathed and are providing shelter for about 700 Palestinians who have lost their homes. Many of these are elderly, infirm or families with children for whom travel to a safer area would be difficult and the stress of the increasing military force is frightening. As elsewhere in Gaza basic supplies are running very low. One great source of hope and comfort comes from Pope Francis' frequent phone calls enquiring about their safety and offering his prayers and blessing.

More information can be found online - **search "Holy Family Parish Gaza news 2023"**



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 **Saturday 2nd December**. If you need any further information please contact Joan on 0151 342 5517. Thank you.



Wirral Ark Christmas Cards

A little earlier than previous years, a selection of cards will be available at the back of Holy Family Church from **Sunday 5th November** until further notice. The cards are good value, popular and are often sold out quickly - so don't leave it too late to purchase.

The ARK is a local charity which supports the homeless and has been doing splendid work in this area for many years. This year in particular, with the cost of living crisis, there are many more homeless in need of help.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Adoration

Every Tuesday morning from 9:30am - 10:30am after the Celebration of Word and Communion at 9:00am at Our Lady and St John.
Everyone welcome.

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.

Wirral Foodbank



The Wirral Foodbank is the busiest it has ever been at the moment, with demand for our services up by almost 60% on this time last year. Please help by donating 1 or 2 of the following items that they urgently need:

- ★ **Tinned Fish**
- ★ **Tinned Meat**
- ★ **Tinned Vegetables**
- Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn**
- ★ **Fruit Squash**
- ★ **Jam**
- ★ **Tinned Fruit**
- ★ **Tinned Rice Pudding**
- ★ **Tinned Potatoes**
- ★ **Deodorant**

We have plenty of BEANS & TEA thank you.

MANY THANKS

There are large collection boxes in the porch area of both our Parish churches.



World Day of the Poor - 19th November

The 19th of November is World Day of the Poor. This special day was instituted by Pope Francis in 2017 when he encouraged the Church to "go forth", beyond its own walls, to encounter poverty "in the multiple meanings in which it manifests itself in today's world."

This year's theme is "Do not look away from the poor" (Tobit 4,7). Pope Francis begins his message for the Day by stressing that "a great river of poverty is traversing our cities and swelling to the point of overflowing; it seems to overwhelm us, so great are the needs of our brothers and sisters who plead for our help, support and solidarity."

"We are living," he continues, "in times that are not particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor. The pressure to adopt an affluent lifestyle increases, while the voices of those dwelling in poverty tend to go unheard."

One way we all can help the world's poor is through supporting CAFOD's work and especially at Christmas. CAFOD's World Gifts are a totally ethical way to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Every single World Gifts purchase helps fund CAFOD's work around the world.

In this year's catalogue there is a wide range of things you can purchase to help the poor, such as;

- provision of emergency water for £5,
- teaching someone to read for £10,
- the goat that gives for £28,
- a school starter pack for £25,
- through to more expensive items such as a toilet for £85 or a cow for £150.



Please take a catalogue from the porch at both Our Lady and St. John and Holy Family.



Caritas Shrewsbury is grateful for the below update from the Bishops' Conference. If you would like to support work in the diocese to help and speak up for sanctuary seekers, please contact them -

info@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk / 0151 652 1281

Bishop welcomes Supreme Court's "unlawful" ruling on Rwanda asylum plan

Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees for the Bishops' Conference, has welcomed the Supreme Court's ruling that the government's plan to send some asylum seekers to Rwanda is unlawful:

"I am greatly relieved that the proposal to send those seeking asylum to Rwanda has been ruled unlawful. This was a policy that ignored the innate human dignity of those seeking sanctuary.

"Whilst today's Supreme Court ruling is to be welcomed, we will continue to advocate for an immigration system that places the human person at its centre. Refugees are human beings made in the image and likeness of God, not a political problem to be solved.

"It is important to recognise the wonderful work of Catholic charities and civil society organisations that do so much to help migrants and refugees when they come to the UK.

"We will continue to pray for those who are on the move, as well as for the government that it will respect this ruling and respond to the needs of migrants and asylum seekers in a way that fully upholds their human dignity."

Source: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-welcomes-supreme-courts-unlawful-ruling-on-rwanda-asylum-plan/>

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

**Ways to
Stay in
Touch with
Parish News**

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.

Visit the
Holy Family Pensby
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Have your contact
details changed
recently?
If they have,
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Parish Secretary
know.

contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

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

