

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



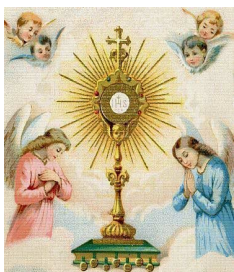
HOURLY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

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
2nd February 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.



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.

Confession

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

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



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.



Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

- 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
- Pat Lord
- Mike Robb
- Grant Adonis



Please get in touch if you would like to add or remove

Masses for week commencing Sunday 4th February 2024				
Sunday 4th February	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Week I</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Monica Parry
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Intentions of Chris & Pat Lord
Monday 5th February	St Agatha	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - The Burke Family
Tuesday 6th February	St Paul Miki & Companions	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Julia Delaney Birthday
Wednesday 7th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Celebration of Word & Communion
Thursday 8th February	Ss Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Chris & Gerry Johnson R.I.P. Anniversary
Friday 9th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Sr Francine CP Intentions
Saturday 10th February	St Scholastica	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come pray the rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Dave Johnston Birthday Thanksgiving
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Alfred Desmond/ Moorhead
Sunday 11th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Week II</i> <i>Day of Prayer for the sick and for the unemployed</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Tony Walsh R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Joan Gibson 50 years in the choir



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

The gospel portrays a Jesus, who enters the world of the sick and the suffering with healing touches and healing words. Mark’s gospel contains the highest proportion of miracle stories told often in vivid detail that alert us to the extraordinary power of God manifest in Jesus. Today we have the account of the cure of Simon’s mother-in-law. Jesus is told of her illness and without saying a word, goes over to her, grasps her hand and lifts her up and immediately she begins to wait on Jesus and the disciples. The healing power of Jesus is a liberation leading to a greater service of others. At the end of the opening day of Jesus’ proclamation of God’s reign crowds of sick and possessed people crowd round the door and Jesus heals various diseases and casts out demons, telling them to be quiet. He then leaves very early before dawn (the subsequent hour of his death sentence and of the discovery of the empty tomb.) Jesus retreats to a deserted place where he had earlier been tested but where he now communes with God in prayer. The disciples find him and he responds with renewed commitment to his mission of proclamation and confronting the power of evil.



WALK 200KM IN 40 DAYS TO HELP FIGHT GLOBAL POVERTY

Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty.

CAFOD and SCIAF are teaming up to bring the Big Lent Walk to Great Britain! [Read more about us](#) and our decision to join forces. Thousands of walkers from England, Wales, Scotland and beyond, will be tying up their purple laces and walking an incredible 200km this Lent to fight global poverty.

So, [sign up](#) to do the Big Lent Walk yourself, or join in with your [parish](#). Then put your best foot forward with the



2024 - YEAR OF PRAYER

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope", 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. He asks us all to join in a great "symphony" of prayer, "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him."

"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity."

Pope Francis

As well as our monthly Prayer for Peace and our weekly Rosary Prayer groups in our Parish churches, CAFOD run a weekly Community Online Rosary Prayer Group. If you would like to join CAFOD's online community to pray the rosary via Zoom every Thursday morning at 9am, click on the link below to register your interest. They will then send you a link every week to join the Zoom call.

<https://cafod.formstack.com/forms/rosary>



Children's Liturgy at Our Lady and St John's

LEGO CHURCH - THIS Sunday 4th February

At Lego Church we explore the themes of the Gospel in a child-friendly way by building models from Lego to better understand the message. There is no need to book, to attend, just come along.



Ash Wednesday 14th February 2024 Walk of Witness for Peace, Repentance and Reconciliation

Assemble from 1.15pm on steps of St Luke's 'bombed out church' at the top of Bold St, Liverpool L1 2TR. The walk starts at 1.30pm, with Stations of the Cross at the Statue of Reconciliation, in Church St (where ashes will be distributed) Lord St and the Town Hall. We walk in support of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and for peace in Ukraine /Russia, Palestine/ Israel and in our City.

Organised by Merseyside Pax Christi.

Contact: Jan Harper

07591082195 email janharper20211@outlook.com



Heswall
Disabled Children's
Holiday Fund



HESWALL DISABLED CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY FUND are having an Easter Raffle. Tickets will be on sale after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning at Our Lady & St John and Holy Family from the weekend of 10th February. Tickets are £2 each or a book of 5 for £10. First prize is £200 cash with lots more prizes to be won.

Once again we will be holding our annual Camp in August 2024 at Barnstondale and all the money raised from the Raffle will go to support the Camp and enable us to bring as many children as possible for a week long holiday.

The draw will take place at our Spring Fair which is being held on **Saturday 16th March 2024** at the Lighthouse Church, Heswall from 10.00am-1.00pm. At the Fair we have the SingMe Merseyside Choir coming to entertain us, lots of stalls and refreshments. **Tickets are also available from Joan Larkin on 07542213158 or 342 5517.**



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality

You are invited by the Lourdes Hospitality to celebrate Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, at St Mary's, Crewe CW1 2JP on **February 10th at 12 noon**. Light refreshments will be available after Mass.



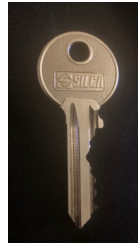
Holy Family Gardening Gang

Calling all parishioners. Would anyone be willing to join the Gardening Gang at Holy Family to help maintain the gardens around the church? If you are interested please get in touch with Sean Purcell or Brian Sharp.

Their next session will take place on **Saturday 10th February 9:30 to 11:30**, gardening, chat and a cup of tea.

Key Found at Holy Family

A key has been found in the Wirral Food Bank box at Holy Family. It must have fallen in whilst someone was kindly dropping off items for the Food Bank. If this is yours please contact Brain Sharp.

**First Holy Communion 2024****Enrolment Mass**

Congratulations to all the children who attended the Enrolment Mass last Sunday. We will be holding another Enrolment Mass this Sunday at 11:15am Mass at Our Lady and St John, for those children who were unable to make it last week. We wish them all well in their faith journey.



**DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY**

**Diocesan Pilgrimage
to Lourdes 2024**

Brochures and booking forms are now available on the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or by ringing 07773 324264, or if you are aged 16 – 22 please email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org for an application form to join the youth section of our pilgrimage. This year our pilgrimage dates are: by air is from Friday 26 July to Thursday 1 August, by coach Thursday 25 July to Friday 2 August and for our young people Wednesday 24 July to Friday 2 August. If you are a first time pilgrim or a returning pilgrim we look forward to you joining us in Lourdes this year.

**Irish Ceili Dancing
Keep Fit, Have Fun!****FREE EXERCISE CLASS DANCING TO IRISH MUSIC**

Come along every Friday from 12 noon to 1.30pm when you can have a free class keeping fit with some dancing.

Where: Wirral Change, Birkenhead. This used to be St Laurence's Primary School, 12-14 St Laurence Drive, Birkenhead CH41 3JD

Very easy to get there by bus, train or car. Why not come along and see? For more information contact : Joan on 07542213158

**MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE
PILGRIMAGES APRIL - OCT 2024**

7 Nights Apartment B&B from €273 per person sharing. Airport transfer available on request. Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you.

Tel. 020 3239 8662 or website www.med-irishcentre.com

**Refreshments after Sunday Mass**

Just a reminder that refreshments are available after both Sunday Masses at Holy Family and Our Lady and St John each week. Do come and join us for a cuppa and a chat after Mass.

**Safe Spaces**

Safe Spaces is an independent and confidential support service for adults who have been abused by someone in the Church. If you have been affected, however long ago, Safe Spaces can support you.

Call our **free** helpline **0300 303 1056** OR email at safespaces@firstlight.org.uk

Safe Spaces was developed when both the Church of England and the Catholic Church of England and Wales identified the need for an independent service to support survivors of church-related abuse. While the service was commissioned by both churches, they don't have a say in the daily running of it and the decision-making process is independent.



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

Diocesan Choir Festival – 'Sing a New Song'
Sunday 24th February 10:30am - 4:30pm

You are invited to come along and sing as part of a diocesan choir. Learn music throughout the day and lead the singing for Mass at 5pm. We will learn Schutz: Praise to you Lord Jesus, Schubert: Mass in G and more, on Saturday 24th February, 10.30am-4.30pm with Mass beginning at 5pm. At St Anthony's, Dunkery Road, Woodhouse Park, Wythenshawe, M22 0WR.

Refreshments and registration from 10.30am, rehearsals begin at 11am. Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring a packed lunch. The cost is £5 per person, payable on the day.

Book by completing the form at [HTTP://TINYURL.COM/DIOCESANCHOIRFESTIVAL](http://tinyurl.com/diocesanchoirfestival)

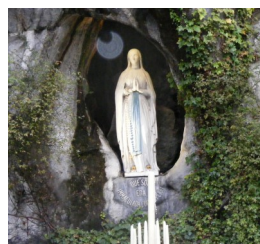
The deadline for bookings is Friday 16th February.

For more information contact
reception@dioceseofshrewsbury.org



Monthly Assam Collection

This is a reminder that the usual monthly Assam collection will take place after Sunday Mass at Holy Family, **THIS SUNDAY, 4th February 2024.**



Lourdes by Jumbulance

There are two pilgrimages to Lourdes by Jumbulance in 2024 departing from Wirral and Chester. A Jumbulance is literally a Jumbo-Ambulance. It has seven beds on board, spacious seating, an accessible toilet and kitchen. We can take very sick or disabled pilgrims including those needing palliative care including cancer, MND, MS, stroke, etc. We stay in a four star hotel with excellent facilities to care for them and recruit a team of nurses and helpers to do so. The experience for younger helpers is good for the CV, especially those considering a career in health or social care. We all do a DBS. Everyone must be COVID vaccinated.

The dates are Thu 30th May to Sat 8th June and Thu 15th to Sat 24th August.

The cost is £1,095 and, as a charity, we are all asked to pay. However, nurses and young helpers under 25 in FTE, pay half. We do fund raising to help support those who cannot afford the full amount. Travel Insurance is available at just £70, which is a snip for those with multiple health problems!

Visit our website and read Bev's story. www.across.org.uk/?s=AJ

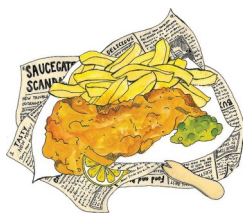
For further information contact Tony Murphy on 07881-656-974 or tonymurphy2002@yahoo.co.uk



3rd Heswall Beavers/Cubs/Scouts
Quiz Night - 1st March

We are hosting a quiz night with fish and chip supper at our scout hut on Marksway, Pensby on 1st March. Arrival from 7pm with the quiz beginning around 7.15.

Tickets are £10 and include a drink and your fish and chips! Drinks and raffle tickets are available for purchase on the night.



Tickets are available from Pauline on 07776308883



THIS SUNDAY - 4th February

Wirral Repair Café has opened at the Wirral Deen Centre, 371 to 375 Borough Road, Birkenhead, Wirral CH42 0HA. It will be open the **first Sunday in every month 2pm – 4pm.**

It is part of an international network of repair cafes where volunteers try to fix items, brought in by members of the public, that would otherwise be thrown away because they've stopped working or (in the case of clothing, can no longer be worn). Their goal is to reduce landfill waste, encourage people to carry out their own repairs and save them money in the process.

What's available?

- ★ Get advice and learn repair skills
- ★ Clothing and textile repairs
- ★ Get advice and learn sewing and darning skills
- ★ Toy repairs
- ★ Sharpening available
- ★ Repairs of wooden items
- ★ Free repairs, but donations are welcome

For more information click the link below:

<https://www.wirralinfobank.co.uk/Services/7487>



On this page there are a few ways in which we can help to live our lives

- simply
- sustainably with creation
- in solidarity with people living in poverty



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.



Printer Cartridge Recycling Reminder

As part of our Live Simply drive, we have a recycling box for used printer cartridges at the back of Our Lady & St John's church porch next to the piety stall.

Once there are 50+ used cartridges in the box then we shall send it to The Recycling Factory. They will then recycle them and give a donation CAFOD. The Recycling Factory has already donated over £68,000 to CAFOD and we should like help with this good cause.

RNIB Used Stamps

There is a collection box at the back of Our Lady and St John (next to the battery recycling box) for all your old used stamps. Once the box is full it will be sent to the Royal National Institute for the Blind, where they are able to use them to raise vital funds for the charity.

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



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

[con-
tact@ourladyandstjo
hn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)

 Sign up for the
weekly parish
newsletter via email
To join send an email to Vic-
toria Hanlon [con-
tact@ourladyand
stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)