

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
Eric Jones & Maria Luisa Frei Beccarelli
who have recently died. May their souls rest in
peace.



Eric Jones' Funeral Service will be held at
Landican Crematorium on
Monday 25th March at 12 noon

Luisa Beccarelli's Funeral Mass will be held at
Our Lady and St John on
Tuesday 26th March at 2:30pm

Please remember to pray for their families at this

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

Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those in
both parishes who are sick at home or in hos-
pital, 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
- Victoria Interi
- Ann Parsons



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

Masses for the 2 weeks commencing Sunday 24th March 2024

Sunday 24th March	Palm Sunday <i>Psalter Week II</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Mary McGuire R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Philomena Fletcher R.I.P.
Monday 25th March	Monday of Holy Week	9:00 am	<u>Holy Family</u>	Mass - Eileen Cantillon R.I.P. <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross ☩</i>
Tuesday 26th March	Tuesday of Holy Week	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Tom Fishwick R.I.P. <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross ☩</i>
		2:30 pm	OLSJ	Maria Luisa Frei Beccarelli Funeral Mass
Wednesday 27th March	Wednesday of Holy Week	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Marino Restrepo (birthday)
Thursday 28th March	Holy Thursday	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass of the Lord's Supper - Parishioners
Friday 29th March	Good Friday	10:00 am	OLSJ → URC	Walk of Witness
		10:30 am	Holy Family	Stations of the Cross ☩
		3:00 pm	OLSJ & Holy Family	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 30th March	Holy Saturday	8:00 pm	Holy Family	Easter Vigil - Parishioners
British Summer Time Begins - Clocks go FORWARD one hour tonight				
Sunday 31st March	Easter Sunday <i>Psalter Week I</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - For Peace in Ukraine & the Middle East
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Peter Campbell Anniversary
Monday 1st April	Monday of the Easter Octave	<u>10:00 am</u>	OLSJ	Mass - Intentions of Fr. Stephen
Tuesday 2nd April	Tuesday of the Easter Octave	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Intentions of Fr. Pat
Wednesday 3rd April	Wednesday of the Easter Octave	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Patricia Brown R.I.P.
Thursday 4th April	Thursday of the Easter Octave	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Michael Walker (Birthday)
Friday 5th April	Friday of the Easter Octave	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Vincent Maria Joseph R.I.P.
Saturday 6th April	Saturday of the Easter Octave	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Mr & Mrs R.B. Walker & Family
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Aileen Pocock R.I.P.
Sunday 7th April	Second Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week II</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Sylvia Asquith R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Rev. Bev Ahearn R.I.P.

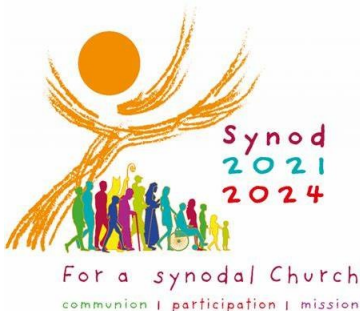
Reflection on the Gospel - Palm Sunday

By Father Stephen

Mark's Passion narrates vividly Jesus' anguish in the garden of Gethsemane and does not flinch from the most brutal aspects of the execution ritual (scourging, mocking, crowning with thorns). Yet Mark writes from the viewpoint of Easter faith, which is rooted in the mystery of the Cross. The Cross is salvation; the humiliation of Jesus is his exaltation; the way of discipleship is the way of suffering, and while the called disciples flee, women who had followed him to Jerusalem from Galilee stand at the cross. The proper confession of Jesus as Son of God is uttered by the pagan centurion. Jesus dies with a cry, "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" This is a line from Psalm 22 which leaves us to wonder whether this is truly despair or an unfinished lament that ends in triumphant hope.



John's Passion on Good Friday softens the harsh aspects of Jesus' sufferings by reducing the scourging and the mocking to two verses. It is less a story of degradation than of the triumphant return of the Word to the Father and the hour of his glorification. Authority and majesty characterise Jesus as his captors fall before him. His death is the willing acceptance of the cup his Father has given him and a triumphal victory over worldly power, as he lays down his life for others.



Synod – Latest News

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has decided that some of the most controversial issues raised at the first assembly of the Synod of Bishops on synodality will be examined by study groups that will work beyond the synod's final assembly in October.

The possible revision of guidelines for the training of priests and deacons, "the role of women in the church and their participation in decision-making/taking processes and community leadership," a possible revision of the way bishops are chosen and a revision of norms for the relationship between bishops and the religious orders working in their dioceses all will be the subject of study groups.

That Pope Francis did not wait until the end of the second assembly to convoke the study groups, "shows that he has a heart that listens; he listened and is acting," Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary-general of the synod, told reporters March 14.

Pope Francis approved the 10 groups and their topics; he asked the groups, coordinated by different offices of the Roman Curia, to make a preliminary report to the synod's second assembly in October and to give him a final report on their work by June 2025.

In a letter to Cardinal Grech, released March 14, Pope Francis said that with the study groups working on issues "requiring in-depth study," members of the synodal assembly in October will be able "to focus more easily on the general theme that I assigned to it at the time, and which can now be summarized in the question: 'How to be a synodal Church in mission?'"



Holy Week

Mass Times for Holy Week

Palm Sunday - Sunday 24th March

9:30 am at Holy Family

11:15 am at Our Lady & St John

Mass of Chrism - Wednesday 27th March

7:00 pm at St Michael & All Angels,
Woodchurch

Maundy Thursday - Thursday 28th March

7:00 pm at Our Lady & St John

Good Friday - Friday 29th March

10:00 am Walk of Witness - start OLSJ

10:30 am Stations of the Cross at Holy Family

3:00 pm at Holy Family

3:00 pm at Our Lady & St John

Holy Saturday - Saturday 30th March

8:00 pm at Holy Family (Easter Vigil)

Easter Sunday - Sunday 31st March

9:30 am at Holy Family

11:15 am at Our Lady & St John



Maundy Thursday Offertory Collection

It is customary for us to collect gifts for the Carmelite Monastery and bring them to the offertory on Maundy Thursday. People have asked for ideas. Tinned fish, dried goods such as lentils, soup mix, cereals such as bran flakes fruit, dusters, blue biro's or anything else suitable for any household. The gifts are greatly appreciated by the Sisters. They have had five new entries last year and two more waiting to enter! Thank you all so much. Deo Gratias.

Good Friday Collection

As usual, there will be a collection for the Holy Places at both Masses at both our Parish churches on **Friday 29th March.**



Churches Together In Heswall

Walk of Witness

Good Friday - Friday 29th March

The walk will begin at 10am from Our Lady and St John's church and ends at the URC church just before 11am where there is a short service followed by refreshments. If you aren't able to do the walk, it will be filmed and shown live in the URC church from 10am.

Help Needed!

We need volunteers to read as we stop for prayer and hymns along the route, and marshalls to control the procession as we cross the various highway junctions. If you are able to help please contact Brian Sharp on 07920849388.



Mass Location Change

Monday 25th March

Just to give you all advance warning that Monday morning Mass on 25th March will be celebrated at Holy Family church and NOT at Our Lady and St John. This is due to the organ being serviced that day.

The church will remain open but may be a bit noisy as they tune the organ in time for Easter.



Children's Liturgy at Our Lady and St John's
NEXT LEGO CHURCH - Sunday 7th April

CAFOD
 Just one world

CAFOD Big Lent Walk



Parishioner Ronnie Buckley has now completed her 200km walk in aid of the Cafod Big Lent Walk. If you have sponsored her, please could you send in the sponsorship money to her as soon as possible? Thank you.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU on behalf of Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund. I am delighted to let you know that a total of **£3,197.36** was raised on Saturday last at our Spring Fair. The total includes takings on the day and the Easter raffle. An amazing £448.00 of this, was made on our Cake Stall. A big Thank You to all our amazing Cake Bakers as without you this large sum would not have been possible.

Your continued support is really appreciated and all the money raised will go towards our Camp in August 2024.

Gianni Interi's Ordination as Deacon



As many of you are aware, parishioner, Gianni Interi will be ordained as Deacon at a special ceremony at Shrewsbury Cathedral on **Saturday 6th July** this year. As a parish we have decided that it would be lovely to support Gianni and his wife, Victoria by attending the ceremony at Shrewsbury Cathedral. We have organised a coach to take a group of parishioners there and back. The coach will pick up parishioners from outside Our Lady and St John's church at 8am (time to be confirmed). The ordination takes place at 12 noon and the cathedral are providing refreshments afterwards. The coach will then bring us back late afternoon. The cost per person for the coach is £15 a head. If you would like to attend or have any questions, please sign up at the back of OLSJ church or drop an email to contact@ourladyandstjohn.org

For those unable to attend the ceremony in Shrewsbury, we will also be celebrating the following day at 11:15am Mass.



Red Missio Boxes

Would all box holders bring them to church for emptying/counting?

Boxes can be left in Sacristy or handed to:

⇒ Ian Butler (Our Lady and St. John)

⇒ John Wrigley (Holy Family)

Donations also gratefully received.



Ladymount Pre-school

We have places available for children aged 2½ to 5. We provide a brilliant transition into Ladymount Primary School. 30 Hours and Universal Funding accepted as well as new 2 Year Old Funding for Working Parents.

We offer a warm and loving environment for your child with a wealth of learning opportunities and experiences supported by a superbly qualified and experienced staff team.

Tel Gill on 0151 648 8005

Email: preschool@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk

Check out our website: ladymountpreschool.com

Collection for Gianni Interi's Dalmatics

We are holding a collection over the next few weeks to raise money to buy a set of dalmatics (vestments) to gift to Gianni for when he becomes Deacon in July. If you would like to donate to this, there are some envelopes at the back of church. Just pop them in the offertory basket at weekends or pass them on to one of our Parish Priests or Bernard Larkin. Donations can now also be made via the Dona Digital Plate at the back of OLSJ church. Thank you.



Pope Francis has asked us to dedicate this year, 2024, to be a Year of Prayer.

**Lenten Reflection
For Sunday 24th March**

**FOR IT IS IN GIVING
THAT WE RECEIVE.**

Francis of Assisi

*It is in giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life*

We receive the gift of God's Grace whenever we share what we have with others. If we don't have money or material goods to share, perhaps we can give a little of our time and share that with others in need of company or a phone call. For those who can afford to do so a gift to the Food Bank is an obvious way to share God's gifts to us.

It is in denying our self and submitting to God's will that we 'die' and begin to share, even now, in the eternal life that is God's gift to us.

Stations of the Cross



During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at after Monday and Tuesday morning Mass at Our Lady and St John's church and after Friday morning Mass at Holy Family.



Why not try and Live Simply for Lent . .

Lent Actions 2024

Prayer Fasting Almsgiving

Ideas to care for creation during Lent and to live more sustainably.

We conclude this Lenten series with the following reflection from CAFOD:

Throughout history, humanity has idolised wealth, power, and beauty. We have sought to dominate nature and one another rather than seeking to live as God has called us.

Pope Francis sent out a strong letter on the climate crisis last year, entitled Laudate Deum, Praise God. In it, he decries the irreversible damage already done to our earth as a consequence of the thirst for power and profit.

He finishes his message by saying: "Praise God' is the title of this letter. For when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies" (#73).

This Lent, let us recognise our own limits and praise God for all that he has done for us. Let us try to rid ourselves of our idols, whatever they may be, and turn our attention back to God. Let us live our lives as he calls us to: caring for and protecting the world around us.

*O God we praise you,
for the world sings of your infinite love.
Strengthen our faith
as we turn back to you this Lent.
Lead us to live as you call us to,
with love for all your creation.
Amen.*

<https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/livesimply-award>



Community Groups



Our community groups empower members to address daily life challenges in a supportive environment.

Pop in and join us for a cuppa



- * Monday mornings, 9.30am – 12pm, St. Joseph's Centre, Birkenhead, CH42 7JY
- * Tuesday mornings, 9.30am – 12pm, The Quiet Space, Hoylake Community Centre, CH47 3AG
- * Tuesday mornings, 9.30am – 12pm, St. Barnabas Centre, Bromborough, CH62 7AA

CALL LISA 07394 568 254
OR LINDA 07824 329 340



@CaritasWirral





The poster features a green background with a black base. At the top left, there is a circular logo with the text 'FAITHS WORKING TOGETHER' and a globe, surrounded by various religious symbols: a crescent moon, a Star of David, an Om symbol, a cross, a Khanda, and a Yin-Yang symbol. To the right of this logo, the title 'Recycling & Waste Workshop' is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title, the date '20th March 2024' and the time '5.30-8PM' are written in white. In the center, there is a large pile of various waste items including cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, food waste, and a black trash bag. To the right of the pile is a wooden compost bin with a sign that says 'COMPOST'. Below the pile and bin, the text 'Speakers include' is written in yellow, followed by the names and affiliations of the speakers in white. Below this, a yellow text block encourages learning and exploring new ways to reduce waste. At the bottom, the location 'Christ Church Higher Bebington CH63 8LX' and the booking link 'https://bit.ly/CWWaste2024' are provided. The footer contains four logos: 'Faiths4Change', 'COOL WIRRAL', 'COOL PLACES OF WORSHIP', and a 'SCAN ME' QR code.

Recycling & Waste Workshop

20th March 2024
5.30-8PM

Speakers include
Laura Gilmore from MRWA, Minna Alanko-Falola from Compost Works, Ed Lamb (green councillor for Bebington) and more.

Learn, discuss and explore new ways to reduce waste at home and in your place of worship and what we should and shouldn't be putting in our bins!

Christ Church Higher Bebington CH63 8LX
Book online <https://bit.ly/CWWaste2024>

SCAN ME

Faiths4Change is a registered charity no. 1138834 and a registered company ltd by guarantee no. 7201450

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
Parish 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
Victoria Hanlon [con-
tact@ourladyand
stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)