

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

**There will be a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend (Sunday 17th March) for the Retired**

## **Priests Fund**

### **What is the Retired Priests' Fund?**

When active ministry ceases, Diocesan priests live independently in retirement. Priests generally retire at 75, often after having given 40-50 years of service to the people of the Diocese. As they live independently, retired priests are unable to rely upon the financial support provided by a Parish. Priests receive a minimal wage during their years in active ministry, and so most only receive the basic state pension upon retirement. As a response to this, the Retired Priests' Fund seeks to help sick and retired priests with their basic living needs, providing a pension, accommodation etc...

## **✠ May They Rest in Peace ✠**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of  
**Michael Dunne, Eric Jones & Maria Luisa  
Frei Beccarelli**

who have recently died. May their souls rest in peace.



**Michael Dunne's** Funeral Service will be held at  
**Landican Crematorium** on  
**Thursday 21st March at 12 noon**

**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 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:

- 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 week commencing Sunday 17th March 2024				
Sunday 17th March	 5th Sunday of Lent <i>Psalter Week I</i> 	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Mrs J. Hall
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - The Adonis Family
Monday 18th March	St Cyril of Jerusalem	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - David Woodcock R.I.P. <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> ☩
Tuesday 19th March	St Joseph	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Terry Murthwaite R.I.P. <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> ☩
Wednesday 20th March	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Margaret Stanley
Thursday 21st March	Ferial	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Maggie Scott (sick)
Friday 22nd March	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - To our Lady & St John Paul in Thanksgiving <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> ☩
Saturday 23rd March	St Toribio of Mogrovejo	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come pray the rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - King Charles (health)
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Ann Parsons (sick)
British Summer Time Begins - Clocks go FORWARD one hour tonight				
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.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

Today’s gospel concludes John’s presentation of the public ministry of Jesus and provides a bridge to the account of his final days. The Greeks who would like to see Jesus, underline the universal dimension of the lifting up and the glorification of the Son of Man: “And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.” Having witnessed both the sadness of death and triumph over it in his raising of Lazarus from the dead and having reached the hour of his own death Jesus now speaks of the paradox of life through death. As the springtime festival of Passover draws near, Jesus points to the mystery of the grain of wheat, which after seeming to lie dead in the soil, now springs up to sustain life. This dying and rising provides a pattern for Jesus’ disciples. “Anyone who loves his life loses it. Anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.” Loving life in this context does not refer to the proper sense of dignity and joy we should have as graced people, it means a preference for the world and human glory that can blind us to God’s love. Hatred of life means rejection of the claims of the world and a willingness to serve and follow Jesus.



### CAFOD Big Lent Walk



Parishioner Ronnie Buckley is taking part in the Cafod Big Lent Walk. If you would like to sponsor her, please click on the link below to go to her sponsorship page.

[Ronnie Buckley - Big Lent Walk - Sponsorship Page](#)

If you would like more information on the Big Lent Walk, head to the Cafod website:

[The Big Lent Walk 2024 \(cafod.org.uk\)](http://cafod.org.uk)



### Confirmation Preparation Classes 2024

The initial parent and candidates meeting will take place on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Winefride's Parish Hall Neston at 7pm after 6pm Mass**. Please do your best to attend as details of the preparation programme will be given at this meeting.

### Stitchcraft Group

Just a quick reminder to all members of the Stitchcraft group at Our Lady and St John's, that next **Tuesday, 19th March** will be the last meeting before the Easter Holidays. Meetings will start up again on **Tuesday 9th April**.



### 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](mailto:preschool@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk)

Check out our website: [ladymountpreschool.com](http://ladymountpreschool.com)

### Gianni Interi 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](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org)

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

### 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. Thank you.



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

Lord, grant that I might not so much seek to be loved as to love.

Francis of Assisi

### Lenten Reflection For Sunday 10th March

*O Master grant that I may never seek,  
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

This Sunday is dedicated to Mothers and usually loving our mothers comes easily, even if they are no longer with us. But we can all bring to mind someone whom it is difficult to love and whom we ought to love more. Can we go out of our way this week to show this person love? When we do show our love are we loving with all our soul, or do we sometimes feel taken for granted?

It is in pardoning  
that we are  
pardoned.

Francis of Assisi

### Lenten Reflection For Sunday 17th March

*It is in pardoning that we are pardoned*

Reflect and meditate on Jesus' pardoning of us. But first, like the man crucified next to him, we must repent and in doing so seek this forgiveness.

Let us share this forgiveness with others. During this week when someone offends you, forgive quickly. Keep Jesus' forgiveness in our heart when dealing with others this week. Say a special prayer for those children who will make their first confession this year.



### Justice & Peace Meeting

The next J & P meeting will be on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at Holy Family Church at 7.30pm.

All parishioners from either parish are welcome to come and see what we do.

*live simply*

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.*

*Why not try a Fast from WASTE in Lent?*

- ★ Plan at least one meat free meal each week.
- ★ Plan meals, shop for what you need.
- ★ Recycle well:
  - ⇒ put used printer cartridges and postage stamps in the drop-off boxes in the porch at Our Lady & St. John and raise funds for CAFOD\*\* and RNIB
  - ⇒ dispose of used batteries at local supermarkets or the tip
  - ⇒ take soft plastic e.g. bread wrapping to recycling points at Tesco's, Heswall or Sainsbury's, Upton
  - ⇒ Visit [Recycleright.org.uk](https://recycleright.org.uk) and learn more about, composting, recycling clothes and textiles as well as what should go into our green, grey and brown bins

\*\* Since the scheme started **£70,751** has been raised by participating parishes for CAFOD!

**Next week – more ideas for alternative ways of fasting in Lent and through the year.**

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





## 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

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.



## 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 scraps, 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 of the speakers in white: 'Laura Gilmore from MRWA, Minna Alanko-Falola from Compost Works, Ed Lamb (green councillor for Bebington) and more.' Below this, the text '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!' is written in yellow. At the bottom, the location 'Christ Church Higher Bebington CH63 8LX' and the booking link 'Book online <https://bit.ly/CWWaste2024>' are written in white. At the very bottom, there are four logos: 'Faiths4Change', 'COOL WIRRAL. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION', 'COOL PLACES OF WORSHIP CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION', and 'SCAN ME' with a QR code. A small line of text at the bottom left states 'Faiths4Change is a registered charity no. 1138834 and a registered company ltd by guarantee no. 7201450'.

**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](http://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  
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