

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

**Janet Smith, Fr. Leon &
Jean Edwards**

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



Fr. Leon's Funeral Mass will be held at
St. Alban's, Liscard on
Thursday 25th April at 12 noon

Janet Smith's Funeral Service will be held at
Holy Family on
Tuesday 30th April at 12:15 pm

Jean Edward's Funeral Mass will be held at
Our Lady & St. John on
Thursday 2nd May at 10:00 am

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 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
- Gerry Smith
- Ian Butler
- Pat Lord
- Mike Robb
- Grant Adonis
- Victoria Interi
- Ann Parsons
- Peter Davies



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Adoration

Every Tuesday morning from
9:30am - 10:30am after the Cel-
ebration of Word and Commu-
nion 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



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

Masses for week commencing Sunday 21st April 2024

Sunday 21st April	Fourth Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week III</i> <i>Day of prayer throughout the world for vocations</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Peter Ryan
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Diana Russell R.I.P.
Monday 22nd April	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Irene Fitzpatrick R.I.P.
Tuesday 23rd April	 St George 	9:00 am	OLSJ	Celebration of Word & Communion
Wednesday 24th April	St Adalbert & Fidelis	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Sheila Rowe R.I.P.
Thursday 25th April	St Mark	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Lilian & George Candlish Anniversary
Friday 26th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Mrs B Gernon
Saturday 27th April	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come pray the rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Hextall Family
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Eileen Roberts R.I.P.
Sunday 28th April	Fifth Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week IV</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Stan Orton R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Andrew Deacon R.I.P.



Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep and who gives his life for them, in contrast to hired men who neglect the sheep. The translation “good” does not capture the nuance of the Greek which suggests also a model or authentic shepherd. Behind the rich imagery of this gospel are the frequent Old Testament uses of the shepherd image to

describe God’s care for the people and that of important leaders like Moses, David and the longed for Messiah. Negatively Jesus’ contrast with the hired men evokes God’s polemic against false shepherds (leaders) who neglect the sheep and exploit them for their own gain. It is only in John’s gospel that the Messiah will give his life for his sheep. Though this anticipates Jesus’ passion and death, the Greek expression, literally “put or place my life for the sake of others,” implies that Jesus’ whole life and teaching is a model for good shepherding. Jesus conquered death. Jesus will lead his sheep to paradise. Jesus is our model of pastoral care defined in terms of knowing and self-emptying service, which also extends to the other sheep who do not belong to this fold.

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) or John Wrigley (Holy Family)



Please join CAFOD in praying for peace in Israel and Gaza

A prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza

Christ, Prince of Peace,
hear our prayer and lament,
for our suffering sisters and brothers.
Our hearts are heavy as we witness lives torn apart,
as we see the faces of frightened children
and hear the pleas of those without water or food.
We pray for the dead and the grieving,
for the injured and the afraid.
We pray for courage and perseverance,
for those working for healing and to bring aid.
We pray for world leaders,
that they may strive for a just and lasting peace.

God of new beginnings,
in your ways are compassion and hope.
Open our hearts to dialogue and understanding.
Lead us all to answer your call
to become peacemakers
today, and all the days of our life.

Amen.

**Chinese Catholic Community Mass**

Bishop Mark will celebrate a bilingual Mass for **all** members of the Chinese Catholic community on **Sunday 28th April at 2.30pm**, at St Hugh's & St John's, Timperley. During the Mass, which will be concelebrated with Father Bruno Lepeu who is chaplain to the Chinese community, the Bishop will welcome members of the Chinese community who have been baptised or received into full communion with the Catholic Church in 2024. Everyone welcome.

SUSTAINABILITY & THE ENVIRONMENT
26TH APRIL 5.30-7.30PM
BIRKENHEAD TOWN HALL

Welcoming people of Faith & Belief to come and meet Elected Members, prospective & current MP's to discuss issues and concerns that matter to you, around Sustainability & the Environment

What ideas and actions would you like Elected Members & MP's to commit to in their manifestos?

Book here <https://bit.ly/CWCouncillorsApril>

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

FAITHS WORKING TOGETHER

COOL PLACES OF WORSHIP

COOL WIRRAL

Faiths4Change

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.



Please note that unfortunately, **we are no longer collecting empty blister packs for recycling**, as the recycling scheme has finished. Please dispose of them in your general household waste bin. Thank you.

**The Month of Mary****May the Month of Mary**

The Crowning of Our Lady will take place at **6 pm Mass on**

Saturday 4th May and at 11:15am Mass on Sunday 5th Mass at Our Lady and St John. Parishioners are asked to bring flowers with them to Mass, to place before Our Lady. Wild flowers or shop-bought, doesn't matter, so long as they are brought with love.



DIOCESAN JOB VACANCY Director of Schools

The Diocese is seeking to recruit a Director of Schools and applications are now open. Details of the role and the application process can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2040730>

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 3rd May 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.

St. Anselm's College will be celebrating its 90th Anniversary with a special Mass on Saturday 20th April at 11am



The Headmaster and Governors invite you to a Mass in the College Hall at 11am on Saturday 20th April 2024 to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the opening of St. Anselm's College during the Academic Year 1933-34

*Followed by light refreshments and bar
Guided tours of Outwood House will be available*

**St. Anselm's College
Edmund Rice Trust**



Wirral Foodbank April - June 2024

We are quite short of food donations at the moment and are having to spend up to £10k a month on food. Please help by donating 1 or 2 of the following items that they urgently need:

Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, (Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes), UHT Milk, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Potatoes, Deodorant

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



3rd Heswall Scouts Needs Your Help!



3rd Heswall Scout Group has been awarded a shot at the Tesco Stronger Starts Blue Token scheme!!!

Please, please, please can we ask you all to spread the news among family and friends and to vote for us every time you go Tesco. If we win *We could be awarded £1,500!!!* That is a huge amount of money we can use to support our young people!

We are in the Big Tesco in Heswall and the Little Tesco in Pensby and a number of other stores.

Thanks everyone!!!!



Medjugorje Pilgrimage

5 day option 22nd - 26th JUNE 2024
£549 per person sharing / £635 single room

8 Day option 20th - 27th JUNE 2024
£ 715 per person sharing / £835 single room
Flying from Manchester airport.

Be there for the 43rd Anniversary.
contact Maria 07576243343 St Ann's Rock Ferry.

Click on [Fruit of Medjugorje – MaryTV Medjugorje](#) play list 153 gives the history since June 25th 1981.





GROWTH IN HOLINESS: PRAYER AND THE SPIRITUAL LIFE WORKSHOP

Pope Francis has designated 2024 a Year of Prayer. He urges us to embrace prayer 'as the royal road to holiness.' As part of your journey to deepen your prayer life, we invite you to access a workshop entitled **Growth in Holiness: Prayer and the Spiritual Life** offered to you freely by the Diocese of Shrewsbury, in conjunction with the Franciscan Catechetical Institute.



The approach offered by these workshops is gentle, inspiring, nourishing, and encouraging. They are concerned not with academic study but with formation for prayer and spiritual growth. Here is a quote from a parishioner who has made use of the Franciscan Catechetical Institute workshops and materials:

"To really understand the Faith, you need a reliable guide. The Franciscan Catechetical Institute materials have been my guide. Their engaging and thought-provoking workshops have given me a pathway through the Bible and the Catechism and have helped me to get to know God: his mercy, his love, and his plan for us. The experience has enriched my understanding, deepened my faith, and led me into a more personal relationship with God in prayer" (Parishioner at Shrewsbury Cathedral).



If you are interested of accessing the workshops, and wish to know more or how to sign up to the platform, please contact:


Jane Deegan jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or
 Stephen Yates stephen.yates@dioceseofshrewsbury.org
 Natalie Orefice natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Anointing & Healing Service

Friday 3 May 2024
 7pm
 St John's Church
 Bebington Road,
 New Ferry, Wirral
 CH62 5BJ

'What matters is faith that makes its power felt through love'
 (Gal 3: 6)

With Fr Pat Collins
 Author, Retreat Director & Conference Speaker.



Caritas (Children's Society)

Would all box holders in Holy Family please bring them to church for emptying/counting? Boxes can be left in Sacristy or handed to John Wrigley. Donations also gratefully received.



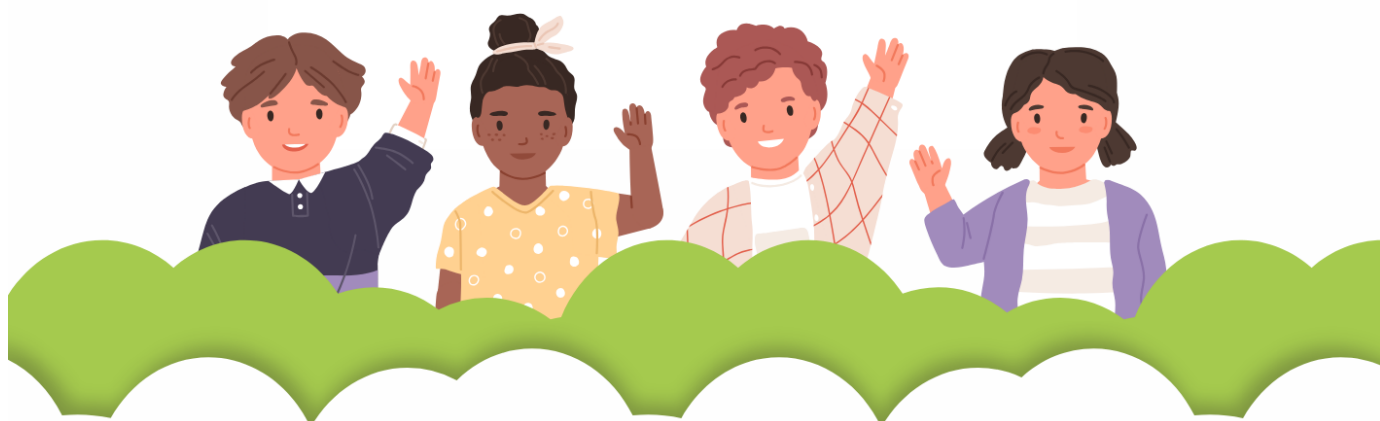
Diocesan Mass for the Celebration of Marriage
8th June 2024

The annual Marriage Mass will take place on **Saturday June 8th, 12 noon** at **Saint Columba's Church Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA**, and will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Couples who are celebrating significant wedding anniversaries this year: Silver, Pearl, Ruby, Golden, Diamond or Platinum and also newly married couples are warmly invited to attend.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Parish Secretary at contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk to reserve your place.



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



Watch Sunday Mass
said
by Father Stephen
on our YouTube
channel Our Lady and St
John Heswall

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw)



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 parish

Website



at

www.rcchp.org.uk

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

Visit the
Holy Family Pensby
Facebook page



 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)

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)