

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 **Paul Boot, Kevin Doyle & Joan Sharkey** who have recently died. May their souls rest in peace.



Paul Boot's Funeral Service will be held at **Landican** on **Monday 13th May at 9:30 am**

Kevin Doyle's Funeral Mass will be held at **Holy Family** on **Tuesday 14th May at 2:00 pm**

Joan Sharkey's Funeral Service will be held at **Landican** on **Monday 20th May at 3:00 pm**

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
- Molly Turner
- Joe Hemington
- Fred McCloud
- Lin Thompson
- Gary & Alan
- Phyllis Driscoll & Family
- Koumar Ray
- Claire Roddick
- 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 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



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

Masses for week commencing Sunday 5th May 2024

Sunday 5th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week II</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - David Noonan R.I.P. Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Vincenzo & Lucia Interi Anniversary
Monday 6th May	Ferial	<u>10:00 am</u>	OLSJ	Mass - Iain Smith R.I.P.
Tuesday 7th May	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Ian Butler Birthday
Wednesday 8th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Celebration of Word and Communion
Thursday 9th May	The Ascension of the Lord Holy Day of Obligation	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - David Barnes R.I.P.
		7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Dr Alan Johnson
Friday 10th May	St John de Avila	9:00 am	<u>OLSJ</u>	Mass - Margaret Stanley
Saturday 11th May	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come pray the rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Sara & Ken Bull Intentions
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Frances Firth R.I.P.
Sunday 12th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week III</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Anne Parsons
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Mario Martinez R.I.P.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen

Love one
 ANOTHER
 as I have
 LOVED
 you
 -JOHN 15:12

Jesus says, "This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father." Friendship was regarded in the ancient world as the highest form of love, expressed by popular sayings such as "friends hold all things in common," or "friends are other selves," or "friends share a single soul." Communality of heart and soul united the early Christians. Friendship was expressed through hospitality, shared meals and bearing one another's burdens.

Jesus calls his disciples no longer slaves but friends, since the brutal institution of slavery was rarely bridged even by friendship. Jesus' act of foot-washing, in which he assumed the role of a slave, was a symbol of his love, which bridged this gap and liberated the disciples. St Paul expresses the same vision of friendship when he expects Jew and Greek, slave and free, male and female to form a new bonding in Christ. For St John Jesus bridges a gap even wider than slavery – the gap between the divine and the human. No followers of Jesus are ever to think of God as 'master' and see themselves as 'slaves.' They are friends.

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)

MASS CHANGES THIS WEEK

Please note two changes this coming week:

- Monday is a bank holiday, so Mass will be held at the slightly later time of 10am at Our Lady and St John.
- Friday, essential tree work is being carried out at Holy Family, that day so Mass will be at the usual time of 9 am but at Our Lady and St John instead.



CAFOD
Just one world

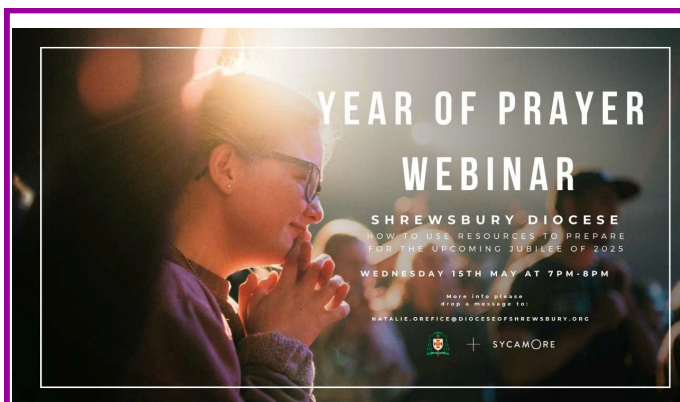
Please join CAFOD in praying for peace in Israel and Gaza

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.



Year of Prayer 2024 Come and join our online webinar with Sycamore. Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be a 'Year of Prayer', as a preparatory year for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to get the most out of the prayer pathway on Sycamore! **On Wednesday 15th May 7pm-8pm.** Email Natalie Orefice for the link to join:

Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

ANNUAL MISSIO PLANT SALE

now open

Mature heritage tomato varieties:
Grown in our own greenhouse over winter and now up to 80cm tall. Also, limited supply of green beans and strawberries available for immediate outdoor planting.

The Pines, 18, Baskervyle Road Gayton
Contact: Mary Scott 07754358546/01513421277

All proceeds to MISSIO Ukraine & Gaza appeals

CAFOD Big Lent Walk Total

Congratulations to parishioner Ronnie Buckley who raised an amazing **£348** for her Big Walk for CAFOD.....a fabulous amount of money. She would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored her. The challenge was to walk 200km in 40 days, with all the money going to CAFOD who will use the money raised to help people, globally as they overcome poverty.

EMERGENCY Sudan Crisis Appeal 2024



CAFOD Emergency Appeal for Sudan

Retiring Collection Weekend 11th/12th May

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger.

As a parish, we will holding a retiring collection CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal after all Masses on the weekend of 11th/12th May.

Donations to the appeal can also be made directly to Cafod via their website cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

You can scan this QR Code for more information or text **CAFODSUDAN to 70450** to donate £10. Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message. *If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text **CAFODSUDANNOINFO** instead.*



Monthly Assam Collection Reminder

The monthly Assam collection will take place after 9:30 am Mass at Holy Family **THIS Sunday, 5th May.**



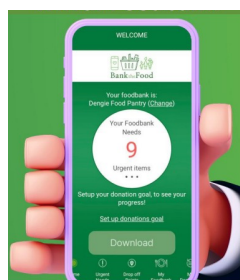
**Wirral Foodbank
April - June 2024**

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 Custard**
- **Tinned Fish**
- **Tinned Meat**
- **Tinned Vegetables**
- **UHT Milk**
- **Tinned Fruit**
- **Tinned Rice Pudding**
- **Tinned Potatoes**
- **Deodorant**

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

New Smartphone App!




Did you know that there is a new Smartphone app for up-to-date LOCAL Foodbank needs and reminders when you are doing your own shopping? The Foodbank has collaborated with

the charity **BanktheFood** and now has an App for smart phone users.

The App is free to download, and is a great reference for your donations. Simply download the BanktheFood app for FREE using the QR code below. Search for the Wirral Foodbank using the postcode finder and follow them. You'll get regular updates of the items that they urgently require.



FIND OUT MORE! 
WWW.BANKTHEFOOD.ORG



Christian Aid Week
12th-18th May 2024

Christian Aid envelopes will be distributed at Mass on 11th & 12th May. They will be collected the following Sunday, or you can put them in the offertory baskets.

Please help if you can.



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.



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 contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk to reserve your place.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 2024

Laudato Si' week is being held from 19th to 26th May. It marks the 9th anniversary of the encyclical from Pope Francis entitled **Laudato Si', 'On Care for Our Common Home'**, in which he called for every person living on the planet to consider how we are harming our common home and the global family we share it with.

Laudato Si' has had an impact but governments still aren't meeting the commitments they made in Paris 2015 to cut greenhouse gas emissions and to avoid dangerous global temperature rises. In his 2023 Apostolic Exhortation **Laudate Deum**, Pope Francis reminds us all of the urgency of the Laudato Si' message, expressly warns that not enough is being done and sets out three key messages:

- TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CRISIS
- WE NEED TO CONSIGN FOSSIL FUELS TO HISTORY
- LEADERS MUST PUT THE GLOBAL COMMON GOOD AHEAD OF SELF-INTEREST

This year's Laudato Si' Week theme is inspired by the symbol for the Season of Creation 2024, "The first fruits of hope". We are asked to be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love. In the lead up to Laudato Si' week we will share a series of messages that Pope Francis asks us to reflect on.....

***" What is the meaning of my life?
What is the meaning of my time on this earth? And what is the ultimate meaning of all my work and effort? "***

Pope Francis



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

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>

Closing date: 13th May 2024

Holy Family Gardening Gang

Our next Garden gang is on **Saturday 18th May from 9:30 to 11:30**. Tea and biscuits provided. All welcome to come and help.



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.

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.

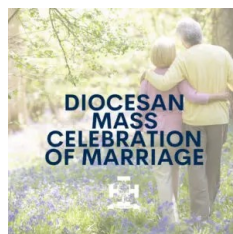


Gianni Interi Ordination as Deacon

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

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



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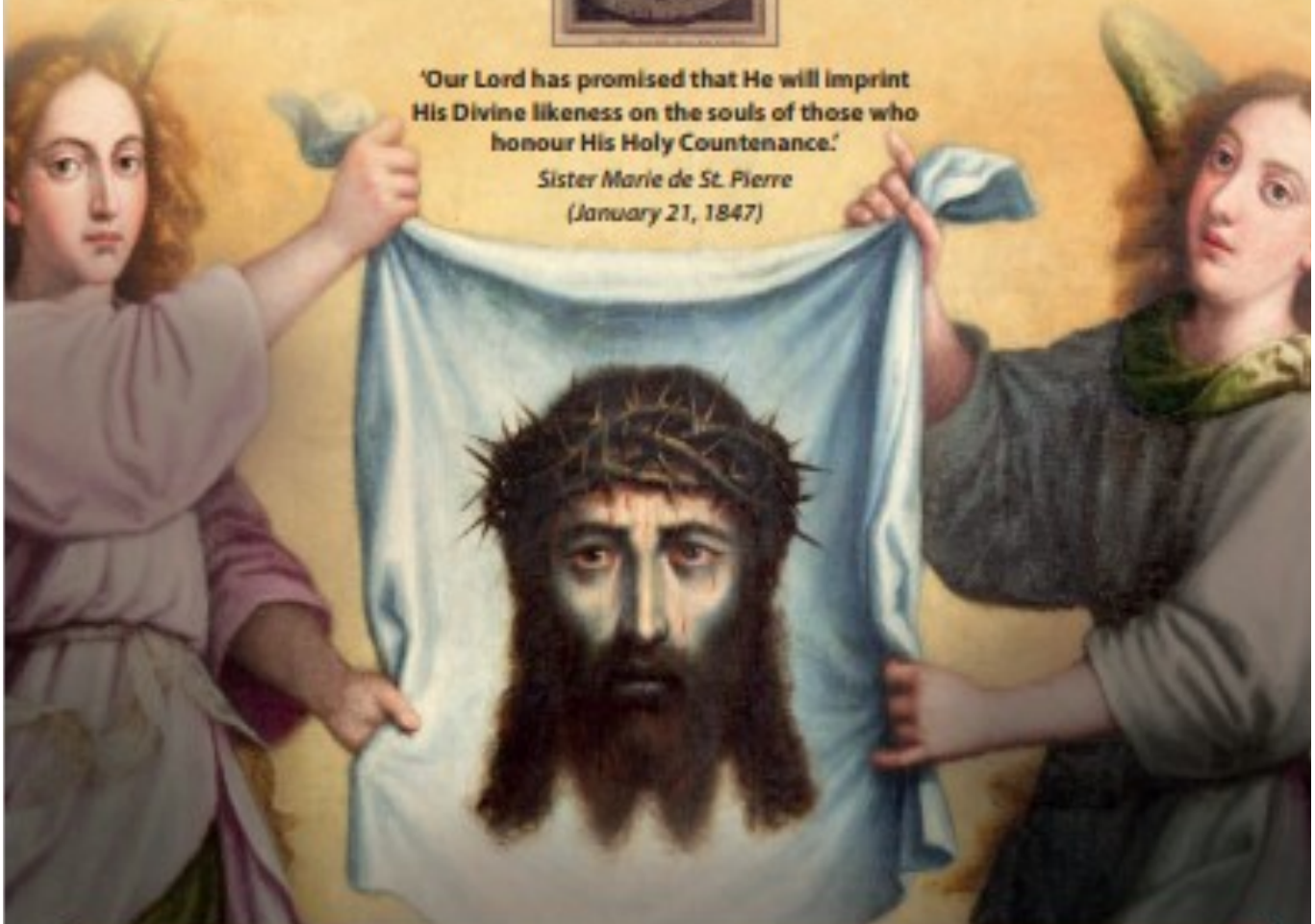
Please note that unfortunately, **we are no longer collecting empty blister packs for recycling**, as the recycling scheme has finished. Please dispose of them in your general household waste bin. Thank you.

Confraternity of the Holy Face



'Our Lord has promised that He will imprint
His Divine likeness on the souls of those who
honour His Holy Countenance.'

*Sister Marie de St. Pierre
(January 21, 1847)*



If you wish to be enrolled in the **CONFRATERNITY OF THE HOLY FACE**, then please visit our website carmelitesbirkenhead.org.uk where you will find information on how to enrol. Please fill in your details on the enrolment form provided, and return it to us by post. On receipt of your application, your name will be written in the Confraternity Register. You will then receive your membership pack, which will include a **Medal of the Holy Face**, the **Manual of the Confraternity**, including the **Rules and Statutes**, and a **Certificate of Membership**, which will show the date of your enrolment.



carmelitesbirkenhead.org.uk

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)




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



 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)