



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

## Advent Carol Service

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December

5pm at Our Lady and St John



No booking necessary. Everyone welcome. There will be mulled wine and mince pies served in the Meeting Room afterwards.

## Christmas Mass Times 2024

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

5:30pm Children's Liturgy Nativity - Our Lady & St. John

6pm Christmas Vigil Mass - Our Lady & St. John

Midnight Mass - Holy Family

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December

9:30am The Nativity of the Lord - Holy Family

11:15am The Nativity of the Lord - Our Lady & St. John

### ☞ May They Rest in Peace ☜

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Susan Elizabeth Taylor & Kevin Kerrigan** who have recently died. May their souls rest in peace.

**Susan Taylor's** Funeral Service will be held at **Our Lady and St John** on **Monday 23rd December at 1:30 pm**

**Kevin Kerrigan's** Funeral Service will be held at **Landican Cemetery** on **Friday 3rd January 2025 at 12:30 pm**

*Please remember to pray for their families at this difficult time and for all those who have lost loved ones recently and whose anniversaries occur this month.*

### 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
- Ken & Sara Bull
- David Johnston
- Phil Shaw
- Frances Ford
- John McNulty
- John Charles Smith
- Peter Ryan
- Bernard Davies
- Gerald Sanderson
- Molly Turner
- Joe Hemington
- Gary & Alan
- Phyllis Driscoll & Family
- Moira Griffiths-Parr
- Ian Butler
- Pat Lord
- Victoria Interi
- Ann Parsons
- Peter Davies
- Frances O'Boyle
- Mary Reilly
- Margaret Heery
- Steve Burke
- Carol Braden
- Mark
- Anne Davidson



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

Sunday 15th December	3rd Sunday of Advent <i>Psalter Week III</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Eileen Davies 6th Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Irene Hart R.I.P.
		5:00 pm	OLSJ	Advent Carol Service
Monday 16th December	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - John Ritchie R.I.P.
Tuesday 17th December	Ferial	9:00 am	OLSJ	Mass - Linda & Richard Escott's Daughter, Caireen R.I.P.
		9:30 am	OLSJ	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Wednesday 18th December	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Father Tom
Thursday 19th December	Ferial	7:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Philip Scott R.I.P.
Friday 20th December	Ferial	9:00 am	Holy Family	Mass - Maura Evelyn Lynam R.I.P.
Saturday 21st December	St Peter Canisius	9:30 am	OLSJ	Come Pray the Rosary
		12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Helen Ryan nee Keenan Anniversary
		6:00 pm	OLSJ	Mass - Irene Hart R.I.P.
Sunday 22nd December	4th Sunday of Advent <i>Psalter Week IV</i> Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Fr. Paul Lumas R.I.P. Anniversary
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Theresa Stubbins Anniversary



## Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

*By Father Stephen*

John, the fiery, uncompromising reformer has just said to the crowds who come to be baptized by him: "Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But, if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruits." Claiming Abraham as their father is not enough, for every tree that does not bear fruit will be thrown into the fire. John will come back to this theme when he points to the person coming who is more powerful than he (Jesus). His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor. The wheat he will gather into his barn but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out. Yet between the two uncompromising statements John is quite moderate. He urges people to use their possessions kindly and justly, telling the crowds to share their clothes and food with the needy, advising hated tax collectors to be honest and soldiers not to exploit people and to be content with their pay. Someone asked me recently why so much of our time, energy and financial resources go into helping people many of whom are not Catholics. The answer is that we help people in trouble, suffering or oppressed not because **they** are Catholic but because **we** are.



### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Churches Together Heswall invite you to join us to sing Christmas Carols on  
**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11am**  
 Please meet us in front of Heswall Library

### Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham

A 3 day pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place from **Monday 12th May returning 15th May 2025**. Full details will be announced in January.



Ridgewood Court Nursing Home are having their Christmas party on **Friday December 20th**. I am taking some Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to sing carols etc. it would be lovely to have some adult support. If you can spare an hour 6-7pm then please come along. Help brighten up Christmas for the residents and have fun too. Contact Jean 07966295388

### Heswall Musical Society Carol Concert

The Carol Concert will take place at Kylemore Centre, Kylemore Drive at **7.30pm on Tuesday 17th December**. Tickets £10 including refreshments. For Tickets phone 0151 648 5316.



### Refreshments after Sunday Mass

Refreshments will be served after Sunday Mass at both Holy Family and Our Lady and St John. Do come and join us for a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome.



### Wirral Foodbank December 2024



These are the items that the FoodBank is particularly short of at the moment. Please help by donating 1 or 2 of the following items:

- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Potatoes
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Custard
- Cereal
- Treats (chocolate etc)

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

### Christmas Novena by The Pilgrims of Love

The Pilgrims of Love invite you to join in prayer for the Christmas Novena, virtually on their [YouTube channel](#) from December 16th-24th. Several parishioners of both Parish do this every year and some have done the readings in the past. Marino Restrepo has spoken at Holy Family twice.

**CHRISTMAS TOTS GROUP**  
**FREE CRAFT FUN SESSION**  
 DROP IN FOR A CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER WITH US - CRAFTS, CHRISTMAS SONGS AND A STORY  
**TEA, COFFEE, JUICE AND MINCE PIES**  
**DECEMBER 17TH**  
**9AM - 10:30AM**  
 AT LADYMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL, PENSBY  
 LADYMOUNT Catholic Primary School

## A prayer for Advent

### Light up our lives

Christ, come into our world of darkness

Light up our lives with your coming.

Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth

Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world

And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.

Amen.

*Sr Bridgetta Rooney/CAFOD*



## Printer Cartridge Recycling

### THANK YOU

We have now sent off 3 boxes of cartridges and have raised £30 for CAFOD. Please do continue to place your used printer cartridges into the box which is situated in the porch of Our Lady & St. John so that we can keep supporting CAFOD.



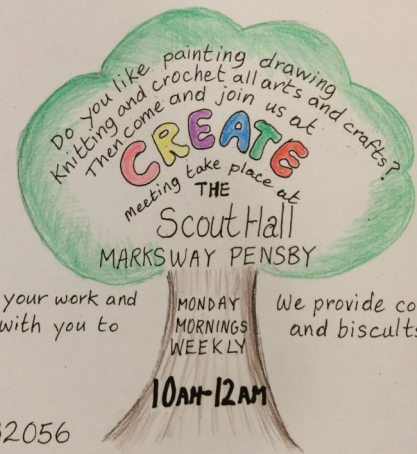
## Ladymount Pre-school

Ladymount Pre-School has spaces for January 2025. If you would like your child to learn and

thrive in a warm and welcoming setting with highly qualified and experienced staff, please do get in touch for a visit. Telephone number 648 8005 or email [preschool@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:preschool@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk)

We are part of the school community and can provide a fantastic transition into main school. All types of funding accepted from age 2 and a half.

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



## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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0151 342 6581

Parish Priest: [stphen.coonan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:stphen.coonan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

Parish Secretary & General Enquiries: [contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)

Parish Website: [www.rcchp.org.uk](http://www.rcchp.org.uk)

Parish Mass YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw>

Holy Family FaceBook Page: [www.facebook.com/holyfamily.pensby/](https://www.facebook.com/holyfamily.pensby/)

OLSJ FaceBook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Our-Lady-St-John-Heswall/61558135247607/>

Instagram: [@ourladyandstjohn\\_heswall](https://www.instagram.com/ourladyandstjohn_heswall)

## KEEP YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD STAMPS FOR THE RNIB!

Please donate any stamps to the Royal National Institute for the Blind. There is a collection box at the back of Our Lady and St John. Once the box is full it will be sent to the RNIB, where they are able to use them to raise vital funds for the charity. The RNIB raise **£20 for every kilogramme of stamps that they receive** and accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums.

Please ensure stamps are trimmed with approximately 1 cm of paper around the edge, with no large gold Post Office labels or pre-printed postage marks - these have no value to the RNIB.

