

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



**Advanced Notice** - There will be a retiring collection after all Masses next weekend (8th/9th February) for the **Diocesan Retired Priests' Fund**

### 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.

### Confession Times

**Holy Family:** 11:30am - 11:50am on Saturdays

**Our Lady & St John:** 5:15pm - 5:45pm on Saturdays



### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Adoration

Every Tuesday morning from 9:30am - 10:30am after Mass at 9:00am at Our Lady and St John.

*Everyone welcome.*

### Come and Pray the Rosary

The Rosary will be prayed at Our Lady and St John's church at **9:30am each Saturday**,



for the sick in the parish, our families and all the suffering in our world today.

### 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
- Ann Parsons
- Peter Davies
- Frances O'Boyle
- Mary Reilly
- Margaret Heery
- Steve Burke
- Mark
- Anne Davidson
- Baby Lennie H
- Corin Parry



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

|                               |   |          |             |  |
|-------------------------------|---|----------|-------------|--|
| <b>Sunday</b><br>2nd February | <b>The Presentation of the Lord</b><br><i>Psalter Week IV</i>   | 9:30 am  | Holy Family | Mass - Holy Souls                                      |
|                               |   | 11:15 am | OLSJ        | Mass - Baby Lennie, Lucy & Paul                        |
| Monday<br>3rd February        | St Werburgh   | 9:00 am  | OLSJ        | Mass - Micheal Walsh R.I.P.                            |
| Tuesday<br>4th February       | Ferial  | 9:00 am  | OLSJ        | Mass - Dr Chris Rigg R.I.P.                            |
|                               |   | 9:30 am  | OLSJ        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament                     |
| Wednesday<br>5th February     | St Agatha   | 9:00 am  | Holy Family | Celebration of Word & Communion                        |
| Thursday<br>6th February      | St Paul Miki & Companions   | 7:00 pm  | OLSJ        | Mass - Terry Parkin R.I.P.                             |
| Friday<br>7th February        | Ferial  | 9:00 am  | Holy Family | Mass - David Johnston Healing                          |
| Saturday<br>8th February      | Ss Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita<br><br><b>Day of Special Prayer for Victims of Trafficking</b> | 9:30 am  | OLSJ        | Come Pray the Rosary                                   |
|                               |   | 12 noon  | Holy Family | Mass - Aileen O'Keeffe R.I.P.                          |
|                               |   | 6:00 pm  | OLSJ        | Mass - Stan Orton R.I.P.                               |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>9th February | <b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><i>Psalter Week V</i>   | 9:30 am  | Holy Family | Mass - Mr & Mrs E. & A. Smallwood<br>Special Intention |
|                               |   | 11:15 am | OLSJ        | Mass - David Chesworth R.I.P.                          |



### Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

*By Father Stephen*

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple is both a joyful mystery and a sorrowful mystery. Mary presents her son Jesus to God, she offers him, and every offering is a renunciation.

So begins the mystery of Mary's suffering which will reach its climax at the foot of her son's cross. The cross is the sword that will pierce her own soul too. Every Jewish firstborn male was the permanent sign and the daily memorial of the liberation from the great slavery in Egypt. The firstborn Hebrew sons in Egypt were ransomed by the blood of the paschal lambs. Jesus, however, the firstborn Hebrew son par excellence, will not be ransomed himself but with his own blood will bring about the new and definitive liberation from the slavery of sin and death not only for his own people but for the whole of mankind.

The gesture of Mary presenting her son is transformed into a liturgical gesture in every Mass. When the bread and wine -fruit of the earth and work of human hands- are given back to us as the Body and Blood of Christ, we too are brought into the peace of the Lord, because we contemplate his salvation and we live in expectation of his coming.

### Diocesan Roadshow - Lourdes Pilgrimage

In this Jubilee Year of 2025, Bishop Mark has asked that our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will be our Jubilee Pilgrimage. To help raise the profile of the pilgrimage and to answer any questions your parishioners might have, we have organised two roadshows for those who are interested in joining our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Our first roadshow will be on **1<sup>st</sup> February 2pm-4pm at Our Lady & St John's, Heswall, Wirral.**

Information and register of interest cards will be available, and members of the Lourdes Management



### Monthly Assam Collection

This is a reminder that the usual monthly Assam collection will take place after Sunday Mass at Holy Family, **THIS SUNDAY, 2nd February 2025**



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

### Diocesan Vacancy

An exciting opportunity has arisen within the Diocese with the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team. Further details can be found on the Diocesan website [Latest Vacancies - Diocese](#) Completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Closing date 21 February 2025.



*live simply*

### Climate Emergency Survey

The Live Simply group would like to draw your attention to a climate emergency survey that is being conducted across all faith communities on the Wirral.

It is organised by Faiths4Change alongside the Wirral Cool Places of Worship Group and asks parishioners to complete a survey about the level of awareness of the climate emergency in faith communities and hear what actions you are currently taking and your plans for the future.

All data is anonymised and will be shared with the Cool Wirral Partnership to assist Wirral's climate emergency and carbon reduction planning.

The on-line survey will take about 10 minutes and can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/CWClimateSurvey2025>

Please note, the deadline for surveys to be completed is **14th February.**



**SATURDAY - 1st February  
2025**

Wirral Repair Café has opened at the Wirral Deen Centre, 371 to 375 Borough Road, Birkenhead, Wirral CH42 0HA. It will be open the **first Saturday in every month at 2:30 pm.**

It is part of an international network of repair cafes where volunteers try to fix items, brought in by members of the public, that would otherwise be thrown away because they've stopped working or (in the case of clothing, can no longer be worn). Their goal is to reduce landfill waste, encourage people to carry out their own repairs and save them money in the process.

### What's available?

- ★ Clothing and textile repairs
- ★ Toy repairs
- ★ Sharpening available
- ★ Repairs of wooden items

For more information click the link below:

[Wirral Repair Cafe at Birkenhead Central Library | Wirral InfoBank](#)





**Pilgrimage to Walsingham**  
**The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady**  
**Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> - Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Travelling from Our Lady & St John Church, Heswall, by coach. Prices: Single Room £312 per person Twin Room £369 per person. Single rooms are not en-suite, (separate WCs and showers are plentiful). Twin rooms are en-suite. Prices include dinner, bed and breakfast whilst at Walsingham, coach travel and a day trip out on Wednesday for those wishing to join in. Details of the trip to be advised.

**This trip is being organised by a group of parishioners from Our Lady and St John's in Heswall but is open to all the parishes on the Wirral. For more information or to book a place, see the leaflets at the back of church or alternatively email [olsjpilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:olsjpilgrimage@gmail.com)**



**HOUR 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  
7th February 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.

**Another Way to Donate**



Scan this QR code if you wish to make a payment or donation to Our Lady and St John church. Use the camera on your phone to scan the QR code, click on the link and it will take you to the same screen as the Dona machine in church.



**Wirral Foodbank**  
**January 2025**

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 Vegetables**
- **Pasta Sauce**
- **Tinned Custard**
- **Cereal**

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



**Parish Recycling**

Don't forget that at Our Lady and St John we collect used printer cartridges for CAFOD and used stamps for the RNIB. Both boxes are at the back of church. Not only does this help our mission to recycle as much as we can but it also helps benefit some great charities.

**PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION**

The Presbytery, 1 Boundary Lane, Heswall, CH60 5RP  
0151 342 6581

**Parish Priest:**

[stephen.coonan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:stephen.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://](https://www.facebook.com/people/Our-Lady-St-John-Heswall/61558135247607/)

[www.facebook.com/people/Our-Lady-St-John-Heswall/61558135247607/](https://www.facebook.com/people/Our-Lady-St-John-Heswall/61558135247607/)

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