

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Nunes

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**For more News and Information see our website:
parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk**

8 January 2023

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, p118

Matthew 3:13-17

Pointers for Prayer

1. The Baptism of Jesus marks a turning point in his life and the start of his public ministry. Recall moments when your life changed and you moved into a new phase.
2. The experience was one in which Jesus had a new sense of his own identity. What have been the experiences which have helped shaped your sense of who you are?
3. How have you come to an awareness of being a child of God, beloved by God, and one on whom rests the grace of God?
4. It is surprising that Jesus, the Saviour of the world, asks to be baptised by John. The request symbolises his desire to identify with us. At the same time he is filled with the Holy Spirit. That step of identifying with us is an important element in his being able to help us. Have you ever found that when someone identifies with you, it is easier for him/her to help you? Has your ability to identify with others had any impact on your effectiveness in helping others?

Prayer

God of the covenant, you anointed your beloved Son with the power of the Holy Spirit, to be the light of the nations and release for captives.

Grant that we who are born again of water and the Spirit may proclaim with our lips the good news of his peace and show forth in our lives the victory of his justice. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday 10 January at 7pm. All welcome.

Keep In Your Prayers

Ruth Dutton RIP, Angela Welsh RIP, Helen Jones RIP, Bernard Davis RIP, Francis Gallagher RIP, Mary Nuttall RIP, Margaret Facenfield, Kitty Heisley, Freda Tansey, Sally Moore, Valerie Higgins, Mary Mount, Veronica Humphreys, Nora Bartley, John and Vera Leonard, Silva, Gerry Marsh, Marian Hawkins, Laura Wakefield, Lisa Crompton, Vera Farrell, Barry Jackson, Maureen

Jackson, Lorraine Keogh, May McGrath, Maureen Skillicorn, Eileen Ireland, Frank and Josie Henesy, Father Vin McShane our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more Monday, 9 January, 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816. If you are looking to book a baptism in 2023, please register now as dates are filling up. Please note, children due to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion in 2023 require to have first received the Sacrament of Baptism.

Baptisms this weekend:

Harry James Hunt

With You Always Programme

(First Holy Communion 2022/23)

Our new programme will be starting in the New Year. There are parent information sessions in each of our three parish schools in January (your school will give you the date).

If you are unable to attend the session in your child's school or your child does not attend one of the three Catholic parish schools, then there are

two additional meetings for parents – you only need to attend one.

Thursday, 19 January, 7.15pm,
after 6.30pm Mass,
St Mark's church

Saturday, 21 January, 4pm,
Holy Family church

Bereavement Drop In

Lord, may we always be present to those who suffer bereavement and help us to be attentive to their needs.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 10 January at 2pm in St Mark's annexe. If you would like to chat in confidence to a listening ear over a cuppa then please come along as you would be made most welcome.

Holy Family Church Jubilee

2023 marks the Golden Jubilee of Holy Family church. Parishioners are invited to join a working group to prepare to celebrate this momentous event. If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

Parish Council

Parishioners, young or old, are invited to consider volunteering for the St John Vianney Parish Council. New members would be very welcome. The Council meets every two months.

If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 17 January, 7pm, Holy Family meeting room.

New Year New Challenge

The church relies on people getting involved. Our church, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with Colette at cbyrne@cafod.org.uk / 07779 804 242.

Could you be a Deacon?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting another Diaconate Information Evening on Wednesday, 8 February, 7.30pm-9pm in the Parish Centre at St George's, Station Road, Maghull, L31 3DF, with refreshments available from 7pm.

The evening is open to anyone who would like to find out more about the diaconate, especially men who are wondering if they may be called to this ministry. Wives and supporting priests and deacons are also very welcome. For more information, email Fr Chris Fallon, c.fallon@rcaol.org.uk or Deacon Paul Rooney, p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk.

Join us for Quiet Prayer

Wondering what to do in your spare time? Why not join us for some prayer, a chat and a cuppa?

When: Wednesday's 11 and 25 January, 1 and 15 February and 1 and 15 March at 2pm - 3.30pm or,

Saturday's 14 and 21 January, 25 February, 4 March at 10am - 11.30am.

Where: The Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Wavertree.

No need to book just come along and maybe bring a friend.

For more info contact: Sr Winnie, Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, L15 6TW; 722 2271.

Appeal by Survive-Miva

Next weekend, a volunteer from Survive-Miva will be making an appeal at all weekend Masses.

Survive-Miva (UK Registered Charity No. 268745) is a Catholic lay Association, based in Liverpool and founded in 1974, which provides grants to fund essential transport for health outreach work in isolated rural areas and for the Church's pastoral care in places of difficult access, across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Find out more at: www.survive-miva.org

Essential transport may be a bicycle, a moped, a trail bike, a 4wd ambulance, a pickup, an outboard motor - it is the people on the ground who know what best suits their terrain and what will best help them to reach out to the people they serve.

In some parishes, for example, the distances that separate one village from the next can be enormous, with one priest having to travel for miles

over rough tracks to celebrate Mass, weddings, baptisms and burials with those who live in hard to reach communities. These are people who have no regular access to either the Sacraments or to healthcare when they are unwell – and such care is provided mainly by the Church.

Parish workers and catechists use bicycles to get round their immediate area and take Holy Communion to the sick, motorbikes enable their Parish priests to minister to those living further afield and the grants the Charity makes also go to fund outboard motors and small boats in those parts of the world where the roads are, in fact, the local rivers.

So often when we hear news from overseas, the headlines talk of disasters and conflict and of hunger and disease - but there is more positive news too.

Survive-Miva aims to help those who *already have* the skills, who are ordained or medically trained, the Sisters who are doctors and midwives, and the village nurses who give life-saving jobs to the young and care for the elderly. Largely unpublicised and rarely if ever making the front pages, the work of the Church goes on all year round, in good times and in bad,

carried out by committed staff from the local area, who speak the local languages and know the culture and the problems their people face, because they share them.

In giving to Survive-Miva, you are providing experienced professionals with a simple way of getting from A to B, where the availability of transport means they can immediately do their jobs or carry out their apostolate much more effectively, and reach more people, more often.

The Charity provides something that is tangible, highly practical and is in constant use.

Next weekend they are asking once more for your support, in order to put more handlebars and steering wheels into the hands of those who come to us for assistance. Survive-Miva thank you for helping them to bring about change for the better in poor communities overseas, by widening the scope of the work carried out by those who live there. Envelopes will be handed out as you enter church to be returned the following week if possible.

Peace Sunday

Next Sunday, 15 January, is Peace Sunday and this year the message

from Pope Francis tells us: 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace'.

He asks us: 'What did we learn from the pandemic? What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see, to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?'

A vaccine has been found for Covid-19, says the Holy Father, but we still need to tackle the virus of war, and of inequality, and this can only be done together.

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. Visit <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2023>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a

donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x> or send a cheque payable to 'Pax Christi' to - Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY
Tel: 0208 203 4884. Thank you.

Love To Move-Age and Dementia Friendly Seated Movement Programme

The next session is Tuesday, 10 January, 1.30pm-3.30pm. All welcome, St Mary's Parish Hall, Woolton.

Recycling Available at the back of Church

Used batteries
Empty tablet blister packs
Used postage stamps
Funny money
Religious Christmas cards

Our Housebound Parishioners

If you find that you are getting to the stage of life where it is becoming impossible to get to Mass, **please don't just disappear!** Get in touch either directly with Fr Matthew or the Parish Office. Fr Matthew will be able to pop round to pray with you and see what else might be helpful. You are still a vital and essential part of our parish community, even if you can't get to Mass.

Sacrament of the Sick

In times of illness or suffering we are offered anointing with holy oil to strengthen us. The sacrament can also help us to experience healing of mind, body and spirit and we receive the forgiveness of our sins. Anyone feeling the need of the sacrament is very welcome to approach Fr Matthew before or after Mass or via Parish Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Fr Matthew is usually available in the 20 minutes before each Mass to hear confession. He will be sat towards the front of the church, please approach him directly and make your request known.

Parish Finance

Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order or Gift Aid it, contact office and we'll do the rest.

Figures for 25 December 2022
and 1 January 2023

Gift Aid Envelopes	£629.20
GASDS Loose	£671.10
Non Gift Aid	£133.00
Standing Orders	£367.23
Total Offertory	£1800.53
Bonus Ball 26 (Wed, 4 Jan)	£ 87.00

Links to Access Livestream Masses

These are available on our parish website, Latest page.

Save the Date

Saturday, 15 April, St Mark's Parish Centre, brilliant vocalist Alison D plus DJ, tickets just £5 available from the centre.



Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

7 January – 15 January 2023

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 7 January

5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family

Fr Vin McShane,
Parish Volunteers, German Family

Sunday, 8 January, Baptism of the Lord

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm - Baptisms

Margaret Whittle, Emma,
John Large
People of the Parish

Monday, 9 January,

6pm-7pm – Exposition & Private Prayer, Holy Family

Tuesday, 10 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Kevin Griffiths, Stuart Miller

Wednesday, 11 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time

10am-11am – Exposition & Private Prayer, St Mark's

Thursday, 12 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time

9am – Morning Prayer Online via zoom (see website)

6.30pm - Mass, St Mark's

Ellie Davies, Mary Miller

Friday, 13 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time

9am – Mass, St Mark's

10.30am – Requiem Mass, St Mark's

2.30pm – Requiem Mass, Holy Family

Natalie, Terence Sarsfield
Francis Gallagher
Bernard Davis

Saturday, 14 January,

5.15pm - Mass, Holy Family

Bernadette Kelly, Alan O'Donovan

Sunday, 15 January,

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

People of the Parish
Frances & Jack Crowney,
Helen Jones, Patrick Kelly