

# Newsletter

## Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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**For more News and Information see our website:  
[parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk](http://parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk)**

**7 January 2024**

**Epiphany of the Lord, p118**

### **Matthew 2:1-12**

#### **Pointers for Prayer:**

1. What is the star (the vision, hope or purpose) which lights up your journey?
2. Like the wise men, our life journey is not one we travel alone. Who are the people who share your life journey now?
3. The wise men travelled bearing gifts. What gift do you bring with you on the journey?
4. At times the wise men lost sight of the star. What clouds have obscured your star?
5. Who, or what, might be Herod for you now? What forces, within or without, could subvert the dream or goal?

#### **Prayer**

Lord God of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendour.

The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the darkness that covers the earth and signals the dawn of peace and justice. Make radiant the lives of your people with that same brightness and beckon all the nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.



## Sign Up Sunday Coming Soon



### Keep In Your Prayers

John Parry RIP, Amber and Zoe Lynch, Karen Smith, John & Enid Allerston, Eileen Prescott, Kay Thomas, Katie Whitehead, Kathy Murphy-Malpas, Mila Facenfield, Mary Lonsdale, Mary Ireland, Catherine Atkin, Margaret Facenfield, Kitty Heisley, Sally Moore, Valerie Higgins, Ron & Veronica Humphreys, Nora Bartley, John and Vera Leonard, Silva, Marian Hawkins, Laura Wakefield, Lisa Crompton, Vera Farrell, Maureen Jackson, Lorraine Keogh, May McGrath, Josie Henesy, our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more is Monday, 8 January then 5 February at 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

Baptisms this weekend:

Ernest Christopher Sharples-Dobson  
Elijah Brian Doyle

Our parish community is blessed with so many willing volunteers at both churches for which we are so thankful, but there is always room for more. We greatly value the volunteers we currently have, they are incredibly generous with their time and giving of their spirit and they all make a real difference to the life of this parish.

On the weekend of 20/21 January the parish will be promoting 'Sign Up Sunday'. This will be an opportunity for parishioners to find out what the various volunteering roles are available within our parish community, the tasks and different levels of time commitments needed and this will also be a chance to chat to those already supporting Masses, Services, Sacramental preparation and other celebrations either front of house or behind the scenes to find out about the role that best suits your skills and interests.

Please do linger a little longer on this particular weekend to see how you can become more involved in our parish family.

## **Lourdes Nominations**

If you wish to nominate someone from our parish to go to Lourdes in 2024 and be supported through our fund, please contact the office as soon as possible.

## **Youth Christmas Raffle**

Thank you so much for supporting the above which raised a magnificent £306.10.

## **Used Christmas Cards**

There will be a marked box at the back of each church from 6 January to place your used religious Christmas into. From your donations last year, we made Mass cards, get well cards and nearly 200 Christmas cards for our housebound parishioners and those living in nursing homes.

## **Peace Sunday**

Every year on the second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Pax Christi promotes Peace Sunday with the support of the International Affairs Department of the Bishops' Conference, England and Wales. This year, Peace Sunday will be on the 14 January and the theme chosen by Pope Francis for the World Day of Peace is: *'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'*.

At the back of church, a copy of a letter from Archbishop Malcolm McMahon the President, introduces Peace Sunday and encourages us all to mark it in some way in our churches and parishes. Resources are available at: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday/>

## **Knowsley Arts Project**

Amazing project for mums-to-be and mums of children under 2 in Knowsley, offering weekly creative sessions to help support and improve the mental health and well-being; proudly supported by One Knowsley and funded by The Arts Council, Renova and Improving Me.

*Dramatic Recovery in Halewood.* We are bringing creative arts sessions to Halewood. We'll use mindfulness exercises and activities for both mums and babies to encourage open communication and sensory learning, helping to promote positive well-being and helping to express experiences and emotions.

Join us in Halewood Walk-In Centre Community Space (Roseheath Drive, Halewood, L26 9UH) from Friday, 12 January until Friday, 22 March from 10.30am-12pm for a free 10-week programme. All mums are welcome. Book your place at: [KnowsleyArts.eventbrite.co.uk](https://knowsleyarts.eventbrite.co.uk) or call/text Rachel on 07747 446 048.

## **Love To Move**

### **Age and Dementia Friendly Seated Movement Programme**

The next session is Tuesday, 9 January from 1.30pm-3.30pm in St Mary's church hall, Woolton.

## Job Opportunities

The archdiocese are recruiting for a number of roles, details of which can be found on their website. Please visit [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers)

## St Vincent De Paul Society

The SVP (nationally, not our parish team) are looking for volunteers willing to help children put their faith into action. Could this be you?

The St Vincent de Paul Society have primary school groups called Mini Vinnies and volunteers would support teachers or youth leaders wishing to start a group in their school or parish. They will talk to children about how they can make a difference to those living in poverty and share resources to support the group.

The role is flexible but does need people with some availability during school hours (at least 2 mornings or afternoons per month) who are willing to travel within the diocese (all costs are covered). If you are passionate about helping children discover how they can make a difference in their communities, email Sarah on [youngvincentians@svp.org.uk](mailto:youngvincentians@svp.org.uk). You do not have to have previous experience of working with children as all training will be given. The next initial training day will take place on Tuesday, 27 February.

## Cathedral Friends Event

### Another Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die

**Saturday, 24 February, 11am**

The Cathedral Friends are delighted to announce that there will be a talk on 'Another Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die' by Elena Curti. *Precious Heritage: Masterpieces and hidden gems among the Catholic churches of England and Wales.*

In this talk, Elena Curti will take you on a journey of discovery exploring churches featured in her new book, *Another Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die*. Elena shares stories of the architects, benefactors, priests and poor Catholics who raised these extraordinary places of worship and she looks at hopes and challenges for their future conservation.

Elena's books, *Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die* and the sequel, *Another Fifty Churches*, are part of her mission to make Catholic churches better known and appreciated.

Tickets, which are limited, are £12 to include refreshments and a chance to meet the author and to purchase her book at a reduced rate. All enquiries to Claire Hanlon:

[c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

## Time Out Tuesdays

Wanting time for yourself? Time to stop and reflect? Time to step aside for a while from the daily round of life?

Then why not join The Sisters of Our Lady and the Cenacle on a Tuesday (10.30am-4pm) to get away for a few hours to stop and ponder the important things of life? No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. Suggested offering for the day is £10, bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided. For further information contact Sr Winnie 722 2271. Sisters of Our Lady of the Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Wavertree, L15 6TW.

### **The Irenaeus Centre**

‘Warm and Cosy’ call in for a cuppa and a chat, keep warm and enjoy the company. The centre is open 10am–4pm, Monday-Thursday. Join them on a Wednesday for 12noon Mass and they have various other activities going on during the week including ‘Come and See Day’, 13 January. This will be led by Pat Kennedy who formerly worked with the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle in adult formation and training of the permanent diaconate and is now a member of the Emmanuel community in Hexham and Newcastle. The session will focus on "The Power of Healing".

Also, School of Prayer Events - 9, 16, 23 January. For 3 Tuesdays in January, Irenaeus are running a "School of Prayer" event. This exploration of prayer will reflect on different traditions of prayer and the history behind them. Each session will focus on a way of praying and end

with a chance to pray in that way. You will also be invited to use that form of prayer in your own personal prayer at home for that week. This is an ideal opportunity to deepen your prayer life and to share your experience with others.

All events take place at the Irenaeus Centre, 32 Great Georges Road, L22 1RD. For more info, contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 949 1199.

### **Lecture & Seminar Series**

The Vatican II Constitutions Lecture & Seminar. Series preparing for the Year in Prayer will be starting in October. The remaining dates and speakers are as follows:

Wednesday, 17 January: Peter McGrail (Sacrosanctum Concilium).

Wednesday, 28 February: Pat Jones (Gaudium et Spes).

The seminars will take place at Liverpool Hope University between 3pm-4.30pm and after a break for refreshments, the lectures will be from 5.30pm-7pm. If you can't make it, you can also view the lecture online. Please register your interest with Elizabeth Parsons email: [e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk)

### **Young Adults**

Every Friday at 6pm there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There is a short time of sharing the Sunday

readings followed by snacks and social time and ending with night prayer. It's a friendly group and sometimes they also organise trips and retreats. The group is held at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN. If you want more info please contact James: [djmoroney@cantab.net](mailto:djmoroney@cantab.net) or 07394 503 911.

### **University Catholic Chaplaincy**

The Catholic Chaplaincy to the University of Liverpool, LIPA and John Moores University exists to support members of the university communities - both students and staff - on their journey of faith. It is based at St Philip Neri Church, L8. There are regular weekly Masses and events during term time. Please see their website [www.cathchap.org.uk](http://www.cathchap.org.uk) or contact the chaplain (Fr Neil Ritchie) on 07927 346 219. A group for staff and doctoral students meets fortnightly for prayer, discussion and sharing. Please contact Dr Antal Berkes on 07515 821 079 for further details.

### **Plaza Cinema, Waterloo Thursday Afternoon Club**

Over 50s welcome for games, refreshments and watch a film! Doors open at 1pm, ends about 4pm, just £5.

### **Used Postage Stamps & Funny Money**

The parish office collects both of these so please pass yours in. We send them off to Nugent who do something magic with them that turns both into

much needed funds to support local families in crisis.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation**

Registration for Confirmations for those in Year 8 or above will open on 15 January and end on 15 March 2024. More details on how to register will be available shortly.

### **First Holy Communion Preparation Programme**

Any child in Year 4 or above is very welcome to take part in the programme. There is no time limit to completing the programme so families can start when they are ready and work through it at their own pace.

**Registration forms are available from a catechist at the end of every Mass of the last week of the month.** Please note you must produce your child's baptism certificate.

### **Prayer Requests**

Do you have someone or something you would like to pray for?

Please feel free to fill in one of the prayer request forms at the back of church. Place it into the box provided, which will be brought to the altar by our children during the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass.

### **Our Housebound Parishioners**

If you are no longer able to get to Mass, **don't just disappear!** Get in touch with Fr Matthew or the Parish Office and we can see how best we

might be able to support you. But we can't do that if you don't let us know! You are still a vital and essential part of the 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**

Our parish exists and functions only with the financial support of the members of our community. Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order (ring the office) or Gift Aid it.

Figures for the Christmas period will be available in due course.

### **And finally ...**

Please visit the parish website where an edited version of the recent Children's Christmas Concert can be viewed.



St Mark's annexe, every Sunday after 9.15am Mass.

Holy Family church, every Sunday after 11am Mass.

# The Epiphany of the Lord

6 January – 14 January 2024	We Pray Especially For
<b>Saturday, 6 January</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	John Cullinan, Yolanda Byrne Family & Friends
<b>Sunday, 7 January, The Epiphany of the Lord</b> 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family 12.30pm - Baptisms	Special Intention People of the Parish
<b>Monday, 8 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>9.30am – Funeral Service, St Mark's</b> 6pm-7pm – Exposition, Holy Family	<b>John Parry</b>
<b>Tuesday, 9 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> 9am – Mass, Holy Family	Lorraine Stanley
<b>Wednesday, 10 January, Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> 10am-11am - Exposition, St Mark's 11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe	
<b>Thursday, 11 January, Weekday of Ordinary Time</b> 9am – Morning Prayer Online via Zoom (see website) 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's	John Gaughan, Hilda Thomas
<b>Friday, 12 January, St Aelred</b> 9am – Mass, St Mark's	John Carden
<b>Saturday, 13 January</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday, 14 January, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family 12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family	Andrew Storey Oakley & Needham Families