

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Father Matthew Nunes

Deacon: Reverend Peter Renwick Mob: 07707 917 554

The Parish Office
Penmann Crescent, Halewood
Liverpool, L26 0UG

T: 0151 486 3992

W: parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk

E: johnvianney@rcaol.org.uk

Open 9am-1pm: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

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

31 December 2023

Feast of the Holy Family, p105

Luke 2:22-40

Pointers for Prayer:

1. It was a day that started without any expectation of something unusual. It turned out to be a day with a meeting they would remember for a long time. Perhaps you have had significant meetings on what you expected to be just an ordinary day?
2. Simeon gave thanks because his eyes saw the salvation God had prepared. In what ways have you experienced God's salvation in your life: an experience of being loved, or discovering a sense of purpose in life, or being touched by the wonders of creation? Give thanks for those memories.
3. Simeon also acknowledged that not all would accept the light that would shine through Jesus and this rejection would be a cause of pain to Mary. It can be a source of pain to parents, teachers, church ministers and all who work for others when some reject values, projects, advice which would be for their good. Even within ourselves we can be aware of division, at times being open to the light of God and at other times resisting it. Have you known the pain of that struggle? What has helped you to keep seeking the light of God in your life?
4. The final sentence speaks of Jesus as one who grew and became strong and was filled with wisdom. Recall times when you had a sense of growing up in some way. What brought that about? Think also of how you have seen growth in another person.

Prayer

O God, you cradle us at the beginning of life and embrace us at our journey's end, for you love us as your own. Bind our families together and deepen our faith, that, like the Holy Family of Nazareth, we may grow in wisdom, obedient to your word. We ask this 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.



The Feast of the Holy Family

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is normally celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas. This feast developed at the beginning of the 19th century in Canada and then spread to the entire Church in 1920. At first, it was celebrated on the Sunday after Epiphany. It is a Feast that seeks to portray the Holy Family of Nazareth as the “true model of life” from which our families can draw inspiration and know where to find help and comfort.

Keep In Your Prayers

Amber and Zoe Lynch, Karen Smith, John & Enid Allerston, Clare Williams, 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 2024 at 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

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.

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 next weekend.

St Mark's Parish Centre New Years Eve

DJ/Karaoke from 7pm

Tickets £5

Available from the Parish Centre



Feast of the Holy Family

31 December 2023 – 7 January 2024

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 30 December

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

Sunday, 31 December, Feast of the Holy Family

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

Ken Needham, May McGrath,
Ronnie Murphy

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Sadie & Jimmy Devine,
John & Jean Holden,
Catherine Family & Friends

Monday, 1 January 2024,

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

NO Exposition at Holy Family this evening

12noon - Bishop Eton, Childwall

10am - St Ambrose, Speke

10am - Metropolitan Cathedral

Tuesday, 2 January, St Basil & St Gregory

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Special Intention,
Agnus & Family

Wednesday, 3 January, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

10am-11am - Exposition, St Mark's

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

Thursday, 4 January, Weekday of Christmas Time,

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

6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's

Peggy Delaney,
Friends of Pat & John

Friday, 5 January, Weekday of Christmas Time

9am – Mass, St Mark's

Ron & Mary Baker

Saturday, 6 January

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

John Cullinan,
Yolanda Byrne Family & Friends

Sunday, 7 January, The Epiphany of the Lord

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family

Special Intention
People of the Parish