

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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

26 March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent, p170

John 11:1-45

Pointers for Prayer

1. Martha and Mary are portrayed as people of faith but Jesus led them to an even deeper faith. Who were the people who led you to a deeper faith in Jesus? Remember them and give thanks.
2. Martha and Mary were struggling to come to terms with their bereavement. What has helped you in similar situations?
3. The concern of Jesus is palpable and touching. Recall those who matter to you and to whom you matter. Such love mediates God's love, which surpasses human love with the gift of new life and Easter joy.
4. One can imagine Lazarus as a symbol of people and groups that are written off as dead (sometimes by themselves), and yet through faith come back to life again. Have you had the experience of being revived by faith? Has faith helped to free you from what held you in bondage, or was destructive of your life?

Prayer

Merciful God, you showed your glory to our fallen race by sending your Son to confound the powers of death. Call us forth from sin's dark tomb: break the bonds which hold us, that we may believe and proclaim Christ the cause of our freedom and the source of life, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Office

Due to staff holidays, the office will be closed on Friday, 31 March.

Caring for Creation

This weekend - March 24/25th - we will be launching our parish Live Simply campaign with a visit from staff and children from one of our three parish schools to each Mass.

The three schools have already started the Live Simply award and are going to share with us how and what they are doing now.

The LiveSimply award is an opportunity for Catholic communities - parishes, schools, religious orders and chaplaincies - to respond to Pope Francis' invitation in Laudato Si' to "work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us". The award is earned by communities and schools who can show how they have been living:

- simply
- in solidarity with people in poverty
- sustainably with creation

Celebrating what communities have already done and inspiring everyone to do more, the Live Simply award helps a community to live, not just more simply, but also more fully.

Hearing what our children are doing may inspire us in our own efforts as

we work towards our parish LiveSimply award. The first step will be for us to reflect on the self assessment questions that we will hear about at Mass.

Can you help? There are already a small group who are helping to plan for our own LiveSimply award, but it would be great to have a few more people involved. Next meeting: 20th April 7.15pm in the annex at St Mark's.

How can our church porches help to create a warm and welcoming environment?

Too many posters? Not enough posters? Wrong type of information? Too much clutter? Helpful layout?

The small group who got together to look at our reflections on welcoming are considering the difference that our porches can make.

Have you got a good eye for these things? Have you got some ideas? Any good at interior design? It would be great to have you join the conversation. If you can help please contact the office on 486 3992 or email johnvianney@rcaolp.co.uk

Ordination of Peter Renwick Sunday, 16 July 2023

A coach has been booked from St Mark's leaving at 2.15pm to take those who want transport to the Cathedral and will be returning to St Mark's leaving the Cathedral at 4.30pm.

There will be a celebration at St Mark's Parish Centre when we return, say around 5ish.

If you would like to go on the coach please let the office know asap. A small donation towards the coach hire would be appreciated.

Keep In Your Prayers

Jim Dowdall, Catherine Atkin, Margaret Facenfield, Kitty Heisley, 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.

Lectio Divina

Praying the Gospels for Lent

Holy Family will remain open for a further one hour after exposition during Lent and the Lectio Divina will be prayed in St Mark's annexe. All are welcome for a special Lent.

Stations of the Cross During Lent

Friday, 31 March, 6pm, St Mark's
Friday, 7 April, 10am, Holy Family

Carrying the Cross

The annual Carrying of the Cross will take place on Saturday, 1 April at 2pm. Meet at the junction of Church

Street and Lord Street at 1.45pm. Stewards required, if you can help please contact Jim Ross at jimmy.ross7@gmail.com

Week 4 of Pauline's Big Lent Walk

So, into the 5th week of Lent now and I've walked/run/cycled 126.4K 77.5 miles and I'm now back on track.

This week I've been to Croxteth Park, where I came across a small metal structure. Intrigued, I did a bit of research and discovered that it was part of a miniature railway that closed in the early 80's! Who knew?

I've also revisited Allerton Towers, with its beautiful tree lined paths and what remains of the orangery; Clark Gardens and the now fading daffodils and Stanley Park with its grand terrace providing the divide between our two football grounds.

Thank you again for your continued support. It really is appreciated and don't forget to check out the photos on the website.

Online Lent Retreat

Hosted by The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow the theme for this year's retreat is 'Live to Inspire.' For more info visit:
<https://www.onlineprayer.net/saints/>

Quiet days in Lent

Places for a themed day of prayer in the quiet and beautiful surrounds of Ince Benet are available (see

incebent.co.uk for a tour) Thursday 23rd 'Eden and Gethsemane: Temptation to do the right thing in the wrong way.' Suggested donation £10 for the day. For details and to book, please phone 07931 902 346.

Lenten Services of Reconciliation in our Deanery

7pm, Monday, 3 April, Our Lady of the Assumption church, Gateacre.

7.30pm, Tuesday, 4 April, St Francis of Assisi church, Garston.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more is Monday, 3 April, 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

Baptisms this weekend:
Harper Phung
Noah Harper Thomas

Children's Liturgy

There will be a Children's Liturgy service of Stations of the Cross in St Mark's annexe at 3pm on Good Friday. Parents may drop their children off before going into the main service in church.

Easter Raffle

Our Lourdes Group are holding an Easter raffle to raise funds. They would be very grateful to receive any Easter eggs/chocolate for the prizes. Any donations can be placed in the box at the back of each church. Thank you for your ongoing support.

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, 4 April 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.

Thank You

The Parish Office has received a letter from Torrington Drive Community Association thanking parishioners for their recent donation which enabled them to achieve the following: • 4 main events and activities • Over 400 local children and families engaging in our half term offer • 456 meals provided • Direct support to over 20 families who are struggling due to the cost of living crisis.

We also acknowledge kind receipt of £200 from the Ladies Group towards the Parish Lourdes Fund.

Missio Red Box Month

Collectors are collecting this month so if you have a box that needs emptying please bring it to church or phone the office with your name and address and we will visit to empty it.

First Holy Communion Preparation Programme

We have started our new programme and welcome all the children and their families who will be attending our

Masses over the next year in order to prepare for their First Confession and First Holy Communion.

The programme has recently been updated and we have placed Mass at the heart of the preparation. **Children can register at the end of a Mass** and work their way through a series of leaflets and books to help them prepare. There is no time limit to completing the programme so families can work through it at their own pace.

If anyone would like any more information or a registration form please speak to one of the catechists at the end of Mass.

St Mark's Easter Cleaning Session
Wednesday, 29 March, 9am, all welcome.

Universe Catholic Weekly

Is true to its mission of being “a light to guide the world and a mirror to reflect it” keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

Order your digital 2 weeks free introductory offer by calling Michelle on 07436 617 650 or email:

michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk We invite you to submit articles/news and celebrations about your local parish.

Lourdes Centenary Year We Need Your Help

As you know, this summer will mark 100 years since the archdiocese's first pilgrimage to Lourdes.

We would like to mark this special occasion by asking people across the archdiocese to share their memories of the archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes and any photographs or video clips you may have taken on any trips there over the years. We will collate these memories and use them on the archdiocesan website, social media channels and the Pic.

It could be that generations of your family have travelled to Lourdes, you could have photos from decades ago or even that a member of your family went on our very first pilgrimage in 1923.

If you have anything you are happy for us to share publicly or if you would even like to record a video message for us, then please email any details to communications@rcaol.org.uk and lourdespilgrimage@rcaol.org.uk and include your name, parish and year(s) you travelled to Lourdes.

Update from the Pastoral Development Team

Catholic Social Action – Setting priorities for the archdiocese. Last week, 11 wonderful people met to discuss and shape social action priorities for the archdiocese. Following my work with the Archdiocese Pastoral Development Committee, I was pleased to share the social action plans for 2023 with people who have fantastic experience in this area. These plans were developed after I met with 40 individuals and organisations involved in social action and are intended to just be the beginning of a process. As Catholic Social Action Coordinator, I see myself as being led by actions in the archdiocese and being a catalyst for further initiatives. So, the meeting last week was very important for me. Together those participating fine-tuned the work in 3 key areas of practical action, formation, and prophecy. Examples of activities for this year include: creating "Care for Creation" leaders; developing two "Journeys to Social Action" initiatives and delivering a regional Networking event on the 6 July

https://Social_Action_Networking_Event.eventbrite.com Please contact me for more information, Pablo.

Training Development - Are you an RCIA coordinator, a parish catechist or involved in sacramental reparation of any kind? If so, I would really like to hear from you. We're in the process

of implementing a training programme and it would be wonderful to be able to consult with you. I promise to not take too much of your time, and I'd like to say a big thank you to those people and parishes that have already made contact with me. I will be contacting you over the next two weeks and discuss any training and development needs that we can identify in our parishes. Please send any contact details to e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk Elizabeth.

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 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.

Links to Access Livestream Masses

These are available on our parish website Latest page.

Parish Finance

Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order or Gift Aid it, forms are available at the back of the church or contact office and we'll do the rest.

Gift Aid Envelopes	£264.10
GASDS Loose	£365.45
Non Gift Aid	£ 48.15
Standing Orders	£367.23
Total Offertory	£1044.93
Bonus Ball 10	£ 59.00
Second Collection	
Nugent	£176.60

Lenten Alms

Lenten Alms can be donated throughout Lent. Please place in an

envelope marked Lenten Alms and pop into weekly collection. Many thanks.

Second collection:

26 March, SVP

2 April, Easter Flowers

Every Sunday after 9.15am Mass in the annexe. All welcome!

Reminder – THIS Weekend



What's On in Our Parish Centre

Easter Bingo

Thursday, 6 April

(The club will be closed on Good Friday)

Saturday, 15 April, brilliant vocalist

Alison D plus DJ, tickets just £5 available from the centre.

Please support the club if you are able.

5th Sunday of
Lent
We prepare

Fifth Sunday of Lent

25 March – 2 April 2023

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 25 March

5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family

Frank Hill

Sunday, 26 March, Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family

People of the Parish
Terry O'Hanlon, Kerry O'Neill

Monday, 27 March, Weekday of Lent

6pm-7pm – Exposition, Holy Family

7pm-8pm – Lectio Divina, Holy Family meeting room

Tuesday, 28 March, Weekday of Lent

9am – Service of the Word, Holy Family

Wednesday, 29 March, Weekday of Lent

10am-11am – Exposition, St Mark's

11am-12noon – Lectio Divina, annexe

2.30pm – Mass at Maple Lodge

Residents

Thursday, 30 March, Weekday of Lent

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

6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's

Mary Kelly, Mary Lamb

Friday, 31 March, Weekday of Lent

9am – Mass, St Mark's

6pm – Stations of the Cross, St Mark's

Jim Bracegirdle

Saturday, 1 April

5.15pm - Mass, Holy Family

Bernard Cross

Sunday, 2 April,

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Eve Tabiner
People of the Parish