

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**

17 March 2024

Fifth Sunday of Lent, p169

John 12:20-33

Pointers for Prayer:

1. Jesus seems to sense that a crisis point has arrived and he agonises over saying 'yes' to what lies before him. He opts to stay faithful to the mission given him by God. Can you recall decisions over which you agonised? What was that like for you? What was it like when you made a decision that you dreaded or were anxious about, but believed it was the right one for you?

2. The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to others. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?

3. Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead and we feel like praying to Father, save me from this hour. Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so.

4. The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. It is the moment when the love of Jesus for us is shown in its greatest depth in his gift of himself, a gift he was able to make because God enabled him to do it. We

are also glorified when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?

Prayer

In our hearts, O God, you have written a covenant of grace, sealed by the obedience of Jesus your Son.

Raise us up with Christ, the grain fallen to earth that yields a harvest of everlasting life. Bring us to glorify your name by following faithfully where he has led. For you we wait;

for you we listen. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Keep In Your Prayers

Ken Kavanagh RIP, Joan Fleming RIP, Catherine Thomas RIP, Tony James RIP, Sara Eccleston, Maureen Skillicorn, 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, 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.

Parish Office

Please note the office will be closed on Thursday, 21 March.

Rite of Welcome

5.15pm: Leo Thomas Roberts

Baptismal Information

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



Easter Triduum - Help Needed

The summit of the liturgical year is the Easter Triduum, from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. To capture the fullness of these most beautiful liturgies we require support in a number of different roles. Please look at the signing up sheet at the back of church to see if you are able to help.

Reconciliation Services

Monday, 18 March, 11am and 7pm,
Bishop Eton
Thursday, 21 March, 11am and 7pm,
St Mary's, Woolton.

A Time for Reflection

The Laudato Si' reflection has been postponed from Tuesday, 19 March to Tuesday, 16 April, 6.30pm at Holy Family.

Stations of the Cross

This will take place each Friday during Lent as follows:

Friday, 22 March, 6pm, St Mark's
Friday, 29 March, 10am, Holy Family

Good Friday

Children's Liturgy Service

This will take place at 3pm in St Mark's annexe. Parents and carers attending the church service may drop children off at the annexe and collect them after the main church service.

Appeal for Plants

Our annual appeal for any plants/greenery, real or artificial to enhance our Garden of Repose for Maundy Thursday evening is here. Please leave any plant donations at the back of church.

Lenten Alms

Lenten Alms can be donated throughout Lent. Please place in an envelope marked Lenten Alms and pop into weekly collection. All donations will go to The Children of Gaza and The Holy Land.

**The
Belle Vale
Passion**

A community passion play
in the heart of Belle Vale

Appeal for Stewards & Leaflet

Drop Volunteers

This incredible musical drama takes place at 12noon on Saturday, 30 March in Belle Vale Shopping Centre, Gateacre. Please get in touch asap if you can help with the following:

- stewarding the event - email Ron:
ronaldsmith57@btinternet.com
- leaflet drop in your road/nearby shops etc - ring/text Jacqui:
07864 511 807.

Thank you so much for your kind support.

Christian Churches of Hunts Cross

These are holding the Good Friday service at 12noon in the Hunts Cross Community Garden. This will be

followed by a light lunch at St Columba. All are welcome.

‘Walking the Way of the Passion’ Holy Week Retreat

This retreat begins with a Passover meal on Wednesday evening 27 March and concludes with the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening, 30 March. Residential places are available to book: contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

Carrying of the Cross

The annual Carrying of the Cross will take place on Saturday, 23 March at 2pm. The carrying of the cross will begin from Church Street, passing through Bold Street and finishing at St Luke’s Church (the Bombed Out church), and will be followed by a short service. Could anyone wanting to take part please arrive at 1.45pm at the junction of Church Street and Lord Street for 2pm prompt start.

****Stewards Required**** Please contact Jim Ross on email: jimmy.ross7@gmail.com See poster at back of church.

Lenten Music at the Cathedral

Programme of sacred music at the Metropolitan Cathedral over Lent: 3pm, Sunday, 17 March then Sunday, 24 March, 7.30pm.

Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass which takes place on Wednesday, 27 March at 7.30pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral, is usually the largest annual gathering of archdiocesan clergy and faithful throughout the year. At the Mass, Archbishop Malcolm blesses the holy oils that are used throughout the archdiocese for celebrations of the sacraments in the next year. He does this in the presence of priests, deacons and lay faithful.

Additionally, the Archbishop invites the priests of the archdiocese to renew the promises they made at their ordination: to dedicate their life in service to the Church - to preach the Gospel and teach the Catholic faith, to faithfully celebrate the sacraments and to pray for God’s people.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this liturgy, enhanced by the Cathedral Choir and experience the richness of our local church, especially if you have never been before.

Altar servers aged 8+ are invited to attend, bring your albs, cassocks and cottas, vested by 6.45pm, reserve your seats asap by emailing Claire Hanlon at c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

Easter Bunny Walk

Monday, 1 April, 11am

The Easter Bunny Walk to raise money for the Liverpool Lourdes Pilgrimage will be taking place on 1 April. The walk will go from St Gregory the Great, Lydiate to Our Lady, and back, and guests of all ages and well-behaved dogs are welcome. Each person will get a water bottle, bunny ears, and an Easter egg. The walk costs £8 pp or £20 for a family of four.

St Maria Goretti Appeal for Newborn Baby Items

If anyone has any newborn baby items that they no longer need, could they please consider donating them to our parish. Items needed range from prams/buggies, newborn clothes, changing mats etc and should be in good condition. Please leave at back of church or with parish office.

Vianney's Voice, Youth Group

Our wonderful youth are now arranging an Easter Quiz Night on Friday, 22 March and would be grateful to receive donations for raffle prizes for their fundraiser, these can be left with the office or at the back of church.

Ushaw College

Holy Island and Durham

Friday, 3-Sunday, 5 May, Our Lady's, Gateacre invite fellow parishioners to Durham. £280 including return coach travel, B&B two nights, one, two course evening meal and three course Sunday lunch. Friday afternoon is an opportunity to get to know Ushaw College and have social time. Saturday will be a pilgrimage to Holy Island-Lindisfarne. Sunday there will time in the historic city of Durham with its magnificent Cathedral. **No single supplement.** Forms at back of church or book online at: <https://www.ourladygateacre.org.uk>. Deposit of £100. Friends and relations welcome!

March Is Red Box Month

The need to stand alongside our missionaries in prayer and solidarity has never been so urgent and necessary. In many areas of the world, they will be the first to respond to the physical and spiritual needs of our sisters and brothers who are suffering. Your gift will reach missionaries and communities who need our help as soon as possible. Our collectors will be organising emptying your Red Box shortly so if you could bring it to church that would be greatly appreciated.

St Patrick's Inaugural Spring Concert

The first of two concerts featuring students from the University of Liverpool performing a range of classical music in a wide variety of styles, 4.30pm, Saturday, 23 March.

St Patrick's Second Spring Concert

Students from the University of Liverpool return to perform classical music in their second delightfully varied programme, 4.30pm, Saturday, 20 April.

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

Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order (ring the office) or Gift Aid it.

Collection 10 March 2024:

Gift Aid Envelopes	£267.00
GASDS Loose	£418.10
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 65.00
Standing Orders	£349.07
Total Offertory	£1099.17
Bonus Ball	£ 58.00

Second Collection:

Nugent: £180.10

Second Collection:
17 March, Easter Flowers
24 March, SVP

Church Cleaning

St Mark's,
Wednesday, 27 March, 9am.

Holy Family,
Every Tuesday from 9.30am.
All welcome.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, 27 March, 7.30pm

Mass of Chrism,
Metropolitan Cathedral

Holy Thursday, 7.30pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper,
with watching until Night Prayer at
9pm, Holy Family

Good Friday, 10am
Stations of the Cross, Holy Family
3pm, Passion of the Lord, St Mark's

Holy Saturday, 12noon
Belle Vale Passion,
Belle Vale Shopping Centre

8pm, Easter Vigil, Holy Family

Unless a grain of wheat



falls into the earth
and dies, it remains
just a single grain;
but if it dies,
it bears much fruit.

John 12:24

Fifth Sunday of Lent

16 March – 24 March 2024	We Pray Especially For
Saturday, 16 March 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	People of the Parish
Sunday, 17 March, Fifth Sunday of Lent 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family	Ann Culshaw & Teresa Fox, Cecilia & Thomas Mee Matt & Barbara, Alan Corlan
Monday, 18 March, Weekday of Lent 6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family	
Tuesday, 19 March, Solemnity of St Joseph 9am – Mass, Holy Family	Catherine, Family & Friends, Oakley & Needham Families
Wednesday, 20 March, Weekday of Lent 10am-11am - Exposition, St Mark's 11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe	
Thursday, 21 March, Weekday of Lent 9am – Morning Prayer Online via Zoom (see website) 12noon – Requiem Mass, Holy Family 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's	Tony James Anthony Wilkinson, Peter McCarthy, Geraldine Marton
Friday, 22 March, Weekday of Lent 9am – Mass, St Mark's 11.45am – Requiem Mass, Holy Family 6pm – Stations of the Cross, St Mark's	Fr Colbert, Barry, Lena Durr, Vincent John Hawkins Olive Kelly
Saturday, 23 March 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	Sally O'Connor, Paul Williams
Sunday, 24 March, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family	Hanlon Family, Ken Kavanagh, Michael Mahnion People of the Parish