

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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

4 February 2024

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, p135

Mark 1:29-39

Pointers for Prayer:

1. The first story is one of healing. You might reflect on times when you were sick in body, mind or spirit and someone was a 'Jesus person' to you, someone who 'took you by the hand and lifted you up'. Remember them with gratitude. Have there been times also when you did this for others?

2. The second story adds another dimension. People are freed from demons. Have you had the experience of being freed from demons that imprisoned you: fear, anxiety, guilt, low self-esteem, addictions, bitterness etc.? What was it like for you to get that freedom? Who were the 'Jesus people' who helped to free you?

3. The third story has a number of different elements we can consider: a) Jesus goes off to a desert place to pray. After a hectic day he felt the need for quiet to ground himself once more. In the busyness of life how do you keep in touch with what is going on inside yourself? How do you keep in touch with God? Where do you find your 'deserted place'? What difference does it make for you when you do succeed in taking time out? b) Jesus shows himself as a person seeking to break new ground. The disciples want him to continue ministry where he is. He wants to move on. What has been your experience of breaking new ground, moving beyond your comfort zone or trying something you had not tried before? When has this had a lifegiving effect for you?

Prayer

Out of your power and compassion,
O God, you sent your Son into our
afflicted world to proclaim the day of
salvation. Heal the broken-hearted;
bind up our wounds, bring us health
of body and spirit and raise to us to
new life in your service. We ask this
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son, who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for
ever and ever. Amen

Keep In Your Prayers

Alan Corlan RIP, Norah Potter RIP,
Lois Mailey, 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, 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.

Father Dennis Amal

Next weekend we welcome into our
parish family Father Dennis who will
be celebrating all weekend Masses.
Father Dennis is from the Blessed
Sacrament Shrine in the city centre –
their shrines are centres of Eucharistic
Community and evangelisation,

places of adoration, celebration and
reconciliation, oases of peace in the
heart of the city with weekday Masses
at 12.10pm and 1.10pm.



LiveSimply Is Here!

Please ensure you take the new
LiveSimply Newsletter home with
you and see what small changes you
can make to support our parish efforts
to care for creation. Also please check
out the Care for Creation page on our
website.

LEPRA

This weekend, our second collection
is for LEPRO. Over 3 million people
are living with undiagnosed leprosy,
which if not treated early enough may
result in life-changing physical and
mental health issues that can destroy
people's lives. Leprosy, although
curable is sadly surrounded by myths
and discrimination, which often
prevent people from coming forward
to seek treatment. Leprosy aim to
change the negative that surrounds the
disease of leprosy and are committed
to making sure that people affected by
leprosy have the chance to live with
dignity and their disease be of little
adverse consequence to their lives.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Fundraising Activities

There will be a short meeting after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 4 February to discuss the above. Everyone is welcome so please come along if you have any ideas, suggestions or fun and imaginative ways that we can raise funds and support those making the journey this year.

Ladies Group

Our first meeting of 2024 will take place on Wednesday, 7 February, 7pm, St Mark's annexe. The group meets monthly to discuss fundraising ideas, prepare for a variety of services throughout the year, the ladies go out for meals, theatre trips and days out and attending is a wonderful way of making new friendships, supporting each other and our parish life. If you have never been along, please join us as you will be made really welcome.



Sign up Sunday

Thank you to the many people who filled in one of the pink forms recently to indicate that they would be willing to help out in some way or at least find out a bit more information.

If you are bringing your form back this weekend please hand it to one of the stewards or put through parish office. Someone will be in touch to follow up on all those generous offers that will really make a big difference.

You can find out more information about the many roles our volunteers fulfill, along with an opportunity to sign up, through the parish website.

Baptismal Information

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

Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting will take place at 6pm on Tuesday, 6 February in St Mark's annexe.

SVP Meeting

The group will meet next on Wednesday, 21 February at 7pm in the Holy Family meeting room.

St Mark's Annexe

Important – if you hold a key for the above, please pop into the parish office with it at your convenience.

Parish Retreat Day

This has been booked for Saturday, 9 March and will take place at the Irenaeus Centre in Waterloo between 10am-3pm. The cost is £20 pp which includes lunch. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to be

together in prayerful reflection outside of our usual parish environment. Please let the office know if you are interested in attending asap.

Bereavement Drop-In

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

Our next meeting is Tuesday, 6 February, 2pm in St Mark's annexe, all welcome for a confidential chat and a listening ear over a cuppa.

World Day of Prayer

We are starting to prepare for World Day of Prayer which this year is on Friday, 1 March. The service has been written by the women of Palestine. We are asked to give each member of the congregation a sprig of olive tree. This might prove to be a problem! It has been suggested we should appeal to see if anyone has an olive tree from which we can take cuttings. Please let the parish office know if you are able to help.

The Belle Vale Passion

Following Clare's visit the other week to invite us to be part of The Belle Vale Passion, she would like to thank all those who have signed up already and remind you that you still have time to sign up for the many roles needed to make this project a success. (If you did submit a form but didn't receive an automatic response, this might be due to a glitch on the website - please submit the form again).

This project promises to be a great way to prepare for Easter. It will offer the chance to nurture new friendships, contribute towards a community project and above all, bring the Easter story to the local community. Please visit bellevalepassion.co.uk to watch a short film and find out how you can get involved.

Love to Move

A fun, age and dementia friendly seated movement programme to music held at St Mary's Parish Hall, Church Road, Woolton, 1.30pm-3.30pm, upcoming dates 6 and 20 February, 5 and 19 March, all welcome.

LGBT+ Catholics

The next Mass will take place on Sunday, 3 March at 2pm, All Saints, Oakfield, Liverpool, L4 2QG. All are welcome.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Mass Saturday, 10 February

Diocesan celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick, 12noon, Christ the King Church, Queens Drive. All welcome.

Ash Wednesday

14 February, Walk of Witness for Peace, Repentance and Reconciliation. Assemble from 1.15pm on steps of St Luke's 'bombed out church' at the top of Bold St, Liverpool, L1 2TR. The walk starts at 1.30pm with Stations of the Cross.

Organised by Merseyside Pax Christi.
Further info from Jan Harper:
janharper20211@outlook.com All
welcome.



Registration for Confirmations for those in Year 8 or above is now open until 15 March 2024. To register please visit:
www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

While the registration period is open, Animate will visit schools in the diocese to promote the Sacrament and at the same time schools will teach about the Sacrament in their RE classes.

Widnes 9 Years On

It is now over 9 years since the parishes of Widnes, after much consultation and discernment, became one parish with 4 churches. In that time people and priests have changed. We want to invite you to hear the story and ask questions.

Has it worked? What can we learn? Is this a model that should be copied? What is it like to be a parishioner/priest/deacon in Widnes? Can this model teach us anything about Families of Parishes?

Thursday, 29 February, 7:30pm, open to all, venue St John Fisher Hall, WA8 3JA, no need to book, just turn up! All welcome.

Archdiocesan Environment Conference 2024

Saturday, 9 March, 10.30am-3.30pm at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (Hardybutts, Wigan, Lancashire, WN1 3RZ) will play host to the annual archdiocesan environment conference. Speaking at the conference is Environment and Issues Lead for the Catholics Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and Salford Bishop, Bishop John Arnold; Sister Margaret Aitken, and John Paul Dequay. In groups, delegates will begin to think about what environment and sustainability plans and pledges they can make moving forward. The event will also be attended by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP and a cold buffet-style lunch will be provided. There is a capacity of 50 places so if you are interested in attending, please book your free tickets, check the parish website for the link.

Nugent Appeal

Their Charity Shop on Allerton Road is currently very low on stock and in

urgent need of donations. They are looking for: clothing, shoes, accessories, handbags, books, jigsaws, bric-a-brac, they cannot accept toys, soft toys, furniture or electrical items. Donations can be dropped off at the shop which is open Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am-5pm, 73 Allerton Road, Liverpool, L18 2DA. They may also be able to collect your items, please call the shop to discuss on 737 2951 (please note the shop is currently only open on Wednesdays and Saturdays).

Job Opportunities with the Archdiocese

The archdiocese is currently hiring for two key roles: Director of Pastoral Development and Parish and Deanery Development Adviser. The recruitment information and a description for each role are available at:

<https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

Happy Days

Happy Days Group operate premium serviced accommodation and hotel operations in Liverpool and support many local good causes and initiatives. Happy Days Group founders and co-owners Alan Cosgrove and Peter Schriewersmann are passionate scousers and they love to see the city develop and thrive and see people fulfil their potential. Having overcome their fair share of lows and adversity themselves, Alan and Peter decided it is time to give

back to deserving local people who have gone or are going through tough times.

Do you know someone who could do with a Happy Day? The group can create memories for a local unsung hero; someone who may have faced adversity or who is deserving of a nice treat. You can make nominations for individuals from across Liverpool City Region (Knowsley, Sefton, Halton, St Helens, Liverpool and Wirral) for a chance for the group to make their wish come true. For more info please visit:

<https://yourhappydays.org/>

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.

Collection 28 January 2024:

Gift Aid Envelopes	£322.00
GASDS Loose	£309.55
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 46.45
Standing Orders	£331.76
Total Offertory	£1009.76
Bonus Ball	£ 46.00

Second Collections:

4 February, LEPR
11 February, Lourdes Fund
25 February, CAFOD

Church Cleaning

Wednesday, 14 February
9am, St Mark's

Wednesday, 14 February,
9am, Holy Family

All Welcome.



tea & chat

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

Holy Family church, every Sunday
after 11am Mass.

All Welcome.

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

3 February - 11 February 2024

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 3 February

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

Sunday, 4 February, Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Dora Kavanagh

Candida Ward

Monday, 5 February, Memorial of St Agatha

6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family

Tuesday, 6 February, Memorial of St Paul Miki

9am – Service of the Word, Holy Family

12.30pm – Requiem Mass

Alan Corlan RIP

Wednesday, 7 February, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

12.15pm – Funeral Service

Norah Potter RIP

Thursday, 8 February, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

6.30pm – Service of the Word, St Mark's

Friday, 9 February, Weekday of Ordinary Time

9am – Service of the Word, St Mark's

Saturday, 10 February

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

Sunday, 11 February, Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Aunty Pauline, Lois Mayley,
Jonathan Leadbetter
Vincent Hawkins Senior,
Ella Sullivan, Gertrude Finnegan