

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Nunes

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

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

Sunday, 28 November 2021 First Sunday of Advent



Today is the first Sunday of Advent which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed. Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

Pastoral Plan

On this 1st weekend of Advent, the beginning of a new Church year, we are delighted to be able to receive the pastoral plan. As the Archbishop has said: "This is to chart the way forward

for the archdiocese in the years to come." The Plan will be available online at <https://liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk/> or you can arrange to purchase it from Pauline Books and Media, 84 Church Street, Liverpool at a cost of £2 per copy.

There is a summary document for you at Mass this weekend and a postcard for you to take home containing some of the key words from the plan and details of how to access the pastoral plan online.

To find out more, you are welcome to any of these open meetings:

Saturday, 4th December
11am – 12.30pm
in St Mary's Church, Leyland

Tuesday, 7th December
7pm – 8.30pm
in Holy Rosary Church, Aintree

Thursday, 9th December
7pm – 8.30pm on Zoom

The link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFJzQjhLSlQ5VjJJQT09>.
Meeting ID: 864 2151 255.
Passcode: 132667

St Mark's Church

July 2022

Next year our parish will celebrate the Golden Jubilee opening of St Mark's Church. In looking to plan an event to observe this important time in the history of our community, it would be helpful to gather any memorabilia of the actual opening occasion which you may be happy to share.

If you could have a little rummage and please drop any items you feel may be useful for a display with the parish office.

Keep In Your Prayers

Our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Caring for our Sick and Housebound Parishioners

Before the pandemic our Eucharistic Ministers were able to regularly take Holy Communion to those unable to come to church for Mass. We wait to see when and how this important ministry may safely be resumed. In the meantime, we need to ensure that we have an up-to-date list of all those in need of such support. So, if you, or someone you know of, are housebound and would appreciate the support of receiving Holy Communion please contact the Parish Office and leave details.

Sacrament of the Sick

If anyone is in need of receiving the healing strength of the Lord offered through the sacrament of the sick please approach Fr Matthew at Mass or contact the 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.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more Monday, 6 December, 6pm, St Mark's Annexe. **Please wear a mask when attending a meeting.** All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

This weekend the following children will receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*Emmie McDonald
Liam Thomas Hughes
Hallie Grace Hughes
Rubie McDonald
Lewis Ray Stewart
Nevaeh Mae Berry*

With You Always Programme

Email all enquiries to Jayne Cross at
jayne.wya@gmail.com

Christmas Cards to the Holy Land

“I wholeheartedly endorse the Diocesan Holy Land Christmas Card campaign and I would encourage our parishes and justice and peace groups to send Christmas cards to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. On my visits to the Holy Land people often remark how supported they feel when they receive a Christmas card from our diocese, and I believe it to be a real sign of our solidarity with those who live there. It’s also a promise of our prayers for them at Christmas, and this means so much to them.”
Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP

This year our parish has been paired with Our Lady of the Visitation in Zababdeh. Suggested wording for cards can be found at the back of church, these can be stuck inside your cards perhaps with your own message. Post cards through office door asap, last collection date is Friday, 3 December.

Zero Waste Meeting

The SVP are holding a meeting at Holy Family on Tuesday, 30 November at 6.30pm to find out more about the South Liverpool Zero Waste

Group. Please come along and see how we can help support this important initiative within our own parish.

Ladies Group

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 1 December, 7pm in St Mark’s Annexe. Remember ladies to bring your own food/plates and cutlery!

Bereavement Drop In

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

This will take place at 2pm on Tuesday, 7 December in St Mark’s Annexe. If you need to talk in confidence, please come along for a chat over a cuppa.

Parish Council

Next meeting Tuesday, 7 December, 6pm, Holy Family meeting room.

SVP Meeting

This will take place on Wednesday, 8 December, 7pm in the Holy Family meeting room.

RCIA Meetings

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process given to us by the Church to initiate adults and older

children into Christianity as it is lived within the Roman Catholic tradition.

Whatever your starting point you are very welcome to come along to these meetings which take place every Tuesday, 7.30pm, St Mark's Annexe. Contact Peter for more info 07707 917 554.

Cleaning Sessions at St Mark's All Welcome

Wednesday, 1 December, 8.30am

Wednesday, 12 January, 8.30am

Wednesday, 2 February, 8.30am

Lourdes Nominations

If you wish to nominate someone from our parish to go to Lourdes in 2022 and be supported through our fund, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Job Opportunities

For all the latest vacancies visit:
www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs

Parish Administrator (Admin & Finance) Our Lady of the Annunciation and St Bernadette Parish (based at St Marie's Presbytery, Almond Brook Road, Standish, Wigan, WN6 0TB) 12 hours per week, salary £6,489.60 per annum.

LGBTQ+ Catholics

Mass will take place at All Saints, Anfield on Sunday, 5 December at 12.30pm followed by a social gathering. This is an open invitation to our LGBTQ+ Catholics, their families and friends but also to anyone who would like to come along. It would be helpful to know who might attend for catering purposes. If you are intending to come along you are very welcome but please do let us know. Ring 0151 287 8787 or email frsmaloney@aol.com

Also, LGBT+ Social Group in the Parish of Sts Agnes and Aidan for members of the LGBT+ community. This group gathers regularly on every third Sunday of the month at 6pm in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Room at St Agnes RC Church, 82 Huyton Hey Road, Huyton, L36 5SQ.

Parish Finance

14 & 21 November

Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order or Gift Aid it, contact office and we'll do the rest.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Gift Aid Envelopes | £ 752.50 |
| GASDS Loose | £ 604.75 |
| GASDS Envelopes | £ 115.00 |
| Standing Orders | £ 356.15 |
| Total Offertory | £1828.40 |

Second Collection SVP £ 554.80

Second Collection

This weekend none. Next 12
December Christmas flowers.



Christ the King & Our Lady

Parish Christmas Fair, Saturday, 4
December, 1pm-4pm in their Parish
Club.

St Mary's, Woolton

Christmas morning of quiet
contemplative prayer in the parish
hall, Saturday, 18 December, 10am-
12noon. Refreshments from 9.30am,
all welcome.

Our Cathedral

What's on during Advent

Advent Reflections – Wednesday's
throughout Advent, 7pm. A series of
friendly and informal talks aimed at
sharing thoughts, reflections and
insights as we prepare for Christmas.
Guest speakers each week. Free entry.

Advent Sequence – Sunday, 28
November, 5pm. Mark the beginning
of Advent with seasonal music sung
by the Cathedral Choir. Free entry.

Bach Cantata 140 – Sunday, 5
December, 3pm. As part of our series
of seasonal music throughout Advent,
join the Metropolitan Cathedral Choir
for a very special performance of
Bach's Cantata 140. Free entry.

Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of
Carols – Sunday, 12 December, 3pm.
The Boy Choristers of Liverpool
Metropolitan Cathedral perform
Benjamin Britten's much-loved carol
sequence. Free entry.

Advent Mondays

Advent Reflections - On Monday, 29
November, the Pastoral Development
Department invite you to a Zoom time
of reflection and discussion for an
hour each Advent Monday from 7pm.
Please register for your Zoom link on
<https://forms.gle/ygGnFTySdvNZZ2776>

Crib Festival St Nicholas' Church

Friday, 10 December 10am-1.30pm

Saturday, 11 December 10am-2pm

Entry Free - Donations welcome

Refreshments and Traidcraft stall
available. There will also be maps and
details available for the Pillar Box
Nativity Trail around Halewood. For
further information contact
alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com

CAFOD Fun Run



The event takes place on Bank Holiday Monday, 27 December, Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE. Registration is from 10am for an 11am run/walk/toddle 3k or 5k! Sponsorship and donations can be made via www.justgiving.com/campaign/cafodchristmasfunrun

Nugent Festive Initiatives Christmas Cards,

Light up a Life Services 2021 at The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool **and** St Teresa's Church, Upholland,

BTR Liverpool Santa Dash,

Christmas Jumper Day,

Christmas Appeal.

More details at wearenugent.org

Make a difference this Christmas:
Support Nugent's Christmas Hamper Appeal by donating a range of items which will be enjoyed by the children, adults and families we support who

are most vulnerable or at-risk. Nugent are looking for a range of items such as toiletries, mince pies, chocolates and sweets, puzzles and craft items to be dropped off 6-10 December.

Help spread some Christmas joy this year by contacting fundraising@wearenugent.com for a full list of items you can donate and for drop off information.

Sleep Out with Nugent on Saturday, 5 February 2022:

Nugent are organising a 'Sleep Out with Nugent' event in collaboration with the Salvation Army to help fight homelessness on 5 February 2022 at the Strawberry Fields. For more details please visit: [Sleep Out with Nugent \(wearenugent.org\)](http://Sleep Out with Nugent (wearenugent.org))



Parish Office Hours

Please note the office will be closed on Thursday, 2 December and open 9am-5pm on Friday, 3 December.

First Sunday of Advent



| 27 November – 5 December 2021 | We Pray Especially For |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday, 27 November | |
| 5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family Church | Pious List |
| Sunday, 28 November, First Sunday of Advent | |
| 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family Church | People of the Parish John Morgan |
| Monday, 29 November, Weekday of Advent | |
| 6pm-7pm - Exposition and Private Prayer, Holy Family Church | |
| Tuesday, 30 November, Feast of St Andrew | |
| 9am – Mass, Holy Family Church | Pious List |
| Wednesday, 1 December, Weekday of Advent | |
| 10am-11am - Exposition and Private Prayer, St Mark's Church | |
| 6.30pm – Memorial Service for Patricia Jones at St Mark's Church | |
| Thursday, 2 December, Weekday of Advent | |
| 9am - Morning Prayer – Online (see website) 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's Church | Patrick Clark |
| Friday, 3 December, Memorial of St Francis Xavier | |
| 9am – Mass, St Mark's Church | Alec Waring |
| Saturday, 4 December | |
| 5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family Church | Father Brendan Rice |
| Sunday, 5 December, Second Sunday of Advent | |
| 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, St Mark's Church | Mee Family People of the Parish |