

# Newsletter

## Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Nunes

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**For more News and Information see our website:  
[parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk](http://parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk)**

**26 February 2023  
First Sunday of Lent, p151**

### **Matthew 4:1-11 Pointers for Prayer**

1. In today's gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction ... but is that where true happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes it can be more life-giving to say "no" to your immediate desires for the sake of some long-term goal? What are the goals, aims, values, which inspire you in this way?
2. One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face - compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger, and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a "demon" in this way?

### **Prayer**

Lord our God, in every age you call a people to hear your word and to do your will. Renew us in these Lenten days: washed clean of sin, sealed with the Spirit and sustained by your living bread, may we remain true to our calling and, with the elect, serve you alone. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

## Keep In Your Prayers

Freda Tansey RIP, Catherine Atkin, Margaret Facenfield, Kitty Heisley, Freda Tansey, 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.

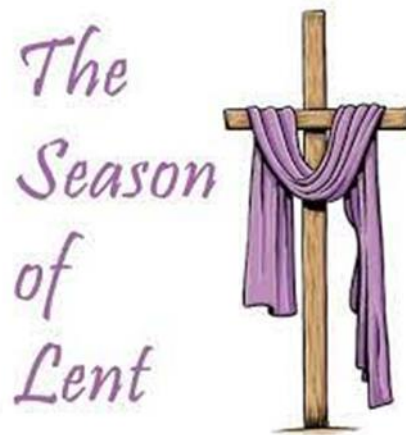
## Baptismal Information

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

Baptisms this weekend:  
Mila Lois Wolstenholme  
Harry James Anderson

If you are hoping to book a baptism in 2023, please register now as dates are filling up.

Please note, children due to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion in 2023/24 require to have first received the Sacrament of Baptism.



## 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, 3 March, 6pm, St Mark's  
Friday, 10 March, 6pm, Holy Family  
Friday, 17 March, 6pm, St Mark's  
Friday, 24 March, 6pm, Holy Family  
Friday, 31 March, 6pm, St Mark's  
Friday, 7 April, 10am, Holy Family

### Eucharistic Ministers Meeting

Wednesday, 1 March, 7pm to 8.30pm in Holy Family meeting room. This is for EM's who minister at Mass as well as those who go out to the housebound.

### Eucharistic Ministry Training Day

The next training day will take place on Saturday, 20 May 2023 at the Irenaeus Centre in Waterloo.

Please speak to any Eucharistic Minister to see what's involved and/or give your name to Ann Farrell (07855 981 691) if you would like to register.

Becoming a minister is a wonderful way of serving our parish and is very rewarding particularly as it gives those who have undertaken the training to visit parishioners who are no longer able to join us at Mass. If you are not currently engaged in a ministry within our parish this is a great way to get involved. We would particularly welcome interest from Holy Family.

### **Family Fast Day**

Friday, 3 March, envelopes are now available.

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Please give using the envelope or at [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world. Please return to the office or via the collection. Their Lent Appeal video is available to view on our parish website.

### **CAFODs Big Lent Walk**

Parishioner Pauline McMahon has registered to take on this challenge.

The challenge is to walk 200k (124 miles & 483 yards in old money!) during Lent and Pauline will be doing this by either walking, running or cycling and will update the parish each week on how much she has covered that week and where her travels have taken her. We hope to post some on the website. Where there will also be a link to a donation page if you feel able to support Pauline in her efforts to raise funds for CAFOD.

### **Step into the gap – a gap year with CAFOD**

A Gap Year opportunity: Are you 18-30, or do you know someone who is? Do you want to develop a wide range of skills including leadership while learning about global justice and inspiring others to use their faith in action? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, believes in equipping and inspiring young adults to contribute to a more just and peaceful world. Step into the Gap is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage. Visit the CAFOD website for more information: [cafod.org.uk/gapyear](http://cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

## GodCalls Adventure

If you are looking for something different this Lent, then GodCalls has an app with a 40 day self-guided programme to deepen your relationship with God. More info on our parish website.



On Friday, 3 March at 1.30pm in St Mark's church, the Parish of St John Vianney is hosting the World Day of Prayer.

With our fellow Christians from St Nicholas' and St Mary's Halewood, and St Hilda's and St Columba's Hunts Cross, we will be joining together for a service prepared by the ladies' from Taiwan. The theme for this year's service is "I have heard your faith".

After the service there will be refreshments in the Members' Lounge in St Mark's Parish Centre.

Please join us to make this service a memorable and prayerful occasion.

## 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/>

## 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.**

## Sacrament of Confirmation

If you are in Year 8 and would like to receive the sacrament of confirmation then please register at:

Liverpoolcalled.co.uk

Registration is open:

16 January - 17 March 2023

### **St Mark's Cleaning Session**

Wednesday, 1 March, 9am, all welcome.

### **Ladies Group**

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 1 March, 7pm in St Mark's annexe. News faces always welcome.

### **Holy Family Church**

#### **Jubilee Mass Update**

This will take place on Wednesday, 8 March with Mass at 6.30pm celebrated by Bishop Tom Williams followed with refreshments. It would be helpful if you could sign the form at the back of church to indicate whether you will be attending.

The final meeting to put things together and set things out will be on Sunday, 5 March, 2pm, Holy Family meeting room.

Finally, please pop your name on the lists at the back of church if you are willing to make/donate cakes and/or sandwiches for the evening.

### **Job Opportunity**

Ecumenical Agency Mission in the Economy are looking for a Lead Chaplain/Regional Volunteer Co-Ordinator covering St Helens Town Centre, Warrington Town Centre and Birchwood Business Park. Applications close on 5pm Thursday, 2 March 2023. More details on the parish website.

### **Volunteers Needed**

Micah Liverpool is looking to recruit more volunteers for all of its food aid activity. They run four projects Tuesday to Friday between 10.30am and 12.30pm and are looking for people who would like to get involved and give something back to their communities.

They are also asking for people who have language skills to apply for volunteering roles as they support such a diverse range of people. They have multiple roles including foodbank volunteer, community market volunteer, administration volunteer and stores person volunteer.

If you think you can support Micah Liverpool in any of those roles and would like to find out more contact Paul O'Brien at

paul.obrien@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk or call 07932 842 337.

## **Calling all Musicians**

There is a workshop for parish musicians taking place on Saturday, 18 March 10.30am until 2pm at the Irenaeus Centre 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 1RD Nicky Baty will lead a workshop exploring • Ideas for the parish • Tips for musicians • Music for sale • Freebies to take home. Tea and coffee from 10am and there will be a brief lunch break – please bring your own lunch. Suggested donation £10. To book a place email: [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 0151 949 1199.

## **LGBTQ+ Catholics Archdiocese of Liverpool**

The next Mass will be on Sunday, 26 February, St Bede's, Appleton Village, Widnes, WA8 6EL, please do let Father Stephen know if you are able to attend. There will be refreshments after Mass which starts at 2pm. For more info please contact Canon Stephen Maloney [frsmaloney@aol.co.uk](mailto:frsmaloney@aol.co.uk).

## **100<sup>th</sup> Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Opportunities**

St Mary's and Bishop Eton parishes will be joining the Archdiocesan Centenary Pilgrimage to Lourdes on Friday, 21 July – Friday 28, July 2023, led by Archbishop Malcolm

McMahon. We will be accompanied by Fr Tim as our Parish Group Spiritual Leader. Staying at the Eliseo will cost £949.00 (single and double occupancies available) for seven nights full board, including flights from Liverpool Airport. Booking forms can be requested from St Mary's parish office (428 2256).

Christ the King & Our Lady parish are also organising a similar trip but will travel by coach. For more information please ring their parish office on 722 2231. All welcome.

Also Our Lady of the Assumption, Gateacre. Cost is £829. Closing date Sunday, 5 March (Single supplement £245). Limited places. All welcome! 487 9372.

## **Save the Date**

Have you got your tickets yet? Saturday, 15 April, St Mark's Parish Centre, brilliant vocalist Alison D plus DJ, tickets just £5 available from the centre. Please support the club if you are able.

## **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	£250.60
GASDS Loose	£287.35
Non Gift Aid	£ 53.00
Standing Orders	£367.23
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£958.18</b>
Bonus Ball	£ 58.00
Number not drawn at time of going to print.	

### **Second Collection:**

26 February, Lenten Alms

5 March, CAFOD



*Coffee & Chat*

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

# First Sunday of Lent

**25 February – 5 March 2023**

**We Pray Especially For**

**Saturday, 25 February**

5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family

Maureen Byrne

**Sunday, 26 February, First Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm - Baptisms

People of the Parish  
Kathleen & Michael Vasile

**Monday, 27 February, Weekday of Lent**

6pm-7pm – Exposition, Holy Family

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

**Tuesday, 28 February, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Lamb Families, Mary Kelly

**Wednesday, 1 March, Feast of St David**

10am-11am – Exposition, St Mark's

11am-12noon – Lectio Divina, Annexe

**Thursday, 2 March, Weekday of Lent**

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

6.30pm - Mass, St Mark's

Danny Fox

**Friday, 3 March, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, St Mark's

**1.30pm – World Day of Prayer Service, St Mark's**

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

Ellen Davies

**Saturday, 4 March**

5.15pm - Mass, Holy Family

People of the Parish

**Sunday, 5 March, Second Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm - Baptisms

Helen Jones  
Terence Carroll