

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Nunes

The Parish Office
Penmann Crescent, Halewood
Liverpool, L26 0UG

T: 0151 486 3992
W: parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk
E: johnvianney@rcaolp.co.uk
Open 9am-1pm: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

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



18 December 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent, p90

Matthew 1:18-24 **Pointers for Prayer**

1. It took some time for Joseph to accept the fact that in Mary there truly was Emmanuel - God with us. God is with us now, but at times we struggle to perceive God's presence. Where have you unexpectedly discovered the presence of "God with you"? Recall those experiences and give thanks.
2. Joseph was confused and uncertain about what he should do. It was difficult for him to discern what his next step should be. Perhaps you have also had to make difficult journeys on the way to some decisions or commitments. Recall that journey and the moments when it became clear to you what was being asked of you. Give thanks for the angels who helped you along the way.
3. Mary bore Jesus within her, unseen to all, and unacknowledged by most. In Joseph she found one who believed in the treasure that she bore. We can be bearers of Jesus to others, and they to us. When have you been a bearer of Jesus to another? Who has been that to you?
4. The experience of having a gift that others do not see or recognise can be painful and isolating. Then someone comes, like Joseph to Mary, who gets to believe in what we have to offer. Has that happened to you? What was it like?

Prayer

Eternal God, in the psalms of David, in the words of the prophets, in the dream of Joseph, your promise is spoken. At last, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, your Word takes flesh.

Teach us to welcome Jesus, the promised Emmanuel, and to preach the good news of his coming that every age may know him as the source of redemption and grace. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, 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

Cameron Dunmore RIP, Freda Tansey, Sally Moore, Valerie Higgins, Mary Mount, Veronica Humphreys, Nora Bartley, 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, 9 January 2023, 6pm,

St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816. If you are looking 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 require to have first received the Sacrament of Baptism.

Rite of Welcome

5.15pm:

Roman Williams and Ava Williams.

Thank You from the SVP

Our SVP team wish to express there heartfelt thanks to all parishioners for their generosity throughout the year, be this through supporting their projects via the second collections, responding to appeals for particular items or giving up your precious time to help whenever they ask. The team would also like to thank Halewood Town Council for their support. Thank you so much, it's really appreciated and they wish you all a very peaceful Christmas.

School Applications Reminder

Reception applications and supplementary forms for September 2023 intake: if you are applying for a Catholic place, your child **must** be baptised Catholic before the admission closing date of 15 January

2023 and you must complete a supplementary faith form and pass back to the school office of the school you are applying to.

With You Always Programme (First Holy Communion 2022/23)

Please note when the information for the next group of candidates is available, it will be published in this newsletter and on our website.

Poinsettias

If you would like to bring these plants in to church to enhance the decoration these would be gratefully received. Please feel free to attach the name of a loved one to the plant and Masses will be offered for their intentions over the festive period.

Church Cleaning & Appeal for Help

St Mark's

9am, Wednesday, 28 December

Holy Family

If you are able to spare an hour or so please speak with Ann.

Christmas: A Parent's Reflection – Live Simply

You don't need to do all that 'stuff' this Christmas to be a good parent. Things we DON'T do:

1. Santa experiences (they are too expensive for a family of 6 and we find it too chaotic and overstimulating for our kids), also find it raises too many questions. Great if you love it and it brings you joy but it's not a necessity.

2. Christmas Eve boxes.

3. Elf on the shelf, absolutely no reason for this extra level of bananas work to be placed on parents plus I don't know how to explain to the kids that this elf who is supposedly magic and just turns up is not the same as the ones you buy in the shop.

Children's Liturgy

There will be no Children's Liturgy over the Christmas weekend and New Year weekend in either of our churches.

Children's Liturgy Nativity Rehearsal

Our Children's Liturgy Nativity will take place during our Christmas Eve Mass.

The rehearsal will take place this weekend, Sunday, 18 December in St Mark's church at 12.30pm.

Parts and readings will be allocated and the children will have the

opportunity to practice and try on costumes. The rehearsal will last approximately 1 hour and children wishing to attend must be accompanied by an adult for safeguarding purposes. Many thanks, Little Church.

Holy Family Church Jubilee

2023 marks the Golden Jubilee of Holy Family church. Parishioners are invited to join a working group to prepare to celebrate this momentous event. If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

Red Boxes

If you have a red box in your home that requires emptying please leave it at the back of church or pass it in to the parish office.

Parish Council

Parishioners, young or old, are invited to consider volunteering for the St John Vianney Parish Council. New members would be very welcome. The Council meets every two months. If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 17 January, 7pm, Holy Family meeting room.

St Francis Xavier's College - Advent & Christmas Music

Monday, 19 December at 6pm, music for advent and Christmas in the College Chapel. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available after the service. All welcome!

CAFOD Christmas Fun Run

This annual event will take place at The Mystery, Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE on Tuesday, 27 December, register from 10am for the run/walk at 11am.

CAFOD Advent

Prayers and Resources

'CAFOD Pray this Advent' and 'Prayers for Christmas' Daily Advent calendar reflections straight to your inbox if you sign up. See: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources>

Liverpool Archdiocese Online Advent Calendar

This Advent, the archdiocese will be running an online Advent calendar which will feature daily videos from various people across the archdiocese. The videos will include reflections, an insight of what Advent means to them and their plans for Advent. To see our Advent calendar, please follow the archdiocese's social media channels which can be found on our parish website Latest page.

Parish of Sts Agnes & Aidan LGBT+ Group

The group gathers regularly on every 3rd Sunday of the month at 6pm in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Room at St Agnes RC Church, 82 Huyton Hey Road, L36 5SQ. The next meeting is on Sunday, 18 December. This month's meeting is an 'open' gathering for family and friends to attend too. Contact hollyfenn1999@hotmail.co.uk

Foundation Governors

These are needed for Holy Family School. Anyone interested should contact either the school on 282 8971 or Ann Farrell on 07855 981 691.

Appeal from Nugent

This Christmas our charity shop is running low on items. Can you donate any of the following? The shop accepts and sells the following items: books, clothing, shoes, bags, Accessories such as belts and jewelry and costume jewelry, jigsaws, bric-a-brac including LP records/CD's although not as many/DVD's.

The shop doesn't accept and is unable to sell the following items: toys including cuddly toys, furniture, electrical items.

Donations can be accepted at the shop Monday - Friday between the hours of

9am - 5pm. Donations can be dropped off at the following address: 73 Allerton Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, L18 2DH.

If you are unable to drop donations off, we are able to arrange collections. If you need to arrange a collection, please call Gill Woodroffe or Naira Zakarian at 0151 737 2951.

Halewood Foodbank Update

The generosity of the public in their giving is fantastic however, their name might be a bit misleading.

The offer of food is a measure of survival but for those coming to the foodbank volunteers try and offer a standard of living. Please be aware that they cannot use donations of food that is out of date so do check your donations before you drop them off.

To enable users to live rather than just survive the foodbank also offer items such as tea, coffee, juice, long life milk, sugar, puddings and biscuits. Currently they are also in need of toiletries (men & women), baby goods, cleaning products and pet food.

As we reach the festive season any new toys or treats would be most welcome. It is more than just food for

survival the foodbank try to offer dignity.

If you would like to donate groceries etc but need help bringing items to church then please speak to an SVP member and collection can be arranged. Finally, cash donations can be made to the foodbank and this is used to top up supplies as necessary. Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

Cost Of Living Crisis: The Liverpool Archdiocese

Venues continue to be open 1pm to 3.30pm across the archdiocese with St Mark's Parish Centre available on Wednesday's. Please come along for a chat over a cuppa!

Also available at St Columba's URC, Hunts Cross, everyone is welcome to come and join us on a Wednesday for a friendly morning in the warmth, 10am-12noon. Hot refreshments, toast and teacakes available free of charge.

What's On at our Cathedral

18 December, 5pm, Festival Carol Service. A mix of seasonal music and readings as well as congregational carols.

Recycling

You can now recycle used batteries and empty tablet blister packs at the back of church. Please bring these along, pop them in the box provided and we'll do the rest.

Used Postage Stamps & Funny Money

The parish office collects both of these so please pass yours in. We send them off to Nugent who do something magic with them that turns both in to much needed funds to support local families in crisis.

How to Receive this Newsletter by Email

Go to our website
www.parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk

Click on the Latest tab.

Scroll down the page until you see Newsletter via email and click on this. Complete the form and press Send.

If you need help then please ring the parish office and they will guide you through the process.

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.

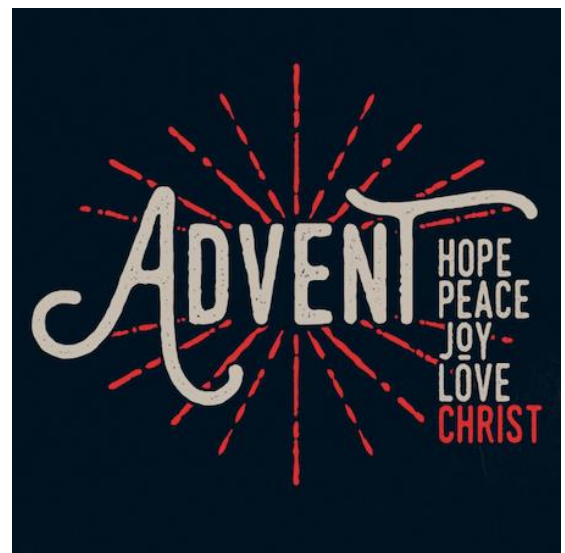
Parish Finance

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

Gift Aid Envelopes	£181.00
GASDS Loose	£236.60
GASDS Envelopes	£ 60.00
Standing Orders	£367.23
Total Offertory	£844.23
Bonus Ball 06	£ 29.00

Second Collection SVP £291.65

Next Second Collection:
25 December, Nugent.



**New Year's Eve at
St Mark's Parish Centre**
Music & DJ from 7pm.

Tickets £5

Available from the Parish Centre.

Links to Access Livestream Masses
These are available on our parish website, Latest page.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

17 December – 25 December 2022

<p>We Pray Especially For</p>

Saturday, 17 December,
5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

Sunday, 18 December, Fourth Sunday of Advent
9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

George Biggs, Tony Crompton,
Stephen Seddon

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Monday, 19 December, Weekday of Advent
6pm-7pm – Exposition & Private Prayer, Holy Family

Tuesday, 20 December, Weekday of Advent
9am – Mass, Holy Family

**Maureen Largon, McCally Family,
David Burke**

Wednesday, 21 December, Weekday of Advent
10am-11am – Exposition & Private Prayer, St Mark's

Thursday, 22 December, Weekday of Advent
9am – Morning Prayer Online via zoom (see website)
6.30pm - Mass, St Mark's

Catherine Fletcher,
Davies Family, Rose Torley

Friday, 23 December, Weekday of Advent
9am – Mass, St Mark's

Sammonds Family,
Peter Crompton & Family in USA

Saturday, 24 December
 6pm – Children’s First Mass of Christmas,
 St Mark’s
 8.30pm – Carol Service, Holy Family
 9pm – First Mass of Christmas, Holy Family

People of the Parish

People of the Parish

<p>Sunday, 25 December, Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord 9.15am – Mass, St Mark’s 11am – Mass, Holy Family</p>

People of the Parish People of the Parish
--