

# 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)**

**27 March 2022  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Laetare Sunday**

### **Luke 15:1-3,11-32 Pointers for Prayer**

1. Like many a parable, this story makes its point in what seems to be unfair: the spendthrift son is rewarded and the elder son is hurt and angry. Jesus is telling us that love is a free gift, not something we earn by our goodness. This is true of human love and is also true of God's love. When have you experienced this truth in the love you have received from others? When has the experience of human love prompted you to reflect on God's love for you?
2. After some time the younger son "came to himself" and returned home. Where and when have you experienced a homecoming after a time of exile and alienation? What helped you to come to yourself and make that journey home?
3. The older son resented the welcome given to the younger son after his wandering and dissolute life. This contrasts with the welcome the father gave the younger son. Perhaps you have experienced these differing attitudes in yourself. What were they like for you? Where was there life for you or for others?

### **Prayer**

God of compassion, you await the sinner's return and spread a feast to welcome home the lost. Save us from the temptations that lead us away from you and draw us back by the constancy of your love, that we may take our place in your household and gladly share our inheritance with others. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Healing

In the Sacrament of the Sick, the person who is ill or suffering is anointed with holy oil to strengthen them. They may be strengthened to face illness or surgery. They might also be strengthened to face death. Anointing is also often a healing act and that can mean healing of mind, body or spirit. As part of that healing we receive the forgiveness of our sins. Christ strengthens our faith and bestows God's grace in a time of anxiety and pain.

In order to make the sacrament more widely available Fr Matthew will be available after all the Masses **this weekend** for anyone who might like to receive the sacrament.

## Aid for Ukraine Update (as at 25 March)



On Saturday (26 March) two vans will leave the Archdiocese of Liverpool to head to the Polish border loaded with aid for the people of Ukraine.

At 9am on Saturday, before the drivers depart, Bishop Thomas Neylon and Father Taras Khomych, chaplain to the Ukrainian community, will celebrate Mass at the St Margaret

Clitherow Centre, please keep the drivers in your prayers.

The goods will be collected by Bishop Gregory Komar and students for the priesthood from the Holy Spirit Seminary in the Ukrainian diocese of Sambir-Drohobych, who will take the goods for distribution in the Lviv region of western Ukraine. Bishop Gregory is the auxiliary bishop of the diocese and has a close association with the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

We are looking to do further shipments and will confirm details of this once the drivers have returned. Once again, thank you for your continued support, we have only been able to run this appeal thanks to the support of our parishes, schools, parish centres and local community.

Financial donations are still very much needed, a reminder that all details can be found here: <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/ukraine-support>

All donations will be sent to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London. The text numbers are:

- Text HELPUKRAINE to 70085 to donate £2
- Text HELPUKRAINE to 70450 to donate £3
- Text HELPUKRAINE to 70460 to donate £5

- Text HELPUKRAINE to 70470 to donate £10

(Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.)

### Prayer for Ukraine

Almighty and Great God, accept our gratitude for your boundless mercy towards us. Hear the supplication of our afflicted hearts for the land and people of Ukraine, as they confront foreign aggression and invasion. Open the eyes of those who have been overtaken by a spirit of deception and violence, that they be horrified by their works. Grant victory over the powers of evil that have arisen and bless Ukraine with your gifts of liberty, peace, tranquillity and good fortune.

We implore you, O Merciful God, look with grace upon those who courageously defend their land. Remember the mothers and fathers, the innocent children, widows and orphans, the disabled and helpless, those seeking shelter and refuge, who reach out to you and to their fellow human beings looking for mercy and compassion. Bless the hearts of those who have already shown great generosity and solidarity, and those who prepare to receive their Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Ukraine's greatest time of need. Bring us together as your children, your creation, and instil in us your strength, wisdom and understanding.

May you be praised and glorified, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

+Kenneth Nowakowski Eparchial Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London We pray for the local Eparchy of SambirDrohobych and its bishops.



### Covid

The call of Christian charity requires us to be concerned for each other and, in particular, those who are most vulnerable or who may be anxious. **We will therefore continue with the expectation that face coverings will be used by those attending church.**

### Laetare Sunday

*Laetare* is the first word, meaning “rejoice” in the Latin text. On Laetare Sunday (as similarly with the Third Sunday of Advent’s Gaudete Sunday) the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Call it pink, or, more fittingly, rose this change in colour indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we

enter into the sombre days of Passiontide.

Laetare Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a "shot in the arm" as we approach the darkness and horror of the days through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It's an opportunity to savour and keep in the back of our minds what awaits us on Easter Sunday, the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and that our hearts will always be filled with joy!

### **Keep In Your Prayers**

Mary Kelly, Eileen Ireland, Frank and Josie Hennessy, Patricia Bracegirdle, Father Vin McShane, John Birkenhead our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### **Rite of Welcome**

5.15pm: Joshua Thomas Tyrer,  
Sonny Joseph Barnes,  
Louis Oliver Court

11am: Elisabeth Grice,  
Daisy Olive Melling

### **Baptismal Information**

*Please note all our baptism places are now filled until September 2022 but you can still come along and register to secure a future date.*

Next meeting to register and find out more Monday, 4 April, 6pm, St Mark's Annexe. **Please wear a mask when attending a meeting.** All

enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

### **Baptisms this weekend:**

Alfie Jacob Hoey  
Teddy Joseph Walsh  
Daisie Ann Reith

### **With You Always Programme**

Email all enquiries to Jayne Cross at [jayne.wya@gmail.com](mailto:jayne.wya@gmail.com)

### **Washing of Feet**

Volunteers required. Please leave your name and contact number on the form at the back of church.

### **Garden of Repose**



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 either church.

### **Thank You**

Pat Crompton and family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all parishioners for the Masses, prayers and kind support they have received after their recent loss of Tony, it really has sustained them through this difficult time. Thanks also to Peter

Renwick for providing the music at Tony's Requiem.

### **LGBT Gathering**

Sunday, 3 April, St Bede's Church, Appleton Village, Widnes, WA8 6EL, Mass will begin at 2pm, all welcome.

### **Music for Lent**

Join us at our Cathedral between 3pm-4pm throughout Lent for a special programme of sacred music sung by our Cathedral Choir. Entrance is free and all are welcome.

Sunday, 27 March

Stabat Mater Dolorosa – *Giovanni Battista Pergolesi*

Sunday, 3 April

The Lamentations of Jeremiah –  
*Thomas Tallis*

### **Lunchtime Concert**

Friday, 1 April, 1pm-1.45pm

The choir of The West London Free School will perform an informal lunchtime concert at the Cathedral, admission free.

### **Missionaries of Charity Carrying of the Cross**

This annual event will take place on Saturday, 9 April at 2pm. Join at the junction of Church Street/Lord Street. Stewards required please email Jim Ross jimmy.ross7@gmail.com

### **The Liverpool Passion Plays This is Our Story**

**11 April, Liverpool Cathedral,  
6.30pm-8.30pm**

The Liverpool Passion Plays tells the story of the last supper as well as Jesus' arrest, trial and crucifixion. Using the Cathedral's architecture and artwork as a backdrop, the audience will 'walk with Jesus' through his story, starting as a young boy, and witnessing his entry into Jerusalem, his betrayal by Judas, and his trial and crucifixion. The performance will move West to East in the Cathedral, stopping at different locations as each scene unfolds. All will travel back to the Central space to witness the crucifixion that will take place on the Nave Bridge. The performance combines music, script and liturgy to demonstrate what Christ's suffering and resurrection means for us today. The five acts have been put together by the cast, crew and musicians who are volunteers from the congregation, cathedral choirs and the public. Entry is free but we welcome your donations to support our choir tour fund. <https://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/events-calendar/the-liverpool-passion-plays-this-is-our-story>

### **SFX College Proudly Presents School of Rock, The Musical**

Wednesday, 6, Thursday, 7 and Friday, 8 April, 7pm, doors open 6.30pm, tickets adult £4, child £2, family £10, tickets available through ParentPay or on the door.

## Silence in the Pinewoods

An introduction to contemplation through the gateway of Centering Prayer led by Father Richard Sloan, St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby, Saturday, 2 April, 10am-4pm, registration

<https://forms.gle/KSd8saSrTTP3HxAn9>

## Cleaning Sessions at St Mark's All Welcome

Many thanks to those who came along to our church cleaning sessions. The next dates are:

Wednesday, 6 April, 8.30am

Wednesday, 4 May, 8.30am

## Belong & Believe

*How our Celtic past can help us  
today. Refreshing our communities  
and renewing our ministries.*

Following on from the success of our Pastoral Development Department's Advent Monday Reflections, we are running Monday Reflections from 7pm-8pm on zoom using the Café resource: *Belong and Believe* during Lent. There will be opportunity to reflect and discuss and although the course will be run online, it is possible to join and interact as a parish group. For more information contact the PD department: [pd@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:pd@rcaol.org.uk)

March 28 - Caring for God's Creation  
April 4 - Evangelising with Love & Action

You can register for the zoom reflections here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84401203000>

or on the website:

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/pastoral-development](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/pastoral-development)

## 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.



## 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	£ 176.00
GASDS Loose	£ 299.25
GASDS Envelopes	£ 97.00
Standing Orders	£ 297.77
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£ 870.02</b>
Bonus Ball 50	£ 54.00

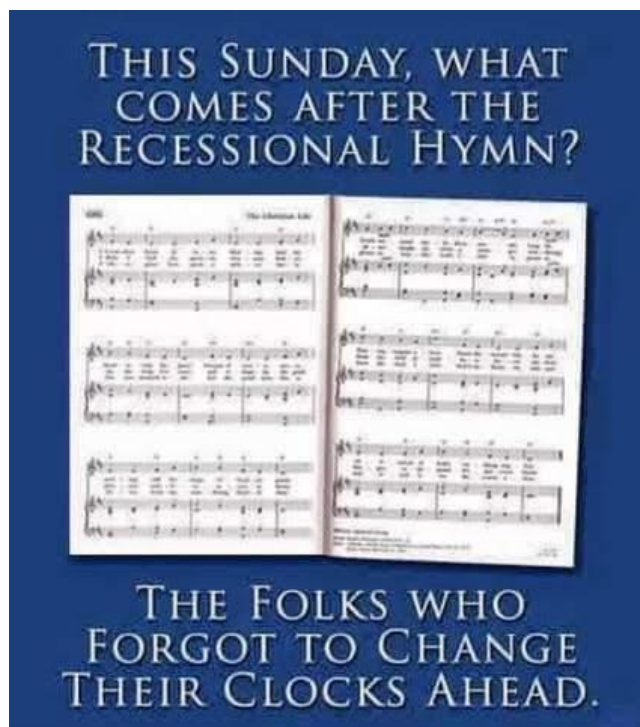
Second collection this weekend SVP.

Donations of Lenten Alms can be put into weekly collections during Lent - please mark your donation 'Lenten Alms'.



**Mother's Day at  
St Mark's Parish Club  
FREE Admission!  
THIS Sunday, 27 March**

Disco and Karaoke from 5pm  
Main Act from 8pm  
Please come along and support our club if you are able.



Parish Club = 486 4908

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

**26 March – 3 April 2022**

**We Pray Especially For**

**Saturday, 26 March**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church

People of the Parish

**Sunday, 27 March, Fourth Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church

Betty Cullen, Fr Vin McShane,  
Sally Moore

11am – Mass, Holy Family Church

Kerry O'Neill, Marion Colvin

12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family Church

**Monday, 28 March, Weekday of Lent**

6pm-7pm – Exposition & Private Prayer,  
Holy Family Church

**Tuesday, 29 March, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, Holy Family Church

Eddie McCarthy & Rosemary  
Cappin, John Hunter

**Wednesday, 30 March, Weekday of Lent**

10am-11am – Exposition & Private Prayer,  
St Mark's Church

**Thursday, 31 March, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Morning Prayer – Online via zoom (see website)  
6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's Church

Fr Tony Reynolds, Tony Crompton

**Friday, 1 April, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, St Mark's Church

Derek Pinnington, Linda Jackson,  
Jennifer Quirk

6.30pm - Stations of the Cross, Holy Family Church

**Saturday, 2 April**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church

People of the Parish

**Sunday, 3 April, Fifth Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church

Irena Wasilewska, Pam Moran,  
Ronnie Hannah

11am – Mass, Holy Family Church

Abbie Green, Kevin & Marianna  
Urdhin

12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family Church