

# Newsletter

## Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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Parish Priest: Father Matthew Nunes

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

Deacon: Reverend Peter Renwick Mob: 07707 917 554

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

**10 March 2024**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent, p162**

### **John 3:14-21**

#### **Pointers for Prayer:**

1. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.

2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. The true life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.

3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

4. When people cannot find a love in which to trust they are truly in darkness rather than light. Perhaps you have had such moments. What was it like to be in that darkness and what was it like to come into the light again when you found a love you could trust?

5. People loved darkness rather than light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. Judgement and condemnation are very inhibiting forces and we easily slip into them. Occasionally we meet someone who is non-judgemental, who does not come into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved. What has it been like for you when you met a non-judgemental person? What has it been like for you and for other people, when you have been able to adopt a non-judgemental approach them?

### **Prayer**

O God, rich in mercy, you so loved the world that when we were dead in our sins, you sent your only Son for our deliverance. Lifted up from the earth, he is light and life; exalted upon the cross he is truth and salvation. Raise us up with Christ and make us rich in good works, that we may walk as children of light toward the paschal feast of heaven.

We ask this through Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, holy and mighty God for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Keep In Your Prayers**

Ken Kavanagh RIP, Joan Fleming RIP, Catherine Thomas RIP, Ann Davies RIP, Tony James RIP, Linda Levy RIP, Sara Eccleston, 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, 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.

### **Rite of Welcome**

5.15pm: Jack Jonathan Davies

11am: Jamie Anthony Hussey

Leo Thomas Roberts

### **Baptismal Information**

Next meeting to register and find out more is Monday, 4 March at 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.



### **Stations of the Cross**

This will take place each Friday during Lent as follows:

Friday, 15 March, 6pm, Holy Family

Friday, 22 March, 6pm, St Mark's

Friday, 29 March, 10am, Holy Family

### **Good Friday**

#### **Children's Liturgy Service**

This will take place at 3pm in St Mark's annexe. Parents and carers attending the church service may drop

children off at the annexe and collect them after the main church service.

### **Appeal for Plants**

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 the back of church.

### **Lenten Alms**

Lenten Alms can be donated throughout Lent. Please place in an envelope marked Lenten Alms and pop into weekly collection. All donations will go to The Children of Gaza and The Holy Land.

### **The Belle Vale Passion**

A community passion play  
in the heart of Belle Vale

### **Appeal for Stewards & Leaflet Drop Volunteers**

This incredible musical drama takes place at 12noon on Saturday, 30 March in Belle Vale Shopping Centre, Gateacre. Please get in touch asap if you can help with the following:

- stewarding the event - email Ron:  
ronaldsmith57@btinternet.com
- leaflet drop in your road/nearby shops etc - ring/text Jacqui:  
07864 511 807.

Thank you so much for your kind support.

### **Christian Churches of Hunts Cross**

These are holding the Good Friday service at 12noon in the Hunts Cross Community Garden. This will be followed by a light lunch at St Columba. All are welcome.

### **‘Walking the Way of the Passion’**

#### **Holy Week Retreat**

This retreat begins with a Passover meal on Wednesday evening 27 March and concludes with the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening, 30 March. Residential places are available to book: contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)

### **Carrying of the Cross**

The annual Carrying of the Cross will take place on Saturday, 23 March at 2pm. The carrying of the cross will begin from Church Street, passing through Bold Street and finishing at St Luke's Church (the Bombed Out church), and will be followed by a short service. Could anyone wanting to take part please arrive at 1.45pm at the junction of Church Street and Lord Street for 2pm prompt start. **\*\*Stewards Required\*\*** Please contact Jim Ross on email: [jimmy.ross7@gmail.com](mailto:jimmy.ross7@gmail.com) See poster at back of church.

### **Lent Talk**

Monday, 11 March from 7pm-8pm. St Anne's in Ormskirk are having a Lent Talk from theologian David McLoughlin from Birmingham entitled Jesus' Passion for the Kingdom of God. Walking with him to the Cross. All welcome.

**Lenten Music at the Cathedral**  
Programme of sacred music at the Metropolitan Cathedral over Lent at 3pm as follows: Sunday's, 3, 10 and 17 March.

### **St Julie's Big Lent Walk**

This Lent, the St Julie's school community will take part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. The walk is a way to get out in the fresh air and raise money at the same time to help CAFOD support those communities most in need.

Students will undertake a walk around the school grounds during Holy Week during one of their PE lessons and will learn about some of the amazing work CAFOD does along the way. We ask that you support our students in prayer or by donating to our school's Just Giving Page if you can at <http://tinyurl.com/3xkaa2tr>



You can also access this QR code!

### **Chrism Mass**

The Chrism Mass which takes place on Wednesday, 27 March at 7.30pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral, is usually the largest annual gathering of archdiocesan clergy and faithful throughout the year. At the Mass, Archbishop Malcolm blesses the holy oils that are used throughout the archdiocese for celebrations of the sacraments in the next year. He does

this in the presence of priests, deacons and lay faithful.

Additionally, the Archbishop invites the priests of the archdiocese to renew the promises they made at their ordination: to dedicate their life in service to the Church - to preach the Gospel and teach the Catholic faith, to faithfully celebrate the sacraments and to pray for God's people.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this liturgy, enhanced by the Cathedral Choir and experience the richness of our local church, especially if you have never been before.

Altar servers aged 8+ are invited to attend, bring your albs, cassocks and cottas, vested by 6.45pm, reserve your seats asap by emailing Claire Hanlon at [c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

### **Thank You So Very Much**

The parish office has recently received two donations towards our Parish Lourdes Fund. Thank you!

### **LiveSimply**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 12 March, 6pm in St Mark's annexe. The meeting is to prepare for the Laudato Si Lent Reflection which the group will lead on 19 March, 6.30pm at Holy Family church.

### **World Day of Prayer Service**

Over 60 people attended the World Day of Prayer Service last Friday at St

Nicholas' church, Halewood, written by the ladies of Palestine. The service was very powerful and poignant and it was followed by a wonderful time of fellowship with our fellow Christians. The collection taken during the service came to £498.89 which will help the work of World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and projects run by Christian charities around the world.

A big thank you to all who organised the service and those who attended. There are a few service booklets at the back of church. After Easter, a Bible reflection based on the service theme, "I beg you, bear with one another in love" hosted by St Columba's is planned. Further information will be given nearer the time.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation**

Registration for Confirmations for those in Year 8 **closes on 15 March 2024**. To register please visit: [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk)

### **St Maria Goretti Appeal for Newborn Baby Items**

If anyone has any newborn baby items that they no longer need, could they please consider donating them to our parish. Items needed range from prams/buggies, newborn clothes, changing mats etc and should be in good condition. Please leave at back of church or with parish office.

### **LGBTQ+ Social Group**

This group meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6pm in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly room in the church of SS Agnes and Aidan, Huyton, L36 5SQ. The next meeting is on Sunday, 17 March.

### **Vianney's Voice, Youth Group**

Our wonderful youth are now arranging an Easter Quiz Night on Friday, 22 March and would be grateful to receive donations for raffle prizes for their fundraiser, these can be left with the office or at the back of church.

### **Ushaw College, Holy Island and Durham**

Friday, 3-Sunday, 5 May, Our Lady's, Gateacre invite fellow parishioners to Durham. £280 including return coach travel, B&B two nights, one, two course evening meal and three course Sunday lunch. Friday afternoon is an opportunity to get to know Ushaw College and have social time. Saturday will be a pilgrimage to Holy Island-Lindisfarne. Sunday there will time in the historic city of Durham with its magnificent Cathedral. **No single supplement.** Forms at back of church or book online at: <https://www.ourladygateacre.org.uk>. Deposit of £100. Friends and relations welcome!

### **Llysfasi Residential Spirituality Workshop**

Llysfasi will be hosting a transformative workshop at the Loreto Spirituality Centre in Llandudno from

12-29 August. This workshop offers a creative journey rooted in the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola. Participants will engage in prayer, personal reflection, contemplative listening, discernment and retreat experiences, all aimed at deepening their spirituality and capacity for accompaniment. Spaces are limited, so apply soon by contacting Mary Rose Fitzsimmons HHS at [maryrosefitzsimmons@btinternet.com](mailto:maryrosefitzsimmons@btinternet.com) See poster at back of church.

### **March Is Red Box Month**

The need to stand alongside our missionaries in prayer and solidarity has never been so urgent and necessary. In many areas of the world, they will be the first to respond to the physical and spiritual needs of our sisters and brothers who are suffering. Your gift will reach missionaries and communities who need our help as soon as possible. Our collectors will be organising emptying your Red Box shortly so if you could bring it to church that would be greatly appreciated.

### **St Patrick's Inaugural Spring Concert**

The first of two concerts featuring students from the University of Liverpool performing a range of classical music in a wide variety of styles, 4.30pm, Saturday, 23 March.

### **St Patrick's Second Spring Concert**

Students from the University of Liverpool return to perform classical music in their second delightfully varied programme, 4.30pm, Saturday, 20 April.

### **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**

Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order (ring the office) or Gift Aid it.

Collection 3 March 2024:

Gift Aid Envelopes	£196.00
GASDS Loose	£391.25
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 46.00
Standing Orders	£349.07
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£982.32</b>
Bonus Ball	£ 58.00

Second Collection:

Lenten Alms:

£46.55

Second Collection:

10 March, Nugent

17 March, Easter Flowers



### **St Mark's Parish Centre**

Sunday, 10 March, Mother's Day  
Special Show, superb vocalist Ian  
Christie plus DJ Mack, 5pm until  
late.

### **Church Cleaning**

St Mark's,  
Wednesday, 13 March, 9am.

Holy Family,  
Every Tuesday from 9.30am.  
All welcome.

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

**9 March – 17 March 2024**

**We Pray Especially For**

**Saturday, 9 March**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

Liz Morris, Mary Reid,  
Margaret Greenwood

**Sunday, 10 March, Fourth Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Betty Flynn, Tony Crompton,  
Smith Family  
People of the Parish

**Monday, 11 March, Weekday of Lent**

6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family

**Tuesday, 12 March, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Pat Byrne, Gerry Marsh,  
Ann Booth

**Wednesday, 13 March, Weekday of Lent**

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

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

**2pm – Mass, Maple Lodge**

Residents

**Thursday, 14 March, Weekday of Lent**

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

**11am – Funeral Service, Holy Family**

**2pm – Funeral Service at Springwood**

6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's

**Linda Levy**  
**Ann Davies**  
Billy Nicholson,  
Geraldine, Danny, Terry & Families

**Friday, 15 March, Weekday of Lent**

9am – Mass, St Mark's

**6pm – Stations of the Cross, Holy Family**

Colin Birkett, Alma Fagan,  
Lois Mayley

**Saturday, 16 March**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

**Sunday, 17 March, Fifth Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Ann Culshaw & Teresa Fox,  
Cecilia & Thomas Mee  
Matt & Barbara, Alan Corlan