

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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

24 March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, p176

Mark 14:1-15:47

Pointers for Prayer:

1. The injustice and brutality of the Passion of Jesus make it a difficult story to read as good news. Yet in the midst of that cruelty the courageous, faithful and self-sacrificing love that Jesus shows for us shines through. Recall moments when the account of the passion has moved you in a special way. How have you experienced blessing through it?

2. Human love can also be painful. When have you experienced the courage, fidelity and self-sacrifice of others in their love of you? When have you shown that kind of love to others as a parent, a spouse, or a friend or in some other relationship?

3. We read the Passion story in the light of resurrection. What seemed a humiliating and shameful failure for Jesus was not the end of the story. Perhaps with hindsight you can look back on something that seemed like a tragedy at the time but out of that tragedy new life and new possibilities followed for you.

4. For each of us there arise situations in which we feel things are outside our control and we are utterly helpless and powerless. We are not alone in this experience. In his Passion, Jesus is one with us in this human helplessness. When have you found that the presence of another helped you through a crisis? When have you been able to help another with your presence?

Prayer

O God of eternal glory, you anointed Jesus your servant to bear our sins, to encourage the weary, to raise up and restore the fallen. Keep before our eyes the splendour of the paschal mystery of Christ and by our sharing in the passion and resurrection, seal our lives with the victorious sign of his obedience and exaltation. We ask this through Christ, our liberator from sin, 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, Sara Eccleston, Maureen Skillicorn, Karen Smith, John & Enid Allerston, Eileen Prescott, 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.

Parish Office

Please note the office will be closed on 4 and 5 April.

Rosary for Ken Kavanagh RIP

This will take place in St Mark's church on Monday, 1 April at 6pm. All welcome.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more is Monday, 8 April at 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.



Reconciliation Services

Holy Hour and Confessions: Monday, 25 March, 7pm-8pm, Our Lady of the

Assumption. To begin Holy Week there will be a quiet hour of prayer with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Priests will be available to hear confessions during this time. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross

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.

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

Belle Vale Passion Update - Very Special Good Friday Service at Our Lady of Assumption Parish Centre

You are invited to Our Lady of Assumption Parish Centre, Hedgefield Road, Liverpool, L25 2RW at 11am for their Good Friday service which will include a performance of The Belle Vale Passion. This will be the first performance of the musical drama telling the story of the passion and death of Jesus, performed by members of the local community and everyone is welcome.

If you are unable to join this service, then please come along to Belle Vale Shopping Centre, Gateacre on Holy Saturday, 30 March at 12noon when the team, who have been rehearsing for just a few weeks, will be performing for the public. The

musical lasts approximately 50 minutes and everyone is welcome to attend this free event.

Easter Reflection

As we journey towards Easter, we remember all those in sacramental preparation. The scripture below, used over the last few weeks, is also a reminder to us all about putting ourselves before the Lord and offering ourselves as a servant, as Samuel did. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again."

So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And

he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore, Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Samuel 1:4-1.

Lent Youth Alive

Lent Youth Alive takes place on Sunday, 24 March, 5pm at St Mary's Church, Lowe House, St Helens, WA10 2BE. The service will be followed by the 'Ultimate Game Show' Quiz Night - all are very welcome and families too! This is a great way to experience something of the spirit of Lourdes as we continue our preparation.

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

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.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this liturgy, enhanced by the Cathedral choir.

An Introduction to Vatican II

An in-person study retreat day exploring Vatican II is being offered in collaboration with the Light of Truth Dominican Sisters who will introduce us to the Second Vatican Council, the outcomes of Pastoral Development Department: St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA. T: 522 1040 pd@rcaol.org.uk

This would be perfect for anyone who is looking to explore this important event for the first time, as well as for anyone who is looking to reflect on and revisit the year of the Council.

This event is being offered for free. If you have any questions, please contact e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk Link to book online can be found on our parish website.

Women's Weekend at Irenaeus:

Mary in a World of Martha?

14-16 June 2024. Limited residential spaces available. For more information, please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or call 949 1199.

Free to a Good Home (Almost)

A parishioner has a single bed in very good condition that is no longer required. Please contact the office if you would like it. A donation to the SVP would be welcomed.

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 17 March 2024:

Gift Aid Envelopes	£365.20
GASDS Loose	£405.40
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 92.00
Standing Orders	£349.07
Total Offertory	£1211.67
Bonus Ball	£ 58.00

Second Collection:

Easter Flowers: £182.30

Second Collection:

24 March, SVP

Good Friday, Holy Places

Church Cleaning

St Mark's,

Wednesday, 27 March, 9am.

Holy Family,

Every Tuesday from 9.30am.

All welcome.



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

23 March – 31 March 2024

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 23 March

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

Sally O'Connor, Paul Williams

Sunday, 24 March, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Hanlon Family, Ken Kavanagh,
Michael Mahnion
People of the Parish

Monday, 25 March, Monday in Holy Week

6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family

Tuesday, 26 March, Tuesday in Holy Week

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Kerry O'Neill, Ann Booth

Wednesday, 27 March, Wednesday in Holy Week

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

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

12.30pm – Requiem Mass for Joan Fleming, St Mark's

7.30pm – Mass of Chrism at Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King

The Easter Triduum

Thursday, 28 March, Holy Thursday

9am – Online Prayer

7.30pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper

With Watching at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 9pm, Holy Family

Friday, 29 March, Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord

10am, Stations of the Cross, Holy Family

3pm – Passion of the Lord, St Mark's

3pm – Children's Liturgy Service, St Mark's annexe

Saturday, 30 March, Holy Saturday

12noon – The Belle Vale Passion, Belle Vale Shopping Centre, Gateacre

8pm – Easter Vigil, Holy Family

Sunday, 31 March, Easter Day

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

People of the Parish

Mary Lamb, Norah Potter