

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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

**25 February 2024
Second Sunday of Lent, p151**

Mark 9:2-10

Pointers for Prayer:

1. When have I really felt, spontaneously and deeply, “it is good to be here”. Was this moment of grace also a confirmation of yourself in some way?
2. There is a sense in which life is always “on the move” and we cannot freeze even special moments. They do continue to influence us but are not under our control. This is the mystery of human relationship and of our relationship with the Mystery.
3. Listening and being listened to are necessary but perhaps all too rare human experiences. What have I learned about listening which can help me “listen to him”? The words of Augustine come to mind: “You called, shouted, you broke through my deafness”.

Prayer

Ever-faithful God, you were well pleased with Abraham’s obedience and you accepted the sacrifice of your son, who gave himself up for the sake of us all. Train us by Christ’s teaching and school us in his obedience that as we walk his way of sacrifice we may come to share in your glory. 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

Jacqueline Wilson RIP, Silva Smith 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.

Families of Parishes for the Liverpool South Deanery

The Deanery Synodal Council were asked to consider Area 4 of the 2021 Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan: how we might organise our parishes into Families of Parishes in order to:

- to make our parishes places where individuals and families encounter Jesus anew
- to grow as disciples
- to work synodally
- to be equipped to accompany one another within our communities and beyond their boundaries

The DSC are proposing to the Archbishop that there be an:

Inland Family of Parishes:
Christ the King, Our Lady of the Assumption, St Mary's, Bishop Eton, St John Vianney

Riverside Family of Parishes:
St Ambrose & St Christopher, St Wilfrid's, St Charles, St Anthony's and St Clare's

By embracing our baptismal vocations, using our complementary skills and experiences and working together, we will be able to achieve things we wouldn't have been able to do on our own and be "The Church God is calling us to be".

Come along to one of the following meetings to find out about the discernment process of the Deanery Synodal Council and to begin to explore what our next steps should be.

Wednesday, 28 February, 7pm-9pm
St Mary's Church, Church Road,
Woolton, L25 5JF

Wednesday, 6 March, 7pm-9pm
St Francis' Church, Earp Street,
Garston, L19 1RT

Saturday, 9 March, 11am-1pm
Carmel Convent, 28 Maryton Grange,
L18 3NU

Everyone is welcome.

LENT

WALKING WITH CHRIST

Stations of the Cross

This will take place each Friday during Lent as follows:

Friday, 1 March, 6pm, Holy Family
Friday, 8 March, 6pm, St Mark's
Friday, 15 March, 6pm, Holy Family
Friday, 22 March, 6pm, St Mark's
Friday, 29 March, 10am, Holy Family

Lenten Alms

Lenten Alms can be donated throughout Lent. Please place in an envelope marked Lenten Alms and pop into weekly collection. Many thanks.

Healing

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is administered during periods of illness, in order to bring a person receiving it spiritual and physical strength. As a sacrament, it is performed to give God's grace, through the Holy Spirit. Father Matthew will be available **at the end of all Masses NEXT weekend (2/3 March)** to administer this to all those who wish to receive it.

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.

Baptisms:
Jacob Paul Millea

Parish Retreat

This has been booked for Saturday, 9 March and will take place at the Irenaeus Centre in Waterloo between 10am-3pm. The cost is £20 pp which includes lunch. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to be together in prayerful reflection outside of our usual parish environment. Please let the office know if you are interested in attending asap and if you have signed up, payment is now due either by cash, cheque, bank transfer and if you are using BACS, then please enter your surname as the reference.



CAFOD Family Fast Day

Many thanks to all those who attended our Soup Lunch and to all the volunteers who made this happen.

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Find out more about James and the work of CAFOD on the displays at the back of church or visit cafod.org.uk. Envelopes at the back of church.

Vianney's Voice, Youth Group

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 28 February, 6pm in St Mark's annexe, we are opening the group to children aged 11-18 and we will be making preparations for our Easter Quiz Night on 22 March. Please come along and get involved in our parish life.

The Youth Group 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.

Archdiocesan Environment Conference 2024

Saturday, 9 March 10:30-3:30

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (Hardybutts, Wigan, Lancashire, WN1 3RZ) will play host to the annual archdiocesan environment conference. Speaking at the conference is Environment and Issues Lead for the Catholics Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and Salford Bishop, Bishop John Arnold; Sister Margaret Aitken, and John Paul Dequay. In groups, delegates will begin to think about what environment and sustainability plans and pledges they can make moving forward. The event will also be attended by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon O.P. and a cold buffet-style lunch will be provided. There is a capacity of 50 places so if you are interested in attending, please book your free tickets via the parish or archdiocesan website.

The Belle Vale Passion

A community passion play
in the heart of Belle Vale



This moving musical drama tells the story of the final stages of Jesus' life. The Belle Vale Passion will present the story of the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in a way you will have not seen before and promises to be an unmissable experience for Easter 2024.

The team are looking for volunteers from the local community to take part in this exciting and unique event - young, old, male, female, there is a role for everyone, all we ask is that you commit to attending meetings and rehearsals according to your role. The first meeting took place on Sunday, 18 February and the next meeting/rehearsal takes place on Sunday, 25 February, 3pm at Our Lady of Assumption Parish Centre, Hedgefield Road, Liverpool, L25 2RW. If you are interested then please just come along on Sunday, this is a wonderful opportunity to make new friendships, contribute towards a community project and above all, bring the incredible Easter story to the

local community. **We'd particularly welcome musicians to join us this weekend and if anyone has TV/Radio and Newspaper connections** so we can highlight the project and share the story to an even wider audience, then that'd be great too! For more info on the project and the roles available please visit: <https://bellevalepassion.co.uk/>

BBC Songs of Praise Our Lady Of Compassion Church, Formby, L37 3LW

Come and sing with BBC's Songs of Praise as we join together for a congregational music recording at Our Lady of Compassion Church in Formby on Saturday, 16 March, 1pm-4pm. Doors open at 12noon.

The recording is expected to finish at approximately 4pm. There is no minimum age for entry, but children aged 17 and under should be supervised with a responsible adult at all times. The link to book your place can be found on our parish website.

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.

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 as follows:

Sunday 25 February, 3pm
Sunday, 3 March, 3pm
Sunday, 10 March, 3pm
Sunday, 17 March, 3pm
Sunday, 24 March, 7.30pm

Manchester Cathedral

On Good Friday, March 29, Manchester based charity Manchester Baroque will be playing at Manchester Cathedral to perform Bach's St Matthew Passion with Manchester Cathedral Choir, one of the most moving pieces of music ever written, performed for the occasion in the Church calendar for which it was originally written. Tickets and more info at:

www.manchesterbaroque.co.uk

Walking The Way of The Passion

Wednesday, 27 and Sunday, 31 March, limited residential places

available at the Irenaeus Centre so please book early. For further details email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or call 949 1199.

Discernment Workshop

The Friends and Companions of Jesus are offering a Discernment Workshop for Young Adults (20s and 30s) on 5 and 19 March at 7.30pm. There will be input on Ignatian discernment and decision making, discussion and opportunity for Q&A. Link to sign up is available on our parish website.

Oasis of Silence Retreats

St Hilda's Priory, Whitby, North Yorkshire, are hosting a contemplative retreat programme called Oasis of Silence and is for everyone seeking stillness and silence and who is interested in getting to know or to deepen the practice of contemplative prayer. For more info ring Sister Helen on 01947 899600.

2024 World Day of Prayer 'I Beg You, Bear With One Another In Love'

The Churches of Halewood and Hunts Cross would like to invite you to St Nicholas' Church, Church Road, Halewood L26 6LA on Friday, 1 March at 1pm so we can celebrate World Day of Prayer together. The service will be followed by refreshments and fellowship. All welcome.

LGBT+ Catholics

The next Mass will take place on Sunday, 3 March at 2pm, All Saints, Oakfield, Liverpool, L4 2QG. All are welcome.

St Mark's Parish Centre

Sunday, 10 March, Mother's Day Special Show, superb vocalist Ian Christie plus DJ Mack, 5pm until late, save the date! The Centre is open from 1pm on Wednesday's, 12noon Saturday's and Sunday's and from 4pm on all other days.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Registration for Confirmations for those in Year 8 or above is now open until 15 March 2024. To register please visit:

www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

While the registration period is open, Animate will visit schools in the diocese to promote the Sacrament and at the same time schools will teach about the Sacrament in their RE classes.

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 18 February 2024:

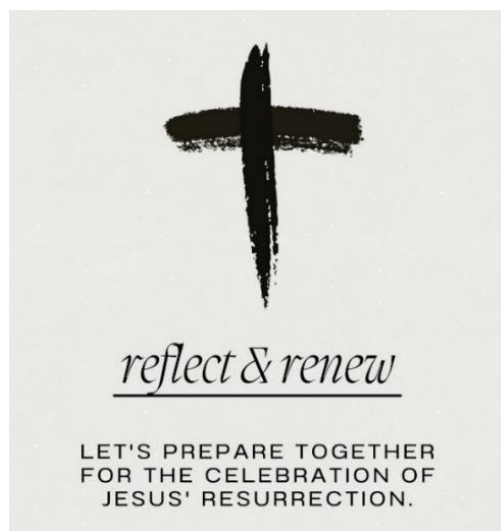
Gift Aid Envelopes	£220.30
GASDS Loose	£369.10
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 32.90
Standing Orders	£331.76
Total Offertory	£954.06
Bonus Ball	£ 58.00

Second Collection:
25 February, CAFOD

Church Cleaning
Wednesday, 28 February
9am, St Mark's

Every Tuesday,
9am, Holy Family

All Welcome.



Second Sunday of Lent

24 February – 3 March 2024

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 24 February

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

Mary Lamb,
Ann Nicholson & Family

Sunday, 25 February, Second Sunday of Lent

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm – Baptisms

People of the Parish
Stan Whelan

Monday, 26 February, Weekday of Lent

6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family

Tuesday, 27 February, Weekday of Lent

9am – Mass, Holy Family

Vincent James Hawkins, Snr,
Ann Booth, Paul Williams

Wednesday, 28 February, Weekday of Lent

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

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

12noon – Funeral Service, St Mark's

Silva Smith

Thursday, 29 February, Weekday of Lent

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

6.30pm – Service of the Word, St Mark's

Friday, 1 March, Feast of St David

9am – Service of the Word, St Mark's

6pm – Stations of the Cross, Holy Family

Saturday, 2 March

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

Mark Gerard Hawkins, Jnr,
Winifred Tracey, Sean Ferris

Sunday, 3 March, Third Sunday of Lent

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

12.30pm - Baptisms

People of the Parish
Brian Rigby,
Cath & Con O'Byrne