

# 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](http://parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk)  
E: [johnvianney@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:johnvianney@rcaolp.co.uk)  
Open 9am-1pm: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

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

### **This Newsletter Covers:**

#### **Second Sunday of Advent** **Third Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday, 5 December** This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptises for repentance and for forgiveness of sins preparing the way for God's salvation.

The three Synoptic Gospels - Mark, Matthew and Luke, attest to the importance of the baptism of John in preparing for Jesus. Only the Gospel of Luke, however, extends the connection between these two men to their birth. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. These stories set the stage for the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in chapter 3.

The evangelist Luke is the author of the Gospel that bears his name and he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles as a continuation of the story of Jesus and the Church. In these two works, Luke's sense of time and history emerges. He identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel reading, as elsewhere, John the Baptist is presented as the figure who bridges the time before Christ and prepares the way for Christ's own ministry.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore,

Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

**Sunday, 12 December** - This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

## Office Hours

Please note the parish office will be closed on Thursday, 9 and Friday, 10 December. We apologise in advance if weekday Mass times change due to a funeral received after this newsletter has gone to print.

## Pastoral Plan

The Plan is available online at <https://liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk/> or you can arrange to purchase it from Pauline Books and Media, 84 Church Street, Liverpool at a cost of £2 per copy. To find out more, you are welcome to any of these open meetings:

Tuesday, 7th December  
7pm – 8.30pm  
in Holy Rosary Church, Aintree

Thursday, 9th December  
7pm – 8.30pm on Zoom

You can access the zoom meeting via a link on the pastoral plan website: [liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk](https://liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk) or directly via:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFJzQjhLSlQ5VjJJQT09>  
Meeting ID: 864 2151 255  
Passcode: 132667

**From December, the Liverpool Archdiocesan Office (formally known as LACE) will be renamed to St Margaret Clitherow Centre**

The building has been renamed in line with the launch of the pastoral plan as we focus on the six areas of

development to strive towards “becoming the Church God is calling us to be.”

We chose the name St Margaret Clitherow Centre as it links to the history of our building. Before becoming our offices in 2001, the building was St Margaret Clitherow High School. We are proud to rename our building after a northern saint.

If you are sending anything to our offices, please address the correspondence to:

St Margaret Clitherow Centre  
Liverpool Archdiocesan Office  
Croxteth Drive  
Liverpool  
L17 1AA

## St Mark's Church July 2022

Next year our parish will celebrate the Golden Jubilee opening of St Mark's Church. In looking to plan an event to observe this important time in the history of our community, it would be helpful to gather any memorabilia of the actual opening occasion which you may be happy to share.

If you could have a little rummage and please drop any items you feel may be useful for a display with the parish office.

## Keep In Your Prayers

Our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## **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.

### **Baptismal Information**

Next meeting to register and find out more Monday, 6 December, 6pm, St Mark's Annexe. **Please wear a mask when attending a meeting.** All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

### **5 December Baptisms**

*Hallie Phung*

*Teddy Phung*

*Lucy Mary Ann Nolan*

*Leila Maureen Margaret Nolan*

*Shea Francis O'Brien*

### **12 December Baptisms**

*Catharine Jayne Ventre*

*Anthony Christopher Ventre*

*Grace Harper Murphy*

### **With You Always Programme**

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

### **Red Missio Boxes**

It's time to collect these at Holy Family Church. If you would like yours emptying, please leave it at the back of church clearly labelled with your name.

### **Bereavement Drop In**

*Lord, may we always be present to those who suffer bereavement and help us to be attentive to their needs.*

This will take place at 2pm on Tuesday, 7 December in St Mark's Annexe. If you need to talk in confidence, please come along for a chat over a cuppa.

### **Parish Council**

Tuesday, 7 December, 6pm, Holy Family meeting room.

### **SVP Meeting**

Wednesday, 8 December, 7pm in the Holy Family meeting room.

## **RCIA Meetings**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process given to us by the Church to initiate adults and older children into Christianity as it is lived within the Roman Catholic tradition.

Whatever your starting point you are very welcome to come along to these meetings which take place every Tuesday, 7.30pm, St Mark's Annexe. Contact Peter for more info 07707 917 554.

## **Cleaning Sessions at St Mark's All Welcome**

Wednesday, 12 January, 8.30am

Wednesday, 2 February, 8.30am

## **Lourdes Nominations**

If you wish to nominate someone from our parish to go to Lourdes in 2022 and be supported through our fund, please contact the office as soon as possible.

## **Knights of St Columba**

Steve Dooley and Pat McGann Memorial Walk September 2021. The Knights wish to express their thanks to all who so generously contributed, their total was just over £4,000 which is in aid of 12 local parishes.

## **Job Opportunities**

For all the latest vacancies visit:  
[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs)

## **LGBTQ+ Catholics**

Mass will take place at All Saints, Anfield on Sunday, 5 December at

12.30pm followed by a social gathering. This is an open invitation to our LGBTQ+ Catholics, their families and friends but also to anyone who would like to come along. It would be helpful to know who might attend for catering purposes. If you are intending to come along you are very welcome but please do let us know. Ring 0151 287 8787 or email [frsmaloney@aol.com](mailto:frsmaloney@aol.com)

Also, LGBTQ+ Social Group in the Parish of Sts Agnes and Aidan for members of the LGBTQ+ community. This group gathers regularly on every third Sunday of the month at 6pm in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Room at St Agnes RC Church, 82 Huyton Hey Road, Huyton, L36 5SQ.

## **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	£202.00
GASDS Loose	£308.05
GASDS Envelopes	£105.00
Standing Orders	£356.15
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£971.20</b>
Second Collection	£237.40
Animate Youth	

## **Second Collection**

12 December, Christmas flowers.



## **Activities from our Pastoral Development Team**

Donkey Detective Story and Make your own Donkey Activity  
[godwhospeaks.uk/the-christmas-donkey](http://godwhospeaks.uk/the-christmas-donkey)

Jesse Tree Stained Glass Window resource:  
[godwhospeaks.uk/christmas-resources/traditional-advent-resources](http://godwhospeaks.uk/christmas-resources/traditional-advent-resources)

## **South Liverpool Orchestra**

Christmas Concert, All Hallows Church, 8pm, Tuesday, 7 December. £4 entry.

## **Charity Christmas Concert**

Thursday, 9 December, 7pm-8pm, Prescot Parish Church. Free entry.

## **St Mary's, Woolton**

Christmas morning of quiet prayer, parish hall, Saturday, 18 December, 10am-12noon.

## **Our Cathedral What's On**

Advent Reflections – Wednesday's throughout Advent, 7pm. Guest speakers each week. Free entry.

Advent Sequence – Sunday, 28 November, 5pm. Free entry.

Bach Cantata 140 – Sunday, 5 December, 3pm. Free entry.

Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols – Sunday, 12 December, 3pm. Free entry.

## **Advent Mondays**

*Advent Reflections* - Each Advent Monday from 7pm. Please register for your Zoom link on  
<https://forms.gle/ygGnFTySdvNZZ2776>

## **Crib Festival St Nicholas' Church**

Friday, 10 December 10am-1.30pm

Saturday, 11 December 10am-2pm

Entry Free - Donations welcome

## **CAFOD Fun Run**

Bank Holiday Monday, 27 December, Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE. Registration is from 10am for an 11am run/walk/toddle 3k or 5k!  
[www.justgiving.com/campaign/cafodchristmasfunrun](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cafodchristmasfunrun)

## **Nugent Festive Initiatives**

Support Nugent's Christmas Hamper Appeal by donating a range of items which will be enjoyed by the children, adults and families we support who are most vulnerable or at-risk. Help spread some Christmas joy this year by contacting  
[fundraising@wearenugent.com](mailto:fundraising@wearenugent.com) for a full list of items you can donate and for drop off information.

*Sleep Out with Nugent on Saturday, 5 February 2022:*

For more details please visit: [Sleep Out with Nugent \(wearenugent.org\)](http://SleepOutwithNugent.org)

## Second Sunday of Advent



4 December - 12 December 2021		We Pray Especially For
<b>Saturday, 4 December,</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church		Father Brendan Rice
<b>Sunday, 5 December, Second Sunday of Advent</b> 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, St Mark's Church		Mee Family People of the Parish
<b>Monday, 6 December, Weekday of Advent</b> 6pm-7pm Exposition and Private Prayer, Holy Family Church		
<b>Tuesday, 7 December, Memorial of St Ambrose</b> 9am – Mass, Holy Family Church		Eileen Ireland
<b>Wednesday, 8 December, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> 10am-11am Exposition and Private Prayer, St Mark's Church		
<b>Thursday, 9 December, Weekday of Advent</b> 9am – Morning Prayer – Online (see website) 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's Church		Jonathan Hannah
<b>Friday, 10 December, Weekday of Advent</b> 9am – Mass, St Mark's Church		Waring Family
<b>Saturday, 11 December,</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church		People of the Parish
<b>Sunday, 12 December, Third Sunday of Advent</b> 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm - Baptisms, Holy Family Church		Rose Noonan Peter Beattie

# Third Sunday of Advent



11 December – 19 December 2021	We Pray Especially For
<b>Saturday, 11 December,</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday, 12 December,</b> Third Sunday of Advent 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family Church	Rose Noonan Peter Beattie
<b>Monday, 13 December,</b> Memorial of St Lucy 6pm-7pm Exposition and Private Prayer, Holy Family Church	
<b>Tuesday, 14 December,</b> Weekday of Advent 9am – Mass, Holy Family Church	Thomas Irving
<b>Wednesday, 15 December,</b> Weekday of Advent 10am-11am Exposition and Private Prayer, St Mark's Church	
<b>Thursday, 16 December,</b> Weekday of Advent 9am – Morning Prayer – Online (see website) 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's Church	Maureen Kelly
<b>Friday, 17 December,</b> Weekday of Advent 9am – Mass, St Mark's Church	Thomas Mee
<b>Saturday, 18 December,</b> 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family Church	George Pinnington
<b>Sunday, 19 December,</b> Fourth Sunday of Advent 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm - Baptisms, Holy Family Church	George Biggs People of the Parish