

# Newsletter

## Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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

**11 February 2024**

**Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, p137**

### **Mark 1:40-45**

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

1. Jesus' compassion for people's suffering was an outstanding characteristic of his ministry. We see the healing power of God at work through him. Recall times when the compassion of others has had a healing effect on you. Remember also when your compassion towards someone in trouble brought them hope, healing or strength.

2. "If you choose, you can make me clean". Our choice is a key factor in how we affect others. We cannot choose to have no impact on the people in our lives. Even a choice to do nothing has an effect. When have you been particularly aware of the importance of your choice to be a positive influence on another?

3. The leper was not just cured from a physical disease, he was also readmitted to contact with the community. Perhaps you recall people who were once ostracised being brought back into family or community. Who was the Jesus person who helped this healing to take place?

4. The joy of the leper on being healed was such that he could not keep the good news to himself. Bring to mind occasions when you were so filled with good news that you could not keep it to yourself.

## **Prayer**

We come before you, O God, confident in Christ's victory over sickness and death. Heal us again from sin, which divides us and from prejudice, which isolates us. Bring us to wholeness of life through the pardon you grant your people. This prayer we make through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Keep In Your Prayers**

Silva Smith RIP, Lois Mailey, Maureen Skillicorn, Karen Smith, John & Enid Allerton, 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.

## **Welcome Father Dennis Amal**

This weekend we welcome into our parish family Father Dennis who will be celebrating all weekend Masses. Father Dennis is from the Blessed Sacrament Shrine in the city centre – their shrines are centres of Eucharistic Community and evangelisation, places of adoration, celebration and reconciliation, oases of peace in the

heart of the city with weekday Masses at 12.10pm and 1.10pm.

## **Rite of Welcome**

5.15pm:

Ember Sally Antonia Cookson  
Eden Stephanie Nora Cookson

11am:

Lottie Elizabeth Winter  
Alfie Michael Riddell  
Christopher Peter Fearn

## **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.

## **Ash Wednesday**

Mass will be celebrated and ashes distributed on Wednesday, 14 February, 6.30pm, Holy Family church.

## **Ash Wednesday Walk of Witness**

14 February, Walk of Witness for Peace, Repentance and Reconciliation. Assemble from 1.15pm on steps of St Luke's 'bombed out church' at the top of Bold Street. The walk starts at 1.30pm with Stations of the Cross. Organised by Merseyside Pax Christi. Further info from Jan Harper: [janharper20211@outlook.com](mailto:janharper20211@outlook.com) All welcome.



*Thank you!*

### **Sign up Sunday**

Thank you to the many people who filled in one of the pink forms recently to indicate that they would be willing to help out in some way or at least find out a bit more information.

14 parishioners came forward to help in a wide variety of roles including:

School Governor  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Maintenance & Cleaning  
Flowers  
Reading  
Welcome Team  
SVP Team  
Washing Altar Linens

There is still time to complete a form, just hand it to one of the stewards or put through parish office and someone will be in touch to follow up, your generous offers will really make a big difference.

You can find out more information about the many roles our volunteers fulfill, along with an opportunity to sign up, through the parish website.

### **Thank You**

Anne Mackrell wishes to thank everyone in the parish for their prayers and kind thoughts during her recent illness, God Bless you all. Mass will be offered for your intentions.



Please ensure you take the new LiveSimply Newsletter home with you and see what small changes you can make to support our parish efforts to care for creation. Also please check out the Care for Creation page on our website.

### **Eucharistic Minister Training**

The next full day training day is Saturday, 17 February, 9am-4pm at Irenaeus Centre, 32 Great George's Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 1RD.

Some parishioners have already asked about this training. If you are interested, then please contact the parish office or talk to one of our Eucharistic Ministers after Mass to see if this role is suitable for you.

### **SVP Meeting**

The group will meet next on Wednesday, 21 February at 7pm in the Holy Family meeting room.

## **St Mark's Annexe**

Important – if you hold a key for the above, please pop into the parish office with it at your convenience.



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.

### **Becoming A Welcoming Parish**

Wednesday, 13 March, 7pm-8.30pm (online). Find out how we can include people of all cultures and backgrounds to our parishes. Guest speakers include: Jennie Taylor, Racial Justice Officer, Liverpool Diocese and Emily Shepherd of Welcome Churches. To book your place follow the link available on our parish website.

### **A Look at Mark's Gospel**

Over several weeks in February the Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo (10.30am-12 noon) will be taking a look at Mark's Gospel:

Thursday, 15 February

Thursday, 22 February

Thursday 29 February

Zoom links and further info available by emailing [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or calling 949 1199. All welcome.

### **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.

### **Book Launch & Signing**

Pauline Books and Media are welcoming you to a book launch: Pondering and Praying Vatican II by Archbishop John Wilson on Thursday, 22 February at Pauline Books & Media, 84 Church Street, L1 3AY at 2.30pm.

### **A Weekend with St Teresa of Avila**

Led by Fr Matthew Blake, OCD, The Christian Heritage Centre is offering this retreat, which explores the life and faith of Teresa of Avila (also called Teresa of Jesus), one of the great Spanish mystics who, with Saint John of the Cross, established the Discalced Carmelites. Single room £210pp, twin room (sharing) £150pp. For more info visit [christianheritagecentre.com](http://christianheritagecentre.com)

### **Archdiocesan Synodal Council Results**

The ASC report is now ready for all to view, there is also a supplementary

document mentioned in the report, both of which can be found at the back of church and both will be available on the archdiocesan website shortly.

### **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.

This year the Christian women of Palestine are calling us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where he was born, ministered and died – and from where our faith began and is rooted. The theme of the service is 'Bear with one another in love' seems very appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing the love of Jesus Christ.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 146 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

The service will be livestreamed and also made available for people to watch later as St Nicholas' have their own Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@stnicholasstmaryshalewoodt9487>

### **The Belle Vale Passion**

Following Clare's visit the other week to invite us to be part of The Belle Vale Passion, she would like to thank all those who have signed up already and remind you that you still have time to sign up for the many roles needed to make this project a success. (If you did submit a form but didn't receive an automatic response, this might be due to a glitch on the website - please submit the form again).

This project promises to be a great way to prepare for Easter. It will offer the chance to nurture new friendships, contribute towards a community project and above all, bring the Easter story to the local community. Please visit [bellevalepassion.co.uk](http://bellevalepassion.co.uk) to watch a short film and find out how you can get involved.

### **Love to Move**

A fun, age and dementia friendly seated movement programme to music held at St Mary's Parish Hall, Church Road, Woolton, 1.30pm-3.30pm, upcoming dates 20 February, 5 and 19 March, 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](http://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.

## **Widnes 9 Years On**

It is now over 9 years since the parishes of Widnes, after much consultation and discernment, became one parish with 4 churches. In that time people and priests have changed. We want to invite you to hear the story and ask questions.

Has it worked? What can we learn? Is this a model that should be copied? What is it like to be a parishioner/priest/deacon in Widnes? Can this model teach us anything about Families of Parishes?

Thursday, 29 February, 7:30pm, open to all, venue St John Fisher Hall, WA8

3JA, no need to book, just turn up! All welcome.

## **Job Opportunities with the Archdiocese**

The archdiocese is currently hiring for two key roles: Director of Pastoral Development and Parish and Deanery Development Adviser. The recruitment information and a description for each role are available at:

<https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

## **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

Our parish exists and functions only with the financial support of the members of our community. Please consider making your contributions by Standing Order (ring the office) or Gift Aid it.

## Collection 4 February 2024:

Gift Aid Envelopes	£243.20
GASDS Loose	£353.35
Non Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 51.00
Standing Orders	£331.76
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£979.31</b>
Bonus Ball	£ 57.00
Second Collection:	
LEPRA	£284.60

## Second Collections:

11 February, Lourdes Fund  
25 February, CAFOD

## Church Cleaning

Wednesday, 14 February  
9am, St Mark's

Every Tuesday,  
9am, Holy Family

All Welcome.



St Mark's annexe, every Sunday after  
9.15am Mass.

Holy Family church, every Sunday  
after 11am Mass.

All Welcome.

# Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

10 February - 18 February 2024

We Pray Especially For

**Saturday, 10 February**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

People of the Parish

**Sunday, 11 February, Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

Aunty Pauline, Lois Mayley,  
Jonathan Leadbetter

11am – Mass, Holy Family

Vincent Hawkins Senior,  
Ella Sullivan, Gertrude Finnegan

**Monday, 12 February, Weekday in Ordinary Time**

6pm-7pm - Exposition, Holy Family

**Tuesday, 13 February, Weekday in Ordinary Time**

9am – Service of the Word, Holy Family

**Wednesday, 14 February, Ash Wednesday**

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

11am-12noon - Lectio Devina, annexe

6.30pm – Mass, Holy Family

Oakley & Needham Families,  
James Byrne & Family

**Thursday, 15 February, Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

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

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

Albert Lamb, Gerry Marsh

**Friday, 16 February, Friday after Ash Wednesday**

9am – Mass, St Mark's

Fr Terry Murray,  
Parish Volunteers,  
KF Special Intention

**Saturday, 17 February**

5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family

Margaret Greenwood,  
Hilda Cloherty

**Sunday, 18 February, First Sunday of Lent**

9.15am – Mass, St Mark's

11am – Mass, Holy Family

People of the Parish  
Catherine Wafer,  
Alan Corlan, Mary Bauress