

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

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



**11 December 2022
Third Sunday of Advent, p88**

Matthew 11:2-11 Pointers for Prayer

1. In response to the question of John, Jesus let his actions speak for him. Some people show by the way they live what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Who has given you such an example? Perhaps there have been times when you have done the same for others.
2. John made a journey of faith from an incomplete knowledge of Jesus to a deeper understanding of who he was. Recall similar steps in your journey of faith.
3. Faith is not primarily about answering abstract theological questions but about living the gospel. What in your life has helped you to get that sense of perspective?
4. John marked the end of an era, Jesus the beginning of a new one. In our lives how do we honour the past and yet be free to move on into a new era?

Prayer

God of glory and compassion, at your touch the wilderness blossoms, broken lives are made whole, and fearful hearts grow strong in faith.

Open our eyes to your presence and awaken our hearts to sing your praise. To all who long for your Son's return grant perseverance and patience, that we may announce in word and deed the good news of the kingdom. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” (Philippians 4:4)

The Third Sunday of advent is here! The third candle is lit. Known by the Church as Gaudete Sunday – the rose Sunday full of joy. Children often know it as ‘nearly there’ Sunday. For a child, the anticipation can be so great and the excitement certain to overflow. For an adult, it can feel overwhelming, at times and it can be a challenge to keep the spirit of anticipation throughout this preparation period.

Keep In Your Prayers

Freda Tansey, Sally Moore, Valerie Higgins, Mary Mount, Veronica Humphreys, Nora Bartley, Vera Leonard, Silva, Gerry Marsh, Marian Hawkins, Laura Wakefield, Lisa Crompton, Vera Farrell, Barry

Jackson, Maureen Jackson, Lorraine Keogh, May McGrath, Maureen Skillicorn, Eileen Ireland, Frank and Josie Henesy, Father Vin McShane our sick and housebound and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Healing

In the Sacrament of the Sick Christ strengthens our faith, bestows God's grace in a time of anxiety and pain, and forgives our sins.

Fr Matthew will be available after all the Masses this weekend for anyone who might like to receive the sacrament.

Rite of Welcome

11am: Theodore Park,
Ellis Moglione-Field,
Roman Williams and Ava Williams.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting to register and find out more Monday, 9 January 2023, 6pm, St Mark's annexe. All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816. If you are looking to book a baptism in 2023, please register now as dates are filling up. Please note, children due to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion in 2023 require to have first received the Sacrament of Baptism.

Baptisms this weekend:

Penelope Wood
Reginald Wood
Grace Ellis

School Applications Reminder

Reception applications and supplementary forms for September 2023 intake: if you are applying for a Catholic place, your child **must** be baptised Catholic before the admission closing date of 15 January 2023 and you must complete a supplementary faith form and pass back to the school office of the school you are applying to.

With You Always Programme (First Holy Communion 2022/23)

Please note when the information for the next group of candidates is available, it will be published in this newsletter and on our website.

Church Cleaning & Appeal for Help

St Mark's

Big Christmas Clean

9am, Wednesday, 14 December

Holy Family

Many thanks to Theresa Griffiths who is standing down from cleaning at Holy Family after many years of dedicated service to the parish. Please speak to Theresa or Ann for days and times when cleaning takes place if you are able to spare an hour or so.

Christmas Afternoon Tea

A big thank you to all those who attended our afternoon tea and also thanks to those who provided refreshments and to Matt and Peter for their musical gifts! We hope everyone had a lovely afternoon and will

announce where our proceeds will go to in the New Year when all the monies have come in from the Christmas Raffle. Happy Christmas to all from The Ladies Group.

Parish Raffle

1st Prize: Christmas Hamper

2nd Prize: £50 John Lewis Voucher

3rd Prize: £50 John Lewis Voucher

The vouchers were kindly donated by Mr Robin Walls from Kirkby Tyres.

Poinsettias

If you would like to bring these plants in to church to enhance the decoration these would be gratefully received. Please feel free to attach the name of a loved one to the plant and Masses will be offered for their intentions over the festive period.

Christmas: A Parent's Reflection – Live Simply

You don't need to do all that 'stuff' this Christmas to be a good parent. Things we DON'T do:

1. Santa experiences (they are too expensive for a family of 6 and we find it too chaotic and overstimulating for our kids), also find it raises too many questions. Great if you love it and it brings you joy but it's not a necessity.
2. Christmas Eve boxes.
3. Elf on the shelf, absolutely no reason for this extra level of bananas

work to be placed on parents plus I don't know how to explain to the kids that this elf who is supposedly magic and just turns up is not the same as the ones you buy in the shop.

Children's Liturgy

There will be no Children's Liturgy over the Christmas weekend and New Year weekend in either of our churches.

Children's Liturgy Nativity Rehearsal

Our Children's Liturgy Nativity will take place during our Christmas Eve Mass.

The rehearsal for this will take place on Sunday, 18 December in St Mark's church at 12.30pm.

Parts and readings will be allocated and the children will have the opportunity to practice and try on costumes. The rehearsal will last approximately 1 hour and children wishing to attend must be accompanied by an adult for safeguarding purposes. Many thanks, Little Church.

Holy Family Church Jubilee

2023 marks the Golden Jubilee of Holy Family church. Parishioners are invited to join a working group to prepare to celebrate this momentous event. If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

Red Boxes

If you have a red box in your home that requires emptying please leave it at the back of church or pass it in to the parish office.

Parish Council

Parishioners, young or old, are invited to consider volunteering for the St John Vianney Parish Council. New members would be very welcome. The Council meets every two months. If you are willing to volunteer please let the parish office know.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 17 January, 7pm, Holy Family meeting room.

CAFOD Christmas Fun Run

This annual event will take place at The Mystery, Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE on Tuesday, 27 December, register from 10am for the run/walk at 11am.

CAFOD Advent

Prayers and Resources

'CAFOD Pray this Advent' and 'Prayers for Christmas' Daily Advent calendar reflections straight to your inbox if you sign up. See: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources>

Liverpool Archdiocese Online Advent Calendar

This Advent, the archdiocese will be running an online Advent calendar which will feature daily videos from various people across the archdiocese. The videos will include reflections, an

insight of what Advent means to them and their plans for Advent. To see our Advent calendar, please follow the archdiocese's social media channels which can be found on our parish website Latest page.

A Nativity Concert at Liverpool Hope University Chapel

This will take place on Tuesday, 13 December, 6.30pm and is performed by students from St Julie's and SFX. See poster at back of church or our parish website for more details.

Foundation Governors

These are needed for Holy Family School. Anyone interested should contact either the school on 282 8971 or Ann Farrell on 07855 981 691.

Appeal from Nugent

This Christmas our charity shop is running low on items. Can you donate any of the following? The shop accepts and sells the following items: books, clothing, shoes, bags, Accessories such as belts and jewelry and costume jewelry, jigsaws, bric-a-brac including LP records/CD's although not as many/DVD's.

The shop doesn't accept and is unable to sell the following items:
Toys including cuddly toys, Furniture, Electrical items.

Donations can be accepted at the shop Monday - Friday between the hours of 9am - 5pm. Donations can be dropped

off at the following address: 73 Allerton Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, L18 2DH.

If you are unable to drop donations off, we are able to arrange collections. If you need to arrange a collection, please call Gill Woodroffe or Naira Zakarian at 0151 737 2951.

Halewood Foodbank Update

The generosity of the public in their giving is fantastic however, their name might be a bit misleading.

The offer of food is a measure of survival but for those coming to the foodbank volunteers try and offer a standard of living. Please be aware that they cannot use donations of food that is out of date so do check your donations before you drop them off.

To enable users to live rather than just survive the foodbank also offer items such as tea, coffee, juice, long life milk, sugar, puddings and biscuits. Currently they are also in need of toiletries (men & women), baby goods, cleaning products and pet food.

As we reach the festive season any new toys or treats would be most welcome. It is more than just food for survival the foodbank try to offer dignity.

If you would like to donate groceries etc but need help bringing items to church then please speak to an SVP member and collection can be

arranged. Finally, cash donations can be made to the foodbank and this is used to top up supplies as necessary. Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

All Ages Sing Christmas Concert Liverpool Cathedral

Tuesday, 13 December, 7.30pm – 8.30pm, join us for a Christmas concert sung by our Voluntary Choirs of all ages as they bring you an evening of festive musical cheer, featuring Allerton Brass and the Liverpool Chamber Choir. Things to note about this service: Everyone is invited. Tickets can be bought on the door and limited paid-for parking is available.

Cheshire & Merseyside NHS Carol Concert at Liverpool Cathedral

Wednesday, 14 December, 7.30pm – 9.30pm. You are warmly invited to join NHS staff from across the North West as they come together to celebrate the festive season with a mix of carols and seasonal readings. Things to note about this service: Everyone is invited. No booking is required. Limited paid-for parking is available.

LGBTQ+ Catholics

The next Mass will be on Sunday, 11 December, 2pm at All Saints, Anfield. There will be a social gathering after Mass so if you hope to attend please email Fr Stephen for catering purposes at frsmaloney@aol.co.uk

Cost Of Living Crisis: The Liverpool Archdiocese

Venues continue to be open 1pm to 3.30pm across the archdiocese with St Mark's Parish Centre available on Wednesday's. Please come along for a chat over a cuppa!

Light up a Life

Friday, 16 December, 12.30pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool led by Bishop Tom Williams followed by refreshments.

If you would like to take part contact the Fundraising team by emailing fundraising@wearenugent.org or calling 0734 186 4180, having your dedication name(s) and your debit or credit card details ready.

What's On at our Cathedral

11 December, 3pm, Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols. Benjamin Britten's famous carol sequence will be sung following a shorter Evening Prayer.

18 December, 5pm, Festival Carol Service. A mix of seasonal music and readings as well as congregational carols.

Our Housebound Parishioners

If you find that you are getting to the stage of life where it is becoming impossible to get to Mass, **please don't just disappear!** Get in touch either directly with Fr Matthew or the Parish Office. Fr Matthew will be able to pop round to pray with you and see

what else might be helpful. You are still a vital and essential part of our 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 or Gift Aid it, contact office and we'll do the rest.

Gift Aid Envelopes	£259.00
GASDS Loose	£255.25
GASDS Envelopes	£ 75.00
Standing Orders	£367.23
Total Offertory	£956.48
Bonus Ball 11	£ 58.00

Next Second Collection:
11 December, SVP.

25 December, Nugent.

Looking Ahead Christmas Liturgy Dates:

Saturday, 24 December

6pm, Children's Mass, St Mark's
8.30pm, Carol Service, Holy Family
9pm, Mass, Holy Family

Sunday, 25 December

9.15am, Mass, St Mark's
11am, Mass, Holy Family

Monday, 26 December

No Mass
6pm, Exposition, Holy Family

Tuesday, 27 December

9am, Mass, Holy Family

Wednesday, 28 December

10am, Exposition, St Mark's

Thursday, 29 December

6.30pm, Mass, St Mark's



**New Year's Eve at
St Mark's Parish Centre**
Music & DJ from 7pm. Tickets £5
available from the Parish Centre.

Third Sunday of Advent

10 December – 18 December 2022

We Pray Especially For

Saturday, 10 December, 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	Josie Herbert, Adam Alice & Zara Matilda, Maggie
Sunday, 11 December, Third Sunday of Advent 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family 12.30pm - Baptisms	James & Ellen Lacey & Family, Alice Canison People of the Parish
Monday, 12 December, Weekday of Advent 6pm-7pm – Exposition & Private Prayer, Holy Family	
Tuesday, 13 December, Memorial of St Lucy 9am – Mass, Holy Family	Chris Myles, Leslie & Ann Barnacle, Joanne Maloney
Wednesday, 14 December, Memorial of St John of the Cross 10am-11am – Exposition & Private Prayer, St Mark's	
Thursday, 15 December, Weekday of Advent 9am – Morning Prayer Online via zoom (see website) 2pm – Mass at Servite Court 4pm – St Mark's School Carol Service, St Mark's 6.30pm - Mass, St Mark's	Residents of Servite Court Fr Tony & Fr Colbert, May McGrath
Friday, 16 December, Weekday of Advent 9am – Mass, St Mark's	Dora Kavanagh, Reynolds Family, Edith Quinn
Saturday, 17 December 5.15pm – First Mass of Sunday, Holy Family	People of the Parish
Sunday, 18 December, Fourth Sunday of Advent 9.15am – Mass, St Mark's 11am – Mass, Holy Family	George Biggs, Tony Crompton, Stephen Seddon Patricia Kelly, Mary, Brian Dunne