

Newsletter

Parish of St John Vianney

Halewood & Hunts Cross

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Nunes

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

Sunday, 3 October 2021 **Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark's reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. Beginning with today's Gospel, Jesus returns to Judea, Jewish territory, and resumes his public ministry. The first verse of chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel tells us that crowds gathered around Jesus, and he taught them, as was his custom. Immediately, the Pharisees approach Jesus to test him.

The Pharisees question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in Deuteronomy 24:1-5. This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply, Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God's original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God's original intention because of human stubbornness.

In private, Jesus' disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus' teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today's Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus' emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today's Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus' disciples show that they just don't get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these "little ones" in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today's Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers.

Weekday Masses

Please note that from this week there will now be Mass on Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9am in addition to our Thursday evening Mass (see back page for further details).

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.

Morning Prayer (Catch up and Pray)

Through the pandemic parishioners have come together with Fr Matthew on zoom each Tuesday morning to mention members of the community who need our prayers and to pray Morning Prayer of the Church. This will now move to Thursday mornings at 9am and can be accessed via our website. If you have not joined us before you will be very welcome.

Many Hands Make Light Work

We invite you all to take just a moment to reflect on the tremendous value there is in living lives of service for the Lord in ministry. As we continue to open up our parish and return to and expand the opportunities for us to come together, many of our ministries are gearing up to be stronger than ever before as they seek to be a blessing to both our church and community.

Time is one of those things we all have on our hands. We might feel like we have little time or a lot of time, but the reality of it is that we all have the same amount of time to deal with. It's up to us however, how we spend that time!

We are always in a position within the church of having a need for more people to minister to others whether it be a present ministry we have, or a ministry that is yet to begin. Our desire is that each and every parishioner finds a place to serve and be a blessing to others. As we continue to build a team to lead our congregation into worship, we prayerfully ask you to consider stepping forward.

We are so thankful to those who currently give so freely of their time. We urgently need to build a team of faithful volunteers to serve in all ministries. If you volunteered prior to the pandemic, please consider returning. The following areas are particularly short-handed: Children's Liturgy, all weekend Masses but 11am at Holy Family in particular and our With You Always programme team.

WYA – What's Involved? We are seeking volunteers to support our With You Always Programme (preparation programme for children to make their First Confession and First Holy Communion). Dates are yet to be agreed, however we are likely to have 1-2 sessions a month which take place in the evening and occasionally weekends. You don't need to be available for all sessions, you can dip in and out, helping when you are available. If you can spare some time and would like to get involved, please email Jayne Cross, WYA Coordinator at

jayne.wya@gmail.com

Please contact the office or approach a current volunteer for a no obligation chat.

Need a lift to and from Mass?

Please contact the office and we can put you in touch with someone who might be able to help. Please note, you must be able to get in and out of a vehicle without support. Due to safeguarding and health and safety regulations, lifts to Mass are just that and volunteers are unable to offer support with mobility. Thank you so much for your understanding.

Road Closure/Diversion

Leathers Lane is to have some repairs undertaken over the coming weeks so traffic diversions will be in place.

November Pious List

Lists and envelopes will be available at the back of church shortly. Please place completed lists along with your donation in with the offertory or post into Parish Office. Through the month of November, one weekday Mass and one weekend Mass will be offered for those names on the lists.

Baptismal Information

Next meeting on 4 October, 6pm in St Mark's Annexe. **Please wear a mask when attending a meeting.** All enquiries please ring Chris Myles on 07443 018 816.

This weekend, the following will receive the Sacrament of Baptism. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

*Alby Edward Foran
Teddy John Corlan
Keigan Ryan Barrett-Ainsworth*

Bereavement Drop In Session
Lord, may we always be present to those who suffer bereavement and help us to be attentive to their needs.

The next meeting takes place on Tuesday, 5 October, 2pm in St Mark's Annexe.

Ladies Group
The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 6 October, 7pm in St Mark's Annexe. Please come along and join us, new faces always welcome.

Fr Des Power
The family of Fr Des who died last October have organised a celebratory Mass for him on Saturday, 9 October at 1pm in Christ the King Church. All welcome.

Parish Council
Next meeting Tuesday, 19 October at 6pm in Holy Family meeting room.

Receive this Newsletter via Email
To register please email
sjvparishcomms@gmail.com

Keep In Your Prayers



Peter Bebbington, RIP
Margaret Jenkins, RIP

Eternal rest, give unto them O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon
them. May they rest in peace, Amen.

Dave, poorly
Eileen Ireland
George Pinnington
Mary Bridson, Birthday
Remembrance

Also, our sick and housebound and all
those whose anniversaries occur at
this time.

With You Always Programme
During the months of October and
November we will have 62 children
receiving the Sacrament of First Holy
Communion. Each week we will print
the names of the children who will be
celebrating this so please do keep
them and their families in your
prayers.

2 October, Holy Family
Chloe Muddiman

3 October, St Mark's
*Eva Nolan
Sophie Hodgson
Shania McDonald
Elissa McDonald*

Holy Family
Olivia Regan
Rose Strong
Mollie Claro-King
Isabella Foster Tremarco

Email all enquiries to Jayne Cross at
jayne.wya@gmail.com

Lourdes 2022

Thursday, 21 July-Saturday, 30 July.
Liverpool Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage,
be part of something special. Each
year around 500 young people make
the annual trip to Lourdes with the
Archdiocese Youth Pilgrimage. The
pilgrimage has been running for over
35 years and 9 coaches from across the
Archdiocese take part. Application
forms will go live on 4 October at
www.liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk.
Total cost £540, deposit £40 to be sent
with application.

Also, as part of the Liverpool
Archdiocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes
the St Bernadette Team is a group of
over 18s offering service and care to
our assisted pilgrims. Friday, 22 July–
Friday, 29 July, cost £600, deposit
£50, apply online from 4 October at
animateyouth.org. If events mean we
cannot run the pilgrimage we will
offer a refund.

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.

Employment Opportunities within
Archdiocese of Liverpool
St Wilfrid's Parish require an Office
Manager, check Archdiocesan
website for details.

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	£188.00
GASDS Loose	£248.90
GASDS Envelopes	£ 41.00
Second Collection	£ 75.00
(Catholic Education Service)	
Standing Orders	£336.53
Total Offertory	£890.03

Second Collection

This weekend CAFOD. Next
weekend none.

St Maria Goretti

St Maria Goretti - special works
conference within our SVP, is
appealing to all parishioners for help.
St Maria Goretti currently has just 3
members, 2 females and 1 male, as we
set out and continue to respond to
those in need in the wider community.
We specifically support the homeless
and also refugee women and children
only, through our strong links with
NUGENT and RWC-Refugee Women
Connect (formerly MRANG).

We are appealing for new members,
particularly female volunteers/drivers
who can become actively involved to

assist those suffering all forms of hardship be it through illness, unemployment, relationship breakdown, fleeing violence, war or human trafficking.

There are many people and refugee families here in our city who feel traumatised, isolated, frightened, anxious and are struggling with financial hardship, a shortage of food and may not speak English as their first language.

Can you join our small special works conference and work with us, NUGENT and RWC to help in committing time regularly to visit vulnerable persons or to attend regular organised drop in sessions around the city?

If the answer is YES it will make a huge difference to the support we can give. Please contact either myself for a chat or send me an email or call the parish office with your details. If you know of another who may be interested in supporting our special works conference then please share this appeal with them. Thank you and God bless, Cathy Bradley, 07534 780 731, email chattymc6@gmail.com

What's Going on at St Columba's?
Coffee Pot takes place at St Columba's every Wednesday between 10am and 12noon. All are welcome to enjoy a cuppa with some toast/teacake and have a chat about what's going on

in the local community and in particular at St Columba's such as the South Liverpool Zero Waste Community Group. They distribute surplus food from supermarkets to local people and will be using St Columba's Church on Hillfoot Avenue, Hunts Cross, L25 0NR every Friday from 10am to 1pm. This vital service stops good food going to landfill.

News from CAFOD

Our local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, donate in the parish using a CAFOD envelope or online through the CAFOD website (cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) and help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online petition calling for our Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, cafod.org.uk/climate. Thank you for your generosity for our emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan and Haiti. CAFOD are also looking for volunteers, if this could be you please contact Collette on 07779 804 242 or email cbyrne@cafod.org.uk

**Prayer for
CAFOD'S Harvest Fast Day**
Walk beside us, Lord,
in the cool of the day,
in the garden you have created
as our common home.

Walk beside us, Lord,
as the cries of the forest
pierce the dawn,
and flames rip through
our common home.

Grant us courage, Lord,
as we walk beside all those
who struggle to protect
our common home.

Grant us hope, Lord,
and the vision to walk dark paths
in the light of a single sunbeam.

Grant us grace, Lord,
to put the flourishing of all people
and the wonder of your creation
at the heart of all we do,
as we strive to be guardians
of our common home.

St Francis, pray for us.

Season of Creation

St Francis of Assisi - The Season of Creation culminates in the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. St Francis is the patron of all God's creatures and the environment.

One of the issues that demands our urgent attention is how we treat animals. The current pandemic is a wake-up call. God did not give us animals to do with as we like. He entrusted them to us – we are their custodians. Many animals suffer appalling cruelty because of our demand for food and sport. Christians

have a duty of care to God's creatures.
We can't keep turning a blind eye!

A Prayer for Animals

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for
our friends the animals,
especially for animals who are
suffering;
for animals that are overworked,
underfed and cruelly treated;
for all wistful creatures in captivity
that beat their wings against bars;
for any that are hunted or lost or
deserted or frightened or hungry;
for all that must be put death.

We entreat for them all Thy mercy
and pity,
and for those who deal with them we
ask a heart of compassion
and gentle hands and kindly words.
Make us, ourselves, to be true friends
to animals,
and so to share the blessings of the
merciful.

*Attributed to the theologian and
philosopher, Albert Schweitzer
(1875-1965)*

Walk of Witness For Climate Change

This is taking place on Friday, 8 and
Saturday, 9 October. Check our
website for more info on how to take
part.

Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

2 October – 10 October 2021	We Pray Especially For
Saturday, 2 October	
5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family Church	Margaret Barrett
Sunday, 3 October, Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	
9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, Holy Family Church	Brian Kelly People of the Parish
Monday, 4 October, Memorial of St Francis of Assisi	
6pm-7pm - Exposition and Private Prayer, Holy Family Church	
Tuesday, 5 October, Weekday in Ordinary Time	
9am – Mass, Holy Family Church	Mary Catterall
Wednesday, 6 October, Weekday in Ordinary Time	
10am-11am - Exposition and Private Prayer, St Mark's Church 1pm – Requiem Mass for Peter Bebbington, Holy Family Church	
Thursday, 7 October, Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	
9am-9.45am – Morning Prayer – Online (see website) 6.30pm – Mass, St Mark's Church	Barbara Thompson
Friday, 8 October, Weekday in Ordinary Time	
9am – Mass, St Mark's 2pm – Funeral Service for Margaret Jenkins, Holy Family Church	Marie Cullshaw
Saturday, 9 October	
5.15pm – Mass, Holy Family Church	Margaret Files
Sunday, 10 October, Twenty Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
9.15am – Mass, St Mark's Church 11am – Mass, Holy Family Church 12.30pm – Baptisms, St Mark's Church	People of the Parish Thanksgiving from Teresa Fitzsimmons