



# Newsletter

*Parish of St John Vianney, incorporating the former  
Parishes of St Andrew, Holy Family & St Mark  
St Therese of Lisieux Pastoral Area*

**Parish Administration:**

Maureen Conley (Mon & Tues 9am - 1pm)

Jacqui O'Rourke (Thurs & Fri 9am - 1pm)

St John Vianney's Parish Office, Penmann

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**Parish Priest:** Fr. Matthew Nunes

**Tel:** 0151 487 3065 *Outside of the urgent need  
for a priest, all enquiries should please be  
directed to the Parish Office (0151 486 9883) in  
the first instance.*

## **Third Sunday of Lent, 19 March 2017**

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year liturgical cycle.

In today's Gospel, the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law.

The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At

first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands."

Behind the conversation lies the animosity and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans. Samaritans shared Jewish ancestry, but Samaritans had intermarried with foreigners when they lived under the rule of the Assyrians. Samaritan religion included worship of Yahweh, but was also influenced by the worship of other gods. When the Jews refused Samaritan help in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, the Samaritans eventually built a temple for themselves at Mt. Gerizim (the same mountain

mentioned by the woman at the well). Like the Jews, the Samaritans believed that a Messiah would come.

The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship.

After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him.

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the

Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people.

The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

### **WE WANT YOU!** **St John Vianney Choir**



Have you ever considered joining our choir? We are looking to boost our numbers and with the Easter services fast approaching, now is the ideal time.

Our choir is split between the two churches and we come together at special times of the year. We are now looking to increase our

numbers (and therefore our sound!).

Choir practice takes place in Holy Family Church on a Friday evening from 7.30pm-8.30pm. No auditions, just turn up and sing! It would be wonderful to see our choir grow in strength and be able to produce a sound fitting for our worship.

Please leave your contact details with the musicians (Peter, Maureen or Jim) or a choir member.

### **Baptismal Information**



We welcome into Holy Family this weekend Alexander Eric Joseph Fitzpatrick, Farrah Vaughn Fitzpatrick, Emilia Dawn Hornby, Raymond Joseph Hornby and Rayah Alexa Tagoe. We also keep in our prayers those families who have recently celebrated this sacrament.

The next Baptism Registration Meeting will take place on 3 April 2017 at 6.00pm in St Mark's Annexe.

Families anticipating a baptism this year are strongly advised to register early as dates and places are filling quickly.

### **Rite of Welcome**

This will take place for Terence James Ware.

### **Vianney's Voice**

Vianney's Voice will be hosting a Family Games Night at St Mark's Parish Club on Friday, 24 March with proceeds going towards the Parish Lourdes Fund. Please come along and support our young people and enjoy an evening together in our Club.

### **Nugent Charity Shop**

Their shop at 73 Allerton Road is in urgent need of stock consisting of clothing, books, brick a brac, shoes and handbags. Please drop off any unwanted items to the shop.

### **Called to Serve**

We have a great number of volunteers across our parish community who give of their time, as they are able, to build up the life of our community. From time to time there are roles that need filling. Please take a moment to

consider if you might be being called to serve...

### **Volunteer/s to Clean the Annexe Meeting Room at St Mark's.**

Many groups use our Annexe for meetings – it is a very useful resource for us. It does however need cleaning every now and then. Could you help? Please contact the Parish Office.

### **Bereavement Team**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 21 March at 2.00pm in St Mark's Annexe. If you have been unable to attend the meetings so far but would still like to get involved then you will be made most welcome.

### **Metropolitan Cathedral Golden Jubilee 3-4 June 2017**

This is a very exciting time for the Cathedral who are keen to ensure that their celebrations are inclusive and accessible for parishioners throughout the whole of the Archdiocese. A wide range of events and projects are planned, many of which will be free to attend and participate. Please see the posters at the back of church for a brief outline with a full events brochure available from Easter via

**Liverpool Archdiocesan  
2017 Pilgrimage to Lourdes**



21-28 July by air from Liverpool. Led by The Archbishop of Liverpool, Most Rev Malcolm McMahon OP and accompanying clergy. For more details please see the noticeboard or contact the Lourdes Office on 07484 911623. Email

[lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk)

**Rite of Christian Initiation for  
Adults (RCIA)  
A Faith Journey**

Please keep in your prayers Kate Perry and Alison Nicky who after months of preparation, will be received into full communion with the church at the Easter Vigil. Also, for Ann McCann who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please given them your prayerful support as they enter the final weeks of their journey of faith.

**Mother's Day  
Sunday, 26 March**

The sensational recording artist Caine will be performing at the club from 7.30pm. Why not treat your special person to a local evening out, free admission.

Manager: Mrs Emma Harvey, Telephone 0151 486 4908 opening times Monday-Friday from 2.00pm, Saturday & Sunday from 12 noon. Regular entertainment on Sunday evenings, bingo on Tuesday and Thursdays. Please note that the Club has a large function room available to hire for all family occasions for £55.00 plus returnable security fee. We do not make a charge for Funeral Receptions. It is vital for the future of the Club and for the support of the work of the Parish, that parishioners make use of this excellent facility.

**Is The Lord Calling  
You To Be A Priest?**

Monthly meetings for those discerning the call on the first Saturday of every month, St Charles Borromeo Presbytery, 10.00am-3.00pm, Vocations

Director Father James Preston,  
email [frjamespreston@gmail.com](mailto:frjamespreston@gmail.com).

### **Parish Finance**

Gift Aid and Envelopes	£ 573.42
Other Envelopes	£ 122.00
Loose GASDS	£ 470.13
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£1,165.55</b>
Standing Orders	£ 236.23
Bonus Ball 55	£ 74.00
Second Collection (Easter Flowers)	£ 257.90

### **Second Collection**

There is no second collection this weekend. Next weekend, SVP envelopes will be available.

#### **\* School's Prayer \***

*St John Vianney, give us strength so we'll do our best. Help us, guide us and look after us in work, fun and rest. Make us patient, kind and loving and always willing to try. And let us see for ourselves that we are unique in God's love.*

#### **\* Parish Prayers \***

*"Almighty and merciful God, you made St John Vianney glorious by his pastoral zeal and constant prayer and penance. Through his*

*intercession may your holy spirit lead us and guide us as we endeavour to follow Your Son Jesus, wherever He leads. Bless our young people. Bless our sick and housebound. Bless our family and friends. Bless those most in need at this time. Unite us all in your love. May St John Vianney help us to hear the voice of Your Son Jesus when he says: "Be calm, do not be afraid, it is I". St John Vianney, pray for us".*

We are asked to pray for all those who have died in our parish especially Brenda Gerrard together with those in the wider community, we also remember to pray for their families.

### **Important Notice Regarding Mass Intentions**

Mass intentions submitted to the office will be celebrated at the nearest available date. We currently have a large number of mass intentions outstanding, your continued patience and understanding as we work through this list would be appreciated. In order for us to provide for unexpected life changing moments that need our prayer, events such as funerals, operations and special intentions take priority.

## **Volunteer Pastoral Assistants**

### Funeral Lay Ministers

Carole Clancy  
[caroleclancy@fsmail.net](mailto:caroleclancy@fsmail.net)  
07855 769863

Ron Smith  
[ronaldsmith57@btinternet.com](mailto:ronaldsmith57@btinternet.com)  
07546 252142

### Baptism Coordinator

Mrs Chris Myles  
[christinamyles52@hotmail.com](mailto:christinamyles52@hotmail.com)  
07443 018816

### With You Always Coordinator

Mrs Kami Lester  
[lesterkami@gmail.com](mailto:lesterkami@gmail.com)  
07881 817799

## **School's Information**

St Andrew's: Tel 0151 288 8940  
Headteacher:  
Mrs Jan Cunningham  
[standrew@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:standrew@knowsley.gov.uk)

St Mark's: Tel 0151 288 8910  
Headteacher: Mr Richard Coakley  
[stmarks.de@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:stmarks.de@knowsley.gov.uk)

Holy Family: Tel 0151 282 8971  
Headteacher: Mrs Gillian Holland

[holyfamilyhalewood@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:holyfamilyhalewood@knowsley.gov.uk)

St Edmund Arrowsmith:  
Tel 0151 477 8770  
Headteacher: vacant RIP

St Julie's: Tel 0151 428 6421  
Headteacher: Mr Tim Alderman  
[reception@stjulies.org.uk](mailto:reception@stjulies.org.uk)

SFX: 0151 288 1000  
Headteacher: Mr Len Rippon  
[admin@sfx.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sfx.liverpool.sch.uk)

Bellerive FCJ: Tel 0151 727 2064  
Headteacher: Sr Brigid Halligan

## **Confessions**

Holy Family, 4.45pm, Saturday

Our Lady Of The Assumption,  
11.30am-11.55am, Saturday

St Mary's, Woolton, 11.00am –  
11.45am, Saturday

Our Lady of the Annunciation,  
Bishop Eton, 4.00pm-5.00pm,  
Saturday

**Question of the Week**

**Adults:** What are you doing in your life right now to move toward the light rather than darkness?

**Children:** How can you let the light of your faith in Jesus shine for others to see?

**Third Sunday of Lent  
19 March 2017**

<b>Date – 2017</b>	<b>Holy Family Church</b>	<b>St. Mark’s Church</b>
<b>Saturday, 18 March</b> Lenten Weekday	<b>5.15 pm – Mass</b> (Tony Roche)	
<b>Sunday, 19 March</b> Third Sunday of Lent	<b>11.00 am – Mass</b> (Kevin Hughes)	<b>9.15 am – Mass</b> (People of the Parish)  <b>Baptisms – 12.30 pm</b>
<b>Monday, 20 March</b> St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary		<b>10.00 am – Service of the Word</b>
<b>Tuesday, 21 March</b> Lenten Weekday	<b>9.30 am – Mass</b> (Victoria)	
<b>Wednesday, 22 March</b> Lenten Weekday		<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Fr Colbert)
<b>Thursday, 23 March</b> Lenten Weekday	<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Elsie Meylar)	
<b>Friday, 24 March</b> Lenten Weekday		<b>10.00 am – Funeral Mass for Brenda Gerrard</b>
<b>Saturday, 25 March</b> The Annunciation of the Lord	<b>5.15 pm – Mass</b> (People of the Parish)	
<b>Sunday, 26 March</b> Fourth Sunday of Lent	<b>11.00 am – Mass</b> (Jeanette Fletcher)	<b>9.15 am – Mass</b> (Murphy Family)

\* Please note mass times are subject to change \*

**Next Week’s Readings – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Reading I – Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Reading II – Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel – John 9:1-41