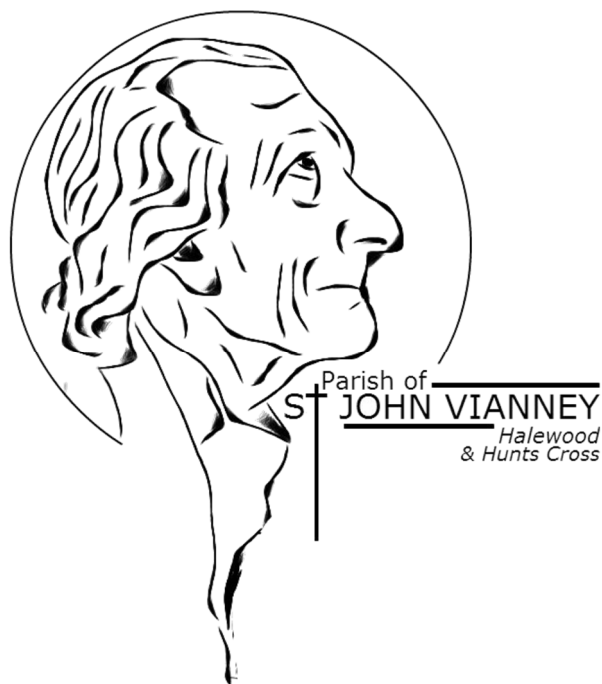


Newsletter

*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 Parish Office, Penmann

Crescent, Liverpool, L26 0UG

Tel: 0151 486 9885

Email: johnvianney@rcaolp.co.uk

Web: www.parishofstjohnvianney.co.uk

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 9885) in
the first instance.*

Prayer in Preparation for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and for Synod 2020

We thank you Father
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
for the blessings that surround us.

As we are fed by you,
so now send us out
to share what we have received
with our hungry brothers and sisters.

We humbly ask your help to become the Church
that you are calling us to be:
a community that listens, that trusts,
that lives with courage
and that puts out its nets into new waters.

May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts
be a source of healing, of new life
and of a deeper trust in you.

We ask this in faith
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.



Third Sunday of Advent, 17 December 2017

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the

Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognised. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we

will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Baptismal Information

The next Baptism Registration meeting will take place on Monday, 8 January at 6.00pm in St Mark's Annexe.

Families anticipating a baptism in 2018 are strongly advised to register early as dates and places are filling quickly.

Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 25 January 2018 at 6.00pm in St Mark's Annexe. Minutes from the meeting held on

19 October can be found at the back of church, please take a copy.

Pro Life Novena

Every Monday, 1.30pm-2.30pm, Holy Family Prayer Room.

Good Companions Club

This Club has now closed for the holidays. The next meeting will be Wednesday, 3 January 2018.

Little Church Christmas Eve Mass

The Little Churches of the Parish of St John Vianney are coming together to celebrate Mass at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve in St Mark's Church and we will be having a **practice today, Sunday, 17 December at 1.00pm in St Mark's Church and Annexe.**

All readers will be given the opportunity to practice and we will select the children to take part in the mime on that day.

Altar Servers wishing to serve at the Mass are welcome - they must bring their own cotters and remember to return them to their own church.

Children taking part in the Service need to be at St Mark's Annexe at 5.30pm on Christmas Eve to prepare. **Don't forget the rehearsal today!**

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Irenaeus Project are leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land between 11 and 20 June 2018. For the first part, staying in the Old City of Jerusalem and visiting all the Holy Places, then moving to Galilee and the areas associated with Jesus' ministry. There are a few places left. The cost will be in the region of £1800 with a single room supplement. For further details contact Jenny on 949 1199 or email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk.

Christmas Poinsettias



As in previous years, parishioners are invited to leave poinsettias at the back of both churches over the Christmas period along with your intention to be prayed for.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

This course has now started. Individuals interested in registering for the next course should contact either Gerry on 0151 486 6376 or the Parish Office for more information.

St Ambrose & St Christopher Parish Invite You To ...

The Irenaeus Project for spirituality and growth, help people recognise the presence of God in their lives and to move to a deeper awareness of that presence by providing opportunities for prayer and reflection. The Project will be visiting the Parish of St Ambrose & St Christopher on 11, 18 & 25 January 2018 at 7.15pm, St Ambrose Parish Club, refreshments available, contact Terry for more info on 486 4852 or email t.nelson978@btinternet.com

Pastoral Area Services of Reconciliation

St Ambrose
Monday, 18 December, 7.00pm

Keep In Your Prayers

All those who have died in our parish and wider community. Let us remember the families and friends who mourn and for those who have no one to mourn for them.



Christmas Carol Service

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon invites you to the Metropolitan Cathedral on Wednesday, 20 December at 2.00pm for this carol service featuring children from local schools plus the “Songs We Remember” choir. Posters/flyers are available at the back of church should Eucharistic Ministers who visit the sick wish to take a copy to display on nursing home noticeboards.

CAFOD Fun Run

This is the perfect way to burn off the Christmas calories so please come along with family and friends to run, walk or toddle (from 2-8kms) to raise money for those who need it most. Wednesday, 27

December at Wavertree Park & Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE at 1.00pm (please arrive by 12.00 noon). Prizes for best fancy dress. For further details please contact Ged or Colette at CAFOD on 228 4028, liverpool@cafod.org.uk

St Mark's Club - What's On

Sunday, 24 December
Disco Karaoke, 5.00pm-10.00pm

Tuesday, 26 December
Disco Karaoke, 7.00pm-Midnight

Sunday, 31 December
Female Vocalist Marie Lowry
+ DJ + Disco
Tickets £6, Doors Open 7.00pm

Monday, 1 January
Disco Karaoke, 5.00pm-9.00pm



Christmas Performances In Our Schools – All Welcome

St Mark's

Monday, 18 December, 6.00pm
Carol Concert in St Mark's
Church

St Andrew's

KS2, Tuesday,
19 December, 2.00pm

Holy Family

Years 1 & 2, Monday,
18 December, 2.00pm
Years 3-6, 19 & 20 December,
9.30am



Parish Finance

These figures will be made available next weekend.

Retiring Collection

The retiring collection this weekend is for the Parish Lourdes Fund. Next weekend there is no retiring collection.

*** 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".

Volunteer Pastoral Assistants

Funeral Lay Ministers

Carole Clancy
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07855 769863

Ron Smith
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07546 252142

Baptism Coordinator

Mrs Chris Myles
christinamyles52@hotmail.com
07443 018816

With You Always Coordinator

Mrs Kami Lester
vianneywya@gmail.com
07881 817799

School's Information

St Andrew's: Tel 0151 288 8940
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Mrs Jan Cunningham
standrew@knowsley.gov.uk

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

Holy Family: Tel 0151 282 8971
Headteacher: Mr K Quigley
holyfamilyhalewood@knowsley.gov.uk

St Edmund Arrowsmith:
Tel 0151 477 8770
Acting Headteacher: Mrs Scott

St Julie's: Tel 0151 428 6421
Headteacher: Mr Tim Alderman
reception@stjulies.org.uk

SFX: 0151 288 1000

Headteacher: Mr Len Rippon
admin@sfx.liverpool.sch.uk

Bellerive FCJ: Tel 0151 727 2064
Headteacher: Mrs Niamh Howlett
contactus@bellerivefcj.org



Confessions

Holy Family, 4.45pm, Saturday

Our Lady Of The Assumption,
Gateacre, 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: How do you prepare yourself to meet Christ in those around you?
Children: What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?

**Third Sunday of Advent
17 December 2017**

Date – 2017	Holy Family Church	St. Mark’s Church
Saturday, 16 December Advent Weekday	5.15 pm – Mass (Devine Family)	
Sunday, 17 December Third Sunday of Advent	11.00 am – Mass (People of the Parish)	9.15 am – Mass (Luke McGuinness Senior)
Monday, 18 December Advent Weekday		10.00 am – Service of the Word
Tuesday, 19 December Advent Weekday	9.00 am – Mass (Eddy Ryan & Family)	
Wednesday, 20 December Advent Weekday		10.00 am – Mass (Mary Lonsdale)
Thursday, 21 December Advent Weekday	10.00 am – Mass (Monica Healey)	
Friday, 22 December Advent Weekday		10.00 am – Mass (Dr B Moran)
Saturday, 23 December Advent Weekday	5.15 pm – Mass (People of the Parish)	
Sunday, 24 December Fourth Sunday of Advent	11.00 am – Mass (Maureen Welch) 8.30 pm – Carol Service 9.00 pm – Vigil Mass	9.15 am – Mass (Frank Fitzpatrick) 6.00 pm Children’s Mass (Fr Vin McShane)

* We apologise for when times and Mass intentions may occasionally need to be changed at short notice to allow for a Requiem Mass. *

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38