

# 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)

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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 9885) in  
the first instance.*

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter, 6 May 2018**

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In the example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

When John wrote this Gospel, his community was influenced by a set of religious beliefs called Gnosticism. It appears that one of John's intentions was to distinguish Christian belief from the beliefs held by the Gnostics. Evidence of this can be found in today's Gospel.

One of the tenets of Gnostic teaching was the importance of knowledge, or *gnosis*, as the determining aspect of faith. We read today's Gospel as a response to this teaching. In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. In this passage however, Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well and Jesus says that his disciples do know him, will love one another. Knowledge

leads to love, which leads to action. John reminds his community that Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and thus, a true Christian. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love.

In the Greek, there are two words for love that are used in this passage. The first is *agape*. The second is *philia*. The first word is most often used to describe love for other persons and for God. It is understood as the highest and most perfect kind of love. The second word is used to describe the affection of friendship. In this context, John appears to use these words as synonyms. The root of the Greek word for friend comes from this second term for love, *philia*. By using this word, Jesus transforms the terms of his relationship with his disciples and redefines for them their relationship with God. In the Hebrew Scriptures, faith in God made one a servant of God.

Here Jesus teaches that his relationship to his disciples is based on friendship not servitude.

Another aspect of Gnostic belief taught that a believer was an elect person, chosen and set apart from the world. John reminds his community that Jesus also taught that a disciple is one who had been

chosen, one who had been chosen by Jesus. To be chosen by Jesus however, is not to be set apart from the world. Instead, to be chosen by Jesus is to be sent to serve the world as he did. The disciples of Jesus were chosen and were sent into the world to bear fruit by serving others, by sacrificing for others, in love.

This reading, like last week's, is part of Jesus' Last Supper discourse. In the context of John's Gospel, these words are spoken before Jesus' Crucifixion. We read his instruction to the disciples in light of his death and Resurrection. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples and for us. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

### **Rite of Welcome**

Holy Family, 5.15pm: Lilah Fogarty.

St Mark's, 9.15am: Corey James Patrick Rowan-Johnson.

Holy Family, 11.00am: Epiphany Soul.

## **Baptismal Information**

This weekend we welcome into Holy Family Church through the Sacrament of Baptism Sofia Lily Stewart and Maisie Anne Eccleston.

The next Baptism Registration meeting will take place on Monday, 11 June at 6.00pm in St Mark's Annexe.

## **Bereavement Care Team**

There will be a meeting for the above team on Tuesday, 8 May at 2.00pm in St Mark's Annexe.

## **The Ladies Group**



Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 9 May at 7.00pm in the Holy Family meeting room. New members will be made most welcome, why not pop in and see what we get up to.

## **Vianney's Voice**

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 23 May at 7.00pm-8.30pm in the Holy Family Meeting Room. This is our Parish Youth Group so if you've never

been, why not make this your first visit?

## **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**



On Thursday, 10 May we commemorate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This is a Holy Day of Obligation with Mass being celebrated in Holy Family at 10.00am and St Mark's at 7.00pm.



Please keep in your prayers our children who will be celebrating this most significant Sacrament over the weekends of 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May. It is through Holy Communion that we encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ. We pray for their families and our Catechists who have guided them along this journey and prepared them so well for this occasion.



The National Youth Congress will take place on Saturday, 8 September at the Echo Arena Auditorium. Join 1,000 young people aged 13-20 in a unique experience of being the young church. Contributions from Katie Prejean, Jo Boyce, Rise Theatre, Cafod, Animate, Salesians, One Hope, Joel's Bar, Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop McMahon and much more. Cost £10 and booking forms available at [www.adoremusyouth.co.uk](http://www.adoremusyouth.co.uk).

### **Retreat Weekend For Young Women**

This is for women (20s & 30s) who may be considering the vocation of religious life. There will be input from FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life as well as the opportunity for prayer, reflection and discussion. Taking place at FCJ House in Liverpool, 25-27 May, this is an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters. For more information or to book a place

email Sr Lynne at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com).

### **World Communications Day Sunday, 13 May**

In his message for World Communications Day 2018, Pope Francis speaks of journalists as “the protectors of news”, that their task is “not just a job; but a mission”. On this day we pray for those who work in the media and also for the vulnerable work carried out on our behalf by the Communications Office of the Bishops' Conference. Working with journalists across both national and international media outlets, it provides a professional news service to the Church and to the world.

### **Dementia Friendly Mass**

Everyone is invited to celebrate Dementia Action Week (21-27 May) at this Mass taking place on Pentecost Sunday, 20 May at 3.00pm at Holy Rosary Parish Church, Aintree. Further info available on 522 1040.

### **Songs We Remember**

Afternoon tea and sing-a-long for those who would like some company and for those living with or caring for someone with

dementia. St Mary's Parish Hall, Woolton, Friday, 25 May, 2.00pm-4.00pm.

### **What's On At Our Cathedral**

May Bank Holiday Organ Recitals, two afternoons of beautiful music, performed on the magnificent Walker and Sons organ. Monday, 7 May, 3.00pm & Monday, 28 May, 3.00pm. Tickets are priced at £5 per event. Please email [music@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:music@metcathedral.org.uk) to book your place.

### **Redemptorist Young Adult Group**

This is a group of young adults who come together to worship and socialise. Their aim is simple – to enrich lives through prayer, action, fun and friendship. Meeting on alternate Tuesday's at 7.30pm in the Fisher More Hall, Bishop Eton Church, drop them an email if you'd like to pop along and give it a try. [redemptoristyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:redemptoristyouth@hotmail.com)

### **Come Along**

Our Parish has a number of clubs that meet regularly and present us with opportunities to come together outside the more formal setting of Mass to socialise, fundraise, share news of events going on in our local area, find out

the number of a reliable handyman or gardener. These are occasions to meet parishioners from both of our churches and get out for an hour to enjoy a cup of tea. If you have never been to one of the groups, pop along and see what goes on in our Parish during the week, you will be made most welcome.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations and well done to our amazing pupils whose hard work and resilience were recognised on Friday, 27 April at the Halewood Town Council Pupil Recognition Awards.

From St Andrew's Jocelyn Williams, from St Mark's Olivia Dryhurst and from Holy Family Logan Henshaw

Community champions were also recognised with one of our very own parishioners, Anne Mackrell recognised for all her hard work in the community with Torrington Drive Community Association; over 30 years of helping and supporting our community. Anne would also like to thank the members of the SVP for all their support with her community work and in the parish. Well done everyone. We are very proud of you.

**Halewood Culture Fest 2018**  
**Friday, 22 June-Sunday, 1 July**

This is an annual programme of cultural, artistic, environmental and sporting events in various locations around Halewood which aim to encourage local residents to try new activities, enable local groups to showcase their activities and attract new members and promote community cohesion.

Check out the website [www.halewoodculturefest.btck.co.uk](http://www.halewoodculturefest.btck.co.uk) and the poster at the back of church for more info. Please note, the website is still under construction and should be completed by the end of May.

**Keep In Your Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick, housebound and those in our hospitals and care homes. We pray also for anyone who has died in our Parish and wider community especially George Riley. Let us remember the families and friends who mourn and for all those who have no one to mourn for them.

**Parish Finance**

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 516.60
Other Envelopes	£ 156.00
Loose GASDS	£ 352.48

<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>£1,025.08</b>
Standing Orders	£ 219.15
Bonus Ball 41	£ 83.00
Retiring Collection	£ 263.30
(Parish Lourdes Fund)	

**Retiring Collection**

This weekend none. Next weekend World Communications.

**SJV Bonus Ball**

Don't forget to support our Bonus Ball game for your chance to win £30, only £1 per number. You've got to be in it to win it!

**Weekday Mass Availability**  
**In Our Pastoral Area**

This information can be found on the noticeboards at the back of church and also on our website. As Mass times are subject to change, it is always advisable to ring ahead.

**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.

### **Volunteer Pastoral Assistants**

#### **Funeral Lay Ministers**

Carole Clancy, 07855 769863  
[carolechristine78@gmail.com](mailto:carolechristine78@gmail.com)

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

#### **Baptism Coordinator**

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

### **With You Always Coordinator**

Kami Lester, 07881 817799  
[vianneywya@gmail.com](mailto:vianneywya@gmail.com)

### **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

Blessed Sacrament Shrine,  
City Centre  
Mon-Sat 11.00am-12 noon

### **And Finally**

Remember, if you have something  
you feel may be of interest to our  
Parish community please let the  
office know and space allowing,  
we'll pop it in the newsletter.

### Question of the Week

Adults: How is love of others connected to God?

Children: Who needs Jesus' love this week? How can you show them his love?

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter 6 May 2018**

<b>Date – 2018</b>	<b>Holy Family Church</b>	<b>St. Mark's Church</b>
<b>Saturday, 5 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>5.15 pm – Mass</b> (Sadie & Jimmy Devine)	
<b>Sunday, 6 May</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter	<b>11.00 am – Mass</b> (David Newnes)  <b>12.30 pm - Baptisms</b>	<b>9.15 am – Mass</b> (People of the Parish)
<b>Monday, 7 May</b> Weekday of Easter		<b>10.00 am – Service of the Word</b>
<b>Tuesday, 8 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Carl Evans)	
<b>Wednesday, 9 May</b> Weekday of Easter		<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Colin Birkett)
<b>Thursday, 10 May</b> Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Frank & Mary Pitt)	<b>7.00 pm – Mass</b> (May McGrath)
<b>Friday, 11 May</b> Weekday of Easter		<b>10.00 am – Mass</b> (Alice Riley)
<b>Saturday, 12 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>5.15 pm – Mass</b> (Sharma Family)	
<b>Sunday, 13 May</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter	<b>11.00 am – Mass</b> (People of the Parish)	<b>9.15 am – Mass</b> (Mr & Mrs Whittle)  <b>12.30 pm - Baptisms</b>

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

**Guidelines for the submission of Mass Intentions can be found on our website.**

### Readings for Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26

1 John 4:11-16

John 17:11-19

### St Mark's Eucharistic Ministers

6 May – Terry, Teresa, Bernie, Ken, Gerry

13 May – Maria, Maureen Cl, Paul, Rosemarie, George