

St. Joseph's Newsletter – 14th May 2023

Sanctuary Lamp

All Our Sick and Housebound

Marian Candle

Sheila Barnes

(3rd Anniversary Remembrance)

Lately Dead

Barrie Davies, David Lamb, John Harkin, Lennard Joyette,

Bonus Ball Winner 10th May

No. 12 – Winner : Amy Marsh

Highway to Heaven'

Introducing a new feature to our Newsletter called 'Highway to Heaven'. Each week we will publish a different street/road name from our local area and ask you to pray for the residents in that location. This week's location is: **Hesketh Close**

Gospel Reflection for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

If you Love Me



Jesus' 'farewell discourses' are a bit like a teacher's final lesson before an exam packed with important advice. "If you love me you will keep my commandments." "Love one another as I have loved you." "The Spirit of Truth will abide with you when I am gone."

Love of course is key to all Jesus' last minute advice. There's lots we already know about love from our own relationships. If we love and care about each other we say where we are going and what time will be back home. If we love each other we don't keep secrets or have affairs. If we love each other we put our loved one's needs before our own. It's the same with God; we show God we love him by keeping his commandments. Commandments aren't there to create unnecessary discipline, they are there to keep us in love with God and with each other.

Jesus knew that once he was gone some of his commandments would become less clear. Two thousand years down the line there are many issues that have grey areas, such as euthanasia, and the sciences that govern nuclear energy or fertility. For instances such as these, Jesus left us an 'Advocate' a 'Spirit of Truth'. We are promised that the 'Spirit of Truth' will guide us through all of life's difficult decisions. Jesus left us with hope and help, now it's down to us.

Ascension Thursday

Real and Present

On this day we imagine Jesus going to some place high above the clouds, to some faraway place beyond death. But if the disciples felt any sense of abandonment that's certainly not how they acted. The disciples didn't leave the scene of the Ascension in mourning; they returned with great joy and praised God in the temple day after day. It is clear that the disciples did not experience Jesus as absent. It is clear that in everything they did from then on that Jesus was real and present in their lives

Christian Aid Week

14th -20th May



This Christian Aid Week you could help make dreams come true for farming families in Malawi. For just £10 could pay for a 2kg bag of seeds to plant pigeon peas - a hardy, drought-resistant crop. For just £50 could provide seeds and farming tools for a family.

Donate online at WWW.give.christianaid.org.uk/donate

World Fair Trade Day 2023

14th May

Yes of course, every day is a Fair Trade Day. Most of us pick up one or two Fair Trade items when we visit the supermarket, but today is about encouraging everybody else to do the same.

To do:-

The easiest way to promote Fair Trade is to take a jar of Fair Trade coffee and biscuits into work and enjoy!

Care for Our Common Home

Walk to School Week - 15th May 2023

This week thousands of children across the country are celebrating the benefits walking brings. We know that walking to school makes children feel healthier and happier, while reducing congestion and pollution outside the school gates. Yet less than half of primary school children currently walk to school. It's up to us all to reverse this decline and see every child that can, walk to school.

Bitesize

One word frees us of all the weight and pain of life: That word is love.

Sophocles

Greek tragic dramatist (496 BC - 406 BC)

Thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Tom Williams

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate a Holy Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Tom Williams' 20 years' ministry as Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool on Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 7.00pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. Everyone is invited to the Mass and the Drinks Reception which will follow.

There will be a **Memorial Mass of Thanksgiving** on **Friday 19th May at 7.30pm** at St. Joseph's for the life and service of **Fr. Vincent McShane** who died on 4th April 2023. Monsignor John Butchard will officiate. All are Welcome to attend.

Church Cleaning at St. Joseph's

Please note change of day to **Wednesday 17th May** from 9.00am. Extra help is always appreciated.

Fr Richard Ebo celebrates the **Silver Jubilee** of his ordination this year. He extends an invitation to the parishioners of Warrington West Parishes. Mass of Thanksgiving on **Friday 30th June at 6pm** at St Anthony's Church, Scotland Road, Liverpool L5 5BD. A reception will be held at the **Sandon**, Oakfield Road, Liverpool L4 0UH

Mass Intentions

Sunday 14th May	8.30am 4.00pm	Barrie Davies Marie Regan
Monday 15th May	9.30am	Pat McShane (RIP)
Tues 16th May		
Weds 17th May	6.30pm	Thanksgiving
Thurs 18th May	9.30am 7.30pm	Lennard Joyette (RIP) Pat Williams
Friday 19th May	7.30pm	Memorial Mass for Fr. Vin McShane
Sat 20th May		
Sunday 21st May	8.30am 4.00pm	Antony Bell Martin Watson (6th Anniversary)

Please visit the new St. Joseph's website for all the news, Mass times, newsletter and much more! www.stjosephpenketh.co.uk

Exposition at St. Joseph's 10am until 12 Noon every Monday and Friday.

FUNERALS

There will be Requiem Mass for Barrie Davies at St. Joseph's Church on Friday 26th May at 11.00am. Fr. Joe Bibby will officiate.

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life

Dates: 26-28 May 2023

Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

**For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ
at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org**

UCM

Thursday 11th May - 1pm in Church - Crowning of Our Lady and Rosary followed by Coronation Celebration with shared meal.

Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Walk

The Prayer Walk is on Ascension Thursday, 18th May.

It starts at 9am at St, Mary's (Great Sankey)

10am at St. Joseph's

11am at The Oaks where refreshments will be available.

12noon at Penketh Methodist. **Everyone is welcome** (Please poster in the Notice Board.

A Call to Serve as Altar Servers

We invite our young people to embrace the call to serve as Altar Servers. No age is too old for this call. We appeal to all parents' to not only encourage this initiative but promote it by bringing their little ones to Mass.

God Bless, Fr. Raymond

Please note any items for inclusion in the newsletter from parishioners at St. Joseph's must be received by Thursday morning. Also, please can you ensure that the brown Mass Offering envelopes are fully completed in block capitals. The Mass Intention is clearly written, ie 'Lately Dead', Anniversary etc. and finally the donor name is clearly written and if a tax payer, their post code written on the back of the envelope. Thank you.

St Maries Heritage Group, Widnes

Come and join us in our latest event:

St Marie's Prize Bingo 2-4pm Saturday 20th May

Spring into Summer with St Marie's Prize Bingo 2-4pm Saturday 20th May at St Marie's church, Lugsdale Rd, Widnes.

All are welcome to join us for a fun afternoon catching up with friends old and new with free hot drinks and biscuits. You never know, you might win a prize or two as well.

Email heritage@haltonsthelensvca.org.uk or call 01928 592405 to let us know you'll be coming along.

We look forward to seeing you.