

Flying by the seat of my bike: thoughts of a Pastoral Associate



Eleanor is working from home these days.....

her assignment is adjusted to find ways to serve the life of faith and love in our homes and we will share the fresh ideas next week. Meanwhile she is serving wonderfully in the Zoom meetings with the Parish Vision Team and the Synod Members. Val Stroud is proving to be a fabulous helper in time of need with her technology skills. Thank you

THE POSITIVE SIDE OF HUMANITY IS SHOWING FROM CV ALSO:

Acts of solidarity, community and appreciation are emerging:

- ❖ Annemarie Plas has got the whole country to “Clap for Carers” at 8pm on Thursdays and wonderful solidarity it is
- ❖ Whatsapp, Facebook and House Party are linking up millions.....Meanwhile:

What if you thought of it as the Jews consider the Sabbath—the most sacred of times? Cease from travel. Cease from buying and selling. Give up, just for now, on trying to make the world different than it is. Sing. Pray. Touch only those to whom you commit your life. Center down. And when your body has become still, reach out with your heart. Know that we are connected in ways that are terrifying and beautiful. (You could hardly deny it now.)	Know that our lives are in one another’s hands. (Surely, that has come clear.) Do not reach out your hands. Reach out your heart. Reach out your words. Reach out all the tendrils of compassion that move, invisibly, where we cannot touch. Promise this world your love—for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, so long as we all shall live. —Lynn Ungar 3/11/2020 (used presuming permission, it is so beautiful)
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THE ARCHDIOCESE WEBSITE has some wonderful resources for spiritual life in these Stay at home times. www.liverpoolcatholic.org including livestreaming masses. See especially the “Prayer and Other Resources” box & “5 Ways of Sustaining Faith....”

MONEY MATTERS

Offertory Envelopes the new year begins next Sunday but hey ho! You could choose to use some other big envelope to put in your donation each week: put your number on it for when you hand it in – eventually!

Standing orders can be set up – email us for the form ;heartstoneparish@btconnect.com

GIFT AID: boost offerings by 25% at no cost to you!

HeartStone: the paired Parish of **Sacred Heart** and **St John Stone**



Our Christian Living Now

We are being led in Synoding styles to share this Exodus of the CV Era – not knowing why, where, whether we will end up well; but with hope and courage that God will bring us through to new beginnings in faithful, fruitful, fresh vision.

5th April – PALM SUNDAY: HOLY WEEK BEGINS		
	Liturgy & Spiritual Life	Home, Community & Service
N C S	All masses and liturgies are celebrated in church by the priest alone. 12noon: Palm Procession & Mass: Intention: People of the Parish	
Mon	12Mass: The People of China	
Tues	12Mass: Thanksgiving (MS) 4.00pm: Spiritual counsel	Priest’s Hospital Ministry Week 1 -3 Ainsdale Foodbank at Methodists
Wed	12Mass: John Carlon (LD) Chris Hesling (LD)	** 7.30 Sharing Scripture by Zoom
Thur	10am Spiritual counsel	1 -3 Ainsdale Foodbank at Methodists
THE SACRED TRIDUUM		
<i>DAY #1: Christ’s Service and Sacrifice:</i>		
	Thursday 7PM: Last Supper Mass & Washing SH	Thursday 8pm : Clap for NHS Carers
	Friday 3.00: The Passion Liturgy	Friday 12.00: Christian Unity Witness
Fri	<i>DAY #2: Waiting on the Hidden Action of God</i>	
	Friday 7pm: Watching at the Tomb SJS	
	Saturday : The “empty” day.....	
<i>DAY#3: The Lord is Risen: the New Creation:</i> 12th April – EASTER SUNDAY		
Sat	Saturday 8pm: Easter Candle, Water, Mass SJS	
Sun	Sunday 6.30am: Sunrise at the Beach	
	10.00am: Easter Day Mass SJS	

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Sacred Heart Church (SH), 483 Liverpool Road; St John Stone Church (SJS) & Parish Office: 7 Sandbrook Way, Woodvale, PR83RN

Parish Priest: **Fr Tony Slingo** Tel: 01704 577722 Website: heartstonerc.co.uk

SH Church Team Leader: Mike Thornber Office: heartstoneparish@btconnect.com

SJS Church Team Leader: Gina Steed Parish Administrator: Monica Gannon

Pastoral Associate, Eleanor Lalley: eleanor.lalley.heartstone@btconnect.com

Hospital Chaplain: 07467 374830 SVP Emergency Need: 07988371168

Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure: 01704574838 Foodbank: 07768772935

Part of Southport Pastoral Area: www.southortcatholicchurches.org

Archdiocese has some very helpful resources: www.liverpoolcatholic.org

LIVING THE LITURGY

Now is the TESTING Time! The “Holy Week” of Jesus’s life is when he “can’t not” confront further the religion and culture up to that point in human evolution. His loving obedience to the Father’s actual ways leads him, as the other great prophets had, to take the truth into the heart, the centre, the core –

- ❖ of Jerusalem, the city and temple of God’s chosen people
- ❖ of the world’s politics, power and inequalities
- ❖ of any person who would open to welcome him in

This is the culmination and climax of what we begun in the wilderness temptations- the trials and testing from his Baptism onwards lead him to face even fuller trials in Gethsemane, the Roman courts, the religion of his time and his Passion. He proves triumphant through continuous humility, and faithful loving in hostile circumstances.

What we began at the start of Lent has led us to this week in the liturgy –

- ❖ what will help you make it the Holy Week? How will you plan your time?
- ❖ though distanced we share communally in trials and testings in the CV era
- ❖ what do you ask God for this Easter: for yourself, our church, the world?

The promise of Jesus at the Ash Wednesday liturgy was :

“.....pray... fast... give in secret...and your Father
who sees all that is done in secret will reward you....”

Who would have thought that those words would be so shockingly true this year because of social distancing, closing of churches and the stay at home regulations!

SYNODING AND CORONAVIRUS CRISIS MAKING CHANGES

How are you getting on?

The whole world is forced to live through this crisis: the Chinese character for “crisis” includes the two aspects of DANGER but also OPPORTUNITY.

The dangers are obvious, much more pressing and threatening for some than for others, and we must find new ways to keep in touch, support each other and find fresh ways of sharing solidarity. What is happening to you.....? If you want to talk, do phone Fr Tony in the parish office? Some parishioners have also volunteered to help out or contact fellow parishioners if anyone would wish.

What is essential now for us in our faith and prayer?

Changes have been forced on us, and we can develop ways of changing. It is extreme God knows, but CV is still part of our Church’s time of seeking fresh vision from God in the Synod 2020! Suffering is part of the demands of renewal and opportunity – what do you think we can learn from all this, about “**becoming the church God is calling us to be**”?

How can we communicate these days?

Zoom meetings are flourishing, the livestreaming of masses is catching on – and what would you like to see? You could try the phone, facebook etc, the emails to the parish office or other ways – let’s keep in touch about what we are learning, and there is **a separate leaflet sent on the email newsletter group and the website for joining in at home with this week’s liturgy, stripped back as it is.**

HOLY WEEK LITURGY when you can’t get to church

See the separate leaflet for ways of joining in at home with Church liturgy.

Daily Mass will be offered in private, at 12 noon. You may want to join your prayer to the Eucharist at that time, or some other time, especially on Sundays.

Mass live-streamed can be followed :

- from the Cathedral via **Facebook @liverpoolmetrocathedral**

Archbishop Malcolm celebrates mass at 11am Palm Sunday – 7pm Maunday Thursday – the Passion on Good Friday 3pm – The Easter Vigil on Saturday at 8pm

Pope Francis celebrates from Rome, visit worldtelecast/Easter2020 at GMT on Thursday at 4pm; Friday 4pm; Saturday 1900; Easter Sunday 9.00am

- and other parishes through the Archdiocese: www.liverpoolcatholic.org
- Walsingham via EWTN (ch 588) <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>
- from the Vatican here: <http://www.catholicv.org/shows/papal-programming>
- St Anne’s : www.youtube.com/channel/UCzmZorKUDCO4H7FNifNIX9A
- Fr Denis McBride CSsR : [rpbooks.co.uk/holy –mass-online](http://rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online)
- Fr John McLoughlin at : <https://www.st-stephens-warrington.co.uk/>

All churches are completely closed now but **Funerals** can take place at the graveside or in the crematorium with immediate family only. Live-streaming is possible.

Hospital Ministry and Communion at Home is only in **emergency danger of death**.

Prayer requests and a Prayer Chain is available through the Emmaus Community at www.emmausprayercommunity.co.uk or Fr Chris Thomas at christ@irenaeus.co.uk

The Marvellous Magnificat prayer book and newsletter can be found free on line now: www.magnificat.co.uk

SCRIPTURE BY ZOOM: there is a new move in these changing times for us to share the Sunday Scripture readings together through the Zoom technology. All you need is a computer or iPad and send your address to the parish office – we will link you to our Zoom parishioner to guide you in setting up. Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Fr Tony will guide with some background and invite personal thoughts and feelings to listen to each other. **The Sunday Readings** can also be found on www.wednesdayword.org with reflection.

FAITH DOING JUSTICE AND CHARITY

Ainsdale Food Bank is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 1 – 3pm at the Methodist Centre. **Donations** are very welcome, to the porch at the centre each day 9am til 3pm. If you are under 70, not in a vulnerable health group, and would be willing to assist please contact Brian Davey on 07768 772935. **Our Parish Easter Eggs** we were selling have now been donated to the Foodbank...

Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure continues to do meals on wheels. Rebecca on 01704 574838 or manager@ainsdalelunchandleisure.org.uk. can help with enquiries and offers to help.

Sefton Council Volunteering: Sefton CVS are co-ordinating offers of volunteering: <https://volunteeringsefton.org.uk/> You where, type of help, times/days etc