



HeartStone: the paired Parish of
Sacred Heart & St John Stone
Seeking fresh Vision and new Energy



Sunday 20th September – 25 th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Home Mission Sunday		
Liturgy & Spiritual Life		Community Life & Service
	Sat 12:00 Mass on the Beach ext Sat eve 5.30 Mass: People of Parish SJS Sat eve 6.30pm: Holy Communion – Open Air SH Sun 10.30 Mass: Fred Hughes (LD) SJS Sun 11.30: Holy Communion – Open Air SH	<i>Walk to Church this weekend?</i> Week #4 of The Next Chapter <i>Phone from the Wednesdays to request your place at Sat/Sun Mass</i>
Mon	<i>St Matthew</i> NO Mass Today SJS	Daily 9.30am: Morning Prayer of the Church
Tues	12.00 Mass in church: Kevin Gorman (A) SJS	11.00 Fr Tony Hospital Ministry 4.30 CtK Governors meeting 6pm Brownies meet in SJS gardens SJS
Wed	<i>St Padre Pio</i> 11-12 Personal Prayer in Church SJS 12.00 Outdoor Mass: Frank Steele (ILM) SJS 7.30pm Sharing Scripture (John Sullivan) Zoom	<i>Phone for next Saturday/ Sunday Mass places</i> 11-12 Place2Be Community Market SJS Hall 4pm Priest's Spiritual Counsel 4.30 Youth Impact Xtra Zoom
Thur	<i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i> 12.00 Mass in church: John Gaine (A) SJS 5.00 Wedding Rehearsal SH	1 -3 Ainsdale Foodbank at Methodists Ext 2 -4 SJS Garden: Autumn Tidy Up #1 3.30 Parish Vision Team Zoom 7pm Bereavement Care Team Zoom
Fri	12.00 Outdoor Mass: Dympna Eckersley (LD) SJS	8.15pm Men's Spirituality Zoom
Sat		2 -4 SJS Garden : Autumn Tidy Up #2
Sunday 27th September – 26 th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Faith Doing Justice		
Sat eve	Sat eve 5.30 Mass: People of Parish SJS Sat eve 6.30pm: Holy Communion – Open Air SH Sun 10.30 Mass: Carole Barry (90th Birthday) SJS Mark Gibbons (LD) SH Sun 11.30: Holy Communion – Open Air	<i>phone from the Wednesdays to request your place at Sat/Sun Mass</i> Non-perishable food donations for those in need as part of Thanksgiving please.....

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Tony Slingo - **Parish Office:** 01704 577722 **Office email:** heartstone@rcaol.org.uk
 SH Church Leader: Mike Thornber SJS Church Team Leader: Gina Steed
Safeguarding: SJS: safeguarding229@rcaolp.co.uk SH safeguarding092@rcaolp.co.uk
Website: heartstonerc.co.uk **Facebook:** facebook.com/HeartstoneAinsdale/
Pastoral Associate, Eleanor Lalley: 07384 643237 e.lalley@rcaol.org.uk
Parish Zoom Minister, Valerie Stroud: 07885 455885 valeriejstroud@gmail.com
 SVP Emergency Need: 07988371168 Foodbank: 07768772935 Southport Hospital Chaplaincy: 07467 374830

WE JOIN IN PRAYER TOGETHER:

For all who are sick: Gina Steed, George Slater, Finbarr Gurhy, Johan Turner, Andy Lloyd, Angela Hitchens, James O'Hara, Peter Maher

Those who have died recently: Mitzi MacDonnell, Fred Hughes, Barney Elackman, Linda Bray, Tommy Wilson, Cecilia Sah (Fr Emmanuel's mother), and all who have died of Covid-19

For those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Pat Moore, John Mooney, Nelly Dean, Graham Mackey, Olive Webley, Michael Washbourne, Ellen Waite, Margaret Simms, Marjorie Morley

For all who are struggling with life: Colin Stroud, Rob.

Money Matters:

THANK YOU for whatever you can manage: Standing Orders continue; cheques welcome, to **Sacred Heart** or to **St John Stone** and post it or drop it in to the Parish Office. Envelopes can be given in or kept for later.

As you enter church there is a collection basket – for “retiring” collections also: today is for our Home Missions

LIVING THE WORD AND THE LITURGY

Maddening or marvellous? How do you find the ways of God? The Scriptures today declare;

“My thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways”

Too true at times! Who can fathom the mind of the Father? Maybe the life of Jesus shows us that God’s ways can be both maddening and marvellous – love can handle that. Maturing faith does not have to fake acceptance when exasperated – it is part of growing in love with the Ultimate Love, Divine Justice.

God treating all as equal is a maddening revelation of today’s parable: the apostles get a shock that length of service, the idea of deserving reward or not being deserving, these are not the motives for God’s giving of equal pay for different labour. The same is **given** to all: the generosity of God trumps the expectations of mere human “justice”. “It’s not fair” does not apply to the marvels of God’s loving all without favourites, no matter how maddened it might make us. **What do you think working in the Lord’s vineyard means in our world today?**

We are launched on the voyage of THE NEXT CHAPTER in the history of Christianity on Planet Earth, the Christian Culture of Europe, the life of the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the Vision of HeartStone.

Week #1: **CREATION TIME** began this voyage, and the liturgy continues until 4th October

Week #2: **PRAYER and MEDITATION** is a vital part of every Christian’s living.

Week #3: **EDUCATION and LIFELONG LEARNING** keeps us growing and on our toes

Week #4: **HOME MISSION SUNDAY today** calls us to re-think for Covid Britain and Southport

THE FIRST MISSION ON THIS HOME MISSION SUNDAY IS THE SAME FOR EVERYONE IN OUR COUNTRY.....

- **Our charity** is to keep each other safe – and encourage each other to keep the guidelines on safety
- **Our hope** is that the added restrictions in the whole of Merseyside will be followed and be effective
- **Our faith** must be put in ALL becoming responsible for ALL – and everyone active always in the thoroughness of SPACE: keep distance from others; FACE: covering with others; HYGEINE: wash hands regularly and clean surfaces
- **Socialising in the carpark after mass** must only be with social distancing, no more than 6 in a group
- **the priest and stewards at mass** are responsible for all enacting all the safety guidelines – **Leaders in the Place2Be** are also on Wednesdays – and the **leaders in Brownies** also. Thank you to all who bear this responsibility.

“AT HOME” and “IN HOUSE” MISSION this year

Reaching Out this year we believe is firstly to build up each other in the parish, to encourage each other by contacting and offering conversation, prayer for what you may need, fostering new friendships where we can. Maybe supporting people in efforts to return to church liturgy, or being the contact with those not ready to.

Keeping in Touch from now on we hope to develop further. Eleanor, Anne and Monica are on the case, and ask your help now to let us know if you know, or think, of anyone who is cut off, out of touch, feeling lost, may be glad of a contact call? Who are you missing? **Forming Groupings** will be part of this as we progress – and when the next epidemic hits, or further lockdown on this one, people can have faith bubbles to support each other.

SHARING OF TALENTS AND SERVICE IN HEARTSTONE

In the country new needs and priorities are emerging in employment, even as so many face the prospect of unemployment, especially when furlough ends on October 31st. **In the church also** new needs are emerging, and also new opportunities for giving help and service, for new ways of collaborating. **Our Liturgy Stewards** are a good example, and if we have more who can volunteer during the weekdays, we might expand the masses available. **Younger People** we are hoping to find roles for, and anyone 18 or over can offer to serve as a steward.

Cleaning St John Stone’s Church: we continue to follow Archdiocesan restrictions, which means protecting anyone over 70 from doing any volunteering. So we have lost most cleaners! Is anyone else willing to offer to help? Fr Tony is becoming a “scrubber”, will others join him next Friday at 10am or Saturday at 10am?

St John Stone’s Gardens: Brian Friery and John Walker have soldiered on throughout, and have let off Chris Kelly so far (!). Now’s your chance to volunteer to join Brian for an **Autumn Tidy Up** this week: Thursday 24th and Saturday 26th, 2 til 4 pm, he will be there and glad of help. Do contact Brian on 01704 575018.

St John Stone’s: the Green Container: Tom McHale is doing a great job clearing out and cleaning it up. And the scaffolding system is available for anybody who wants it. Offers welcome – spread the word, or eBay.

The Brownies are meeting outside in the gardens of St John Stone, Tuesdays from 6pm.

CATHOLIC MISSION IN BRITAIN

We were not always even legal. In 1829 Parliament passed laws that gave British Catholics almost equal civil rights, and some the right to vote. In 1850 the Pope permitted Bishops for Britain, and their priority was the education of

the poor. In 1944 the state included Catholic Schools in the system of finance and support, but with Catholic aid. In the 1960s the Vatican Council's renewals affected a lot of HOW Catholics lived out their faith in the changing culture, and the tide of secularism turning away from religion continued. "Liverpool 1980" was the first Catholic National Congress for mission – but little supported by the Vatican.

In Cardinal Hume's time (1976 – 1999) the British establishment increased in relationships of trust and respect for Catholicism, and middle-class Catholics increased in number. In 1982 Pope John Paul II visited Britain, the first time any Pope had. In 1995 Queen Elizabeth went to Vespers in Westminster Cathedral – the first time any monarch had since the Reformation. Cardinal Cormac was a guest and preacher in the Queen's home in January 2003. In September 2010 Pope Benedict made a visit, allied to the canonisation of another English Saint, John Henry Newman, completed in 2019.

The official status and the established relations with the Vatican have vastly increased over the years. How about the people of the Country? How is the mission on the ground faring? How much does Christ's culture through our Catholic church improve the hopes and culture of British people today? This is part of the question, and the most of the question is **How Shall we Live the Catholic Vocation in Britain Today?**

In this 3rd decade of the 3rd Millennium of Christ's Mission in the World, we practising Catholics have much to inherit gratefully in the organisation, institutions and culture of our Church. Yet more and more the Covid Era is marrying our Synodal initiatives to let the Holy Spirit **take our imaginations to new places**, for individual Catholics to follow inspiration and initiatives in their lives of faith. So many people – of faith or good will – are changing personal choices, joining good causes and movements for change, making common commitments to serve people's needs and sacrificing to expand justice and inclusion. All of this also needs many to maintain stability and continuity, so continued practice of the faith and good works is a vital and beautiful contribution to our country and its future. Pope Francis is a world leader in this balance and challenge. E.G:

May we not wait –

for our neighbours to be good before we do good to them

for the Church to be perfect before we love her

for others to respect us before we serve them.

Let us begin with ourselves.

This is what it means freely to accept the gift of grace.

And holiness is nothing other than preserving this freedom. (Christmas Eve 2019)

He has declared many times his commitment to Tradition and Renewal together:

Catholic Tradition is not a museum piece, rather it is always evolving.....

...to replace old, courtly power structures with the new wineskins of servant leadership."

Fr Philip Inch urges us to read the Pope's new encouragement of treasuring parish life: see the Catholic Pic for September and the Vatican website for "The Pastoral Conversion of the Parish..."

Archbishop Malcolm is praying that through the Covid Era our world can become "a safer, calmer, kinder place where God's love is visible for all to see."

The Northampton Diocese is inviting all to zoom meetings for learning new Covid Catholic ways:

<http://formationpathways.co.uk/event/exploring-the-post-lockdown-church/>

OUTREACH MISSION IN HEARTSTONE TODAY:

FAITH DOING JUSTICE...through Charity is one way. Giving to those in need continues, and we are pleased that

The Place2Be Community Market continues in SJS hall on Wednesdays 11am-12 noon.

Be assured, the Safe-6 rule is applied, stewards ensure a warm welcome and safe procedures with a 1-way system through the well-ventilated hall, sanitising all surfaces before and afterwards. Bravo!

The **Salvation Army shop** on Shakespeare St is open and helping many people. They are glad of donations, especially single beds. Weekdays 11-3, Saturdays 10-12

Ainsdale Foodbank is open to help on Thursdays 1 -3 at the Methodist Centre

Next Sunday we mark Harvest Thanksgiving in our Liturgy. Please think about bringing to church at those **Masses donations of non-perishable food for people in need.** There will be containers for you to place your offerings in before you enter church. We will pass them on to the Foodbank and the Place2Be.

FAITH INVITING ENQUIRY:

Home Mission Sunday is our annual start again of extending the invitation to new people to discover with us the gifts and benefits of a life of faith. We continue the offer of Jesus: "**Ask** and it will be given to you; **Seek** and you will find; **Knock** and the door will be opened to you." Thus we begin again, in fresh fashion, with welcoming anyone who would like to know more...and we call it the **A.S.K ing** sessions. Anyone is welcome to get in touch.

FINDING NEW MEANING

Pandemic, restrictions, sufferings or opportunities have aroused many souls to seek more deeply for why we are here, what does life offer and demand of us, is there any value in this God stuff? **"WHO ARE YOU NOW?"** is a course offering 6 sessions looking at some of life's BIG questions. Angela O'Connor and Fr Tony Slingo invite people of all ages to join this Covid exploration of **Identity, Purpose, Meaning and God**. Zoom dates and details to come – expressions of interest or questions welcome now: heartstone@racol.org.uk

SUNDAY COVID EUCHARIST in St John Stone Church

Saturday evenings at 5.30pm & Sunday mornings at 10.30am in St John Stone church

Phone to book your place on Wednesdays onwards saying clearly which Mass you will attend the coming weekend; who is coming; your number & email address. *We will only call you if Mass is full...it hasn't been yet.*

Weekday Covid Eucharist in church on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12noon in St John Stone church.

These Masses are the same Covid Eucharist with the same altered arrangements as the Sunday Masses.

No need to book on weekdays, just come, complying with all our Covid precautions and protections.

Outdoor Covid Eucharist: 12 noon on Wednesdays and Fridays in the grounds of St John Stone's church

Masses outside are also regulated by Covid secure measures: 2 metres distance, or face mask if 1-metre plus. Simple and safe and no contact. **There is no need to book for outdoor Masses**, everyone is welcome: come down to the presbytery end of the car park and take the path onto the grass.

Personal Prayer in St John Stone Church

- Wednesdays 11am-12noon everyone is welcome, with safe procedures, for anyone to come for quiet time as long as you like. **No need to book**, just come when you can, with your mask
- Liturgy of the Hours in Church: each morning at 9.30am in SJS we say together the Morning Prayer from the official Prayer of the Church. We can show newcomers the ins and outs, and everyone is welcome

OUTDOORS COMMUNION AT SACRED HEART

Saturday evenings: 6.30pm and Sunday mornings: 11.30am at Sacred Heart's porch

Everyone is welcome, no booking needed, just come and join us, with your face mask, for a short prayer and communion outside. We go further than the Government demands in this church service, and require the extra reassurance of wearing a face mask, with the usual 2 metres distancing. The only real danger is the weather!

Maybe you are not ready yet? Be assured that there is no Sunday obligation now, and if you feel too vulnerable to return to church, everyone understands. Stay at home until the time is right for you.

IF you are able to comply with all the published precautions and protections, you will be warmly welcomed.

Liturgy on Line: internet Masses and other spiritual resources have been a help to so many, and to additional millions who weren't coming to church before Covid. So do continue to use them, or check them out, especially if you are confined to home. There are spiritual resources for Sunday on the Archdiocesan website: <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/sunday-reflections> and a directory of live streamed Masses is available there also <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/mass-live-stream.html>

CREATION TIME: FIRE

Our shape of life is made by Creation before it is by us: the sun's course sets our seasons, and the way we appreciate the course of time in different ways. Fire, the sun, is foundational for life through temperature, light and radiations – some of which are deadly to us. As flowers do, so do our faces turn to the sun, and bathing or basking is life-giving as well as delightful. Poetry of love and worship takes its shape from our relations to this gift of fire – and also the demand for our limits and fragilities needing filters, mediating factors lest we burn up. So also for the very planet, the basic danger of ozone holes producing climate change. Fire is fabulous – fire is fearful. Praise God who also is both.

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CATHOLIC LIFE IN SOUTHPORT

Shared Mission by all Parishes: the Synod – Members met by zoom on Friday looking ahead.

the Hospital – Fr Kevin is the Catholic Chaplain; the other Priests help on rota for emergency ministry. Maria Parker, our employed Lay Chaplain is back on ministry and patients requesting holy communion or a visit can be contacted again now by Maria. Do encourage patients to ask staff to contact her.

Christ The King Catholic High School: recruiting for next year has begun - a virtual tour of the school is available for the Open Evening this Thursday evening 24th Sept from 7pm.

Personalised visits with a member of their Senior Leadership Team can be arranged also: contact Mrs Greenall on greenallp@christtheking-school.com or phone on 01704 565121.

Bravo to Mrs Wheeler and the pupils walking Snowdon for cancer charities this Saturday. Sponsor them on www.justgiving.com/fundraising/harriet-mcguiffie-snowdon