



**HeartStone: the Parish of
Sacred Heart and St John Stone, Ainsdale**
Seeking fresh Vision and new Energy



Sunday 9th May – 6th Sunday of Eastertide

Church & Spirituality		Virtual Church & Community	Service & Community
Sat	6.30pm Holy Communion outside SH 10.30 Mass in church: People of Parish, Maud & Gabriel Lloyd (ILM) SJS	5.30 pm Home Zoom Eucharist - find link within	5pm Faith4Life Grouping #1
SUN		10.30am Mass zoomed from SJS - find link within	
Mon	9.30am Rosary daily in church in May SJS NO Mass today	7.30pm Archdiocese of Northampton talk #4	Church alarm work begins
Tue	12.00 Mass in church: Andy Lloyd (LD) SJS	10am CVS planning meeting zoom 7.30pm Parish Social Zoom	External security works begin
Wed	11-12.00 Private Prayer in church 12.00 Mass in church: John & Rosina Mooney (ILM) SJS	4.30 Impact Extra zoom 7pm Youth Ministry Training #2 zoom	10.45 SJS Gardens Development Begins
Thu	Feast of the Ascension.....Novena of 12.00 Mass in Church: Alma Steponitis (ILM) SJS 7pm Mass: Our Parish Vision SJS	Prayer to the Holy Spirit for our..... 7.30pm Sharing Scripture (Fr Tony) zoom	HeartStone Vision begins 1-3pm Ainsdale Foodbank 2.30 CtK Consultation
Fri	12.00 Garden Eucharist: Katherine Bayman (T)	4pm Parish Vision Team meeting zoom	
Sat	<i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>	11am Friends of Holy Hill Day zoom	

Sunday 16th May – 7th Sunday of Eastertide

Sat	6.30pm Holy Communion outside SH 7.00 Pentecost Prayer Vigil in Church 10.30 Mass in church: People of Parish SJS	5.30pm Home Zoom Eucharist: Private Intention (MS)	
SUN		10.30am Mass Zoomed from church	

WE JOIN IN PRAYER TOGETHER

Support for anyone struggling: Sean Thompson, the unemployed
Find signposts for help at: heartstonerc.co.uk/ "Wellbeing & Support"

All who are sick: those housebound sick, Fr Albert is back at home! Monica, Peter, Alex, Sandra Austin, JT
Please inform us in the Parish Office of those requesting prayers, or who have recovered

For all who have died, and those recently: Janette Slingo, 127,600 UK from Covid.

Gina Steed leads a prayer chain: people praying with candles. Intercession intentions welcome via parish office

Anne O'Callaghan continues her ministry of praying for HeartStone and our Vision. Do join her.

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us to become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world....
.Knowing you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all your holy names O God.
" I love you Jesus my love above all things. You have called me to share in your Risen life and Glory.
May your Holy Spirit make me a servant of your kingdom."

During May we replace Morning Prayer with praying the Rosary in church daily at 9.30am
During May, Pope Francis is inviting Catholics around the world to join in his Global Rosary prayer for the ending of the Covid Pandemic. Walsingham Shrine coordinates the UK stronghold for this Mission, 8-9pm. Click for a YouTube link: [here](#)

We are living the Next Chapter of Christianity on Planet Earth: Week #37 Glorifying God by our Lives.

EASTERTIDE IS 50 DAYS LEADING INTO PENTECOST

LIVING THE WORD AND THE LITURGY #1

Inaugurated Eschatology: did you know that this is what we are living out in our faith these days? Translated from the posh theologian's vocabulary into real speak, it tells us we are still on the way: what Jesus began at source has not all been accomplished yet, but it has begun to emerge, to come. It has been inaugurated.

Eschatology is about the end perfected; the Kingdom of God arrived completely on earth, pleroma; when everything is holy and everyone worships the One God; and it all comes to the end things. When this did not occur, but Jesus died, many washed their hearts of the whole Jesus thing, because the perfect had not arrived after all.

Inaugurated is about those who saw that their expectation of the whole thing was disappointed, but that was only their expectation! What had actually happened was not the whole thing, but not nothing: the real design of God had begun, and could continue i.e was inaugurated, started out and moving forward (as everybody says these days!)

Easter #1 was the source not the summit (yet); the stream was flowing now from the source and would carry on, carry us, flowing to meet the completion coming from the future to greet us. He has gone on before us.....

***Now that you know you are part of Inaugurated Eschatology I'm sure you'll sleep better at nights!
Not yet complete – but already happening. Already – but Not Yet. On The Way.***

The 50 days of Eastertide, now and in the beginning, are the school for learning the faith skills of going with this flow.

Remaining in him, abiding, living on in the love of Christ Risen is first. Drawing life from him with us, like branches drawing sap from the core vine, comes next; then loving one another as his followers, fold, community of the New Covenant. All this is sustaining the **already** from the Acts of the Apostles to fuel the **not yet** in the Acts of Ainsdale. Christ and us at work together is how we grow "grapes" from this grace-filled living – and last week we saw, at least heard in church, that these grapes, these fruits of sticking with it, can produce the good wine to share with all who hunger and thirst for a better life.

JOY is another fruit we hear of today: Christ's joy that swells and completes ours when we are joyed together. This joying is not just in the head, but alive and active in bodily action:

" remain in my love....keep my commandments.....love one another.....

I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete "(Jn 15; 9-11)

Jesus has a good habit of sharing with us followers everything the Father shared with him: that includes his Word, love, peace...and today the Joy. This joy comes from that love, and obedience - not the oppressive kind, the willing kind - and the kind of love that is glad to have some commandments to show active ways of shaping love. Later he will share the mission too. Often the joy comes from just seeing him, being with him, meeting with the Risen Christ, like in the locked up room some weeks ago. The unbelievable then, has become the joyfully accepted now. And is part of the continuing to go with the flow:

"In a little while you will see me no more and then a little while later you will see me...

...you will be sorrowful but your sorrow will turn to joy.....like a woman in childbirth...

I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice; and no one will take your joy from you...

When that day comes....whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you




....ask and receive that your joy may be full....." (Jn 16: 19 –24)

He seems to say this last bit a lot...in today's Scripture as well as last week and others. In him we can ask - the Father will give- Jesus is glad! And joy is ours in him from seeing, being with, doing as he tells us, loving the others. And worshipping together:

- **LITURGY THIS WEEK:** we offer our Regular Sunday Liturgy
- **Saturday Evening at 5.30pm the Home Zoom Eucharist via this zoom link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85853304475?pwd=eVhqZnVwclkwRTRuSFc5VlFJelQwUT09>
Meeting ID: 858 5330 4475 Passcode: 663630
- **SUNDAY at 10.30am we offer Covid Actual Eucharist in St John Stone Church, and via this zoom link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85853304475?pwd=eVhqZnVwclkwRTRuSFc5VlFJelQwUT09>
Meeting ID: 858 5330 4475 Passcode: 663630

There is still no need to phone to reserve places at actual masses, but keep checking here as numbers increase....

- **HOLY COMMUNION:** offered with a short prayer at 6.30pm on Saturdays outside Sacred Heart
- **HOME COMMUNIONS** can be requested now, if you are able to come to your front door. Thanks to Margaret, Chris and Mike who join Fr Tony in taking communion from Sunday mass and at other times when necessary
- **VIRTUAL LITURGY:** Click for links to

 [Masses](#) in England & Wales  [Prayer&Resources](#) from the Archdiocese of Liverpool  [CAFOD](#) resources
and locally also at Birkdale Catholics.

OTHER LITURGY and SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms, Christenings, can now be arranged with dates to suit you – mostly! – after 17th May up to 30 people

First communions now, with a family group at Sunday mass: Lara, Ciera-May on Pentecost 23rd May, Bobbie on June 13th

Confirmations: years 8,9,10 are prepared at school, and September's year 8 will be also, for the sacrament to be celebrated with the Bishop in October and November as a deanery. Anyone from age 13 or older can ask to be confirmed on those dates.

Funerals; at a grave side, crematorium, service in church or a mass. From 17th May numbers more than 30 are permitted, subject to covid secure numbers in each church for safety.

LIVING THE WORD AND THE LITURGY #2

The fruits of JOY and PRAYER in the name of Christ are but some of this vintage harvest. Is that why we still say after each prayer when gathered " We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and...."? Another precious fruit today is: **FRIENDSHIP**. Over time the first Christians discovered, and handed on their knowledge, that the relationship with the Risen Christ, now not seen but believed in, changed, grew, altered and matured, and we hear today Jesus telling of this maturity:

"I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know their master's business;

I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father." (Jn 15:15)

"Mind my own business" he might say! This is privileged status. Before "friend of God" was only the likes of Abraham, and Moses especially. Even prophets were happy to be called "servants". "Friends" here with Christ is serious Greek: philoi, "beloved" almost in other places, here in England it is a close kind of love like "best friends", long standing closeness, very close, joined! Being such confidants, sharing what he knows – at least bit by bit as we mature in friendship – is a great gift, being part of Their family, and a great responsibility on occasions.

CHOSEN is another fruit: not everyone gets to "know, love and serve..." as we can, even if the Father would wish it so. And we are now The Chosen People (watch out!). However, not only chosen for the cosy, clubbing together only, kind of "only us". Fruitfully, joyfully sharing in this love means also sharing in THE WORK:

"You did not choose me, no I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last...(Jn 15:16)

Phase #1 was "Come to me...". Phase #2 for the mature is " Go, bear fruit..." Coming and going, coming and going: could that be what he means about sheep coming and going safely in and out of the sheep fold? Certainly OUT is into the world....beyond the boundaries of the ecclesia so far....

SHARING IN CHRIST'S MISSION TO THE WORLD

SYNOD 2020 makes much of this in Theme#4 also, and the Covid context challenges us to make Christ's mission the first priority in any renewed Vision. sharing the faith by witness is part of it, and the sharing of all good things as well, the goods of the earth and the fruits of our culture, Catholic and democratic.

OUR COVID CONTEXT:

The Roadmap for Easing Restrictions progresses, and from May 17th some travel abroad is permissible. Traffic light system and sense will help do it all safely. Coming to church safely increases as well, see above for sacraments. But be aware: all is conditional still eg the 5th variant they have found in the UK! Nevertheless, we have revised the safe distancing to between 2metres and 1 (as is permitted) and numbers can increase:

- if you come in a bubble or with another you must enter the church **together**
- as numbers increase we can increase the masses being offered in church, but only if **stewards are able** to cover the requirements: Christ Hawkhead is actively searching for more stewards for weekend masses

Levelling up and Building Back Better are noble goals still, for increased equality of so many aspects of life. Please god the elections this week will enable such! Meanwhile;

- **Christian Unity** will help our country prosper, and spreading out our life of faith is good for Britain, the new Global kind. The Covenant in Ainsdale is making an audit of how much we do, and can, do together. Also this week we being **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**: a united service is videoed and available from Sunday 8a.m.: Here is the link <https://youtu.be/MMBUh4XO1vw>. **And at the Village church** on Saturday 15th there is a Bric a Brac and cake sale – donations welcome
- **St John Stone's Gardens are open to our neighbourhood now**, as well as all parishioners of course:
 - come and have a picnic, come and enjoy the blossoms, come and see and smell and enjoy
 - good suggestions from people through Tom McHale have greatly improved the plan to invite young people to an improved "den" on a different zone – and a secret path discovered!
 - Parishioners please visit the Millennium Memorial Garden, name the many kinds of trees if you can and help Fr Tony and Brian discover which tress have been donated to the parish in memorial of whom
 - Open Gardens in Ainsdale are working with us on their July 10th special visiting day
 - Carl and Stuart, Cheryl and team, form Bridge Inn Community Farm are sharing the vision wonderfully and begin on Wednesday to clear some space and start the vegetable growing plot
- **Cathy Dunbavin's bench** on the Resurrection window lawn invites you to "Rest, Read, Talk, Laugh, Love"

- **St John's CAP Club** continues with its weekly Job Club and are planning the employment course from Monday 10th May. To book a place ring 07840 209718 or email carolrichardson@capjobclubs.org
- **RIDING A NEW WAVE:** "Woodvale & Ainsdale Volunteering Enterprise" – **WAVE** – is progressing towards our next zoom meeting on **Tuesday 18th May at 6pm**. Sefton Council for Voluntary Service are giving great help to people from HeartStone, Improve Woodvale with Councillor Lynne Thompson, Churches Together in Ainsdale, Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure, WACA, Place2Be Community Market, Ainsdale in Bloom, – with any other local residents who wish to join in. Hearing what is happening already, hearing the local voice for what we would like to see happen – this is the agenda so far as we spread the word:
 - Sinead and Ashley have produced our poster inviting more and all
 - So far we are funding and recruiting volunteers to join WACA's service to young people and the Woodvale Woodland Project, the HeartStone gardens' zones and interest groups.....
 - among them some space and beauty for children to have peaceful time among nature

NEW JOBS ON OFFER: Sisters of Notre Dame are looking for staff: a Senior Carer to lead and manage; previous supervisory exp/min NVQ 3 required. 6 hours both Saturday & Sunday: £14.44/hour. Plus other opportunities.

Contact Louise.law@sndden.org

The Archdiocese have posts for a Communications Manager and Parish Development Officer: see the website for info and applications

HeartStone are advertising for a parish administrator as part of our renewed Vision for the Covid chapter of Catholic life. Watch this space for more details.....but inquiries welcome to Fr Tony or Monica now.

LIVING THE WORD AND THE LITURGY #3

The going out after the coming in, fruitfully, is a big part of the Acts of the Apostles. Today Peter is at it, crossing expectations and boundary lines inside and outside: The Pentecost of the Gentiles it is called:

- Peter receives Vision and changes: **"the truth I have now come to realize is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody....."**
- Cornelius receives Vision, and he is a non-Jew though God fearing, so he invites Peter to cross over to visit
- While Peter is telling of God's new doings with Jesus among a crowd of gentiles, the Holy Spirit is poured out on them, as she was on the Jewish disciples in Jerusalem! God did not wait to be asked!
- Thus they received fresh Vision and then new Energy; why not we?
- Peter knew this was friendship working, Christ accompanying him in his ministry and witness and so THEN invited them to be baptised, to be joyned to the fold. Sutton-Smith tells us such unexpected is still with God!

On that occasion the usual, the normal, routine of preaching, conversion, baptism, receiving the Spirit was disrupted – by the initiative and the cheek of God himself, "who makes his sun to shine on the righteous and the unrighteous". Is he allowed to continue such presumption in our times? How will Christ and the Holy Spirit act among the young people we are sent to go out to now?

WE BEGIN ON THURSDAY OUR NOVENA OF PRAYER FOR THE SPIRIT TO WORK IN US FOR OUR NEW VISION.

- **OUR PARISH SOCIAL ZOOM this Tuesday 11th May at 7.30pm.** will announce further, and include;
- the chance to catch up and say hello informally – bring your news along
- get updates on the new security works, staffing renewals, money for the future, now **officially One Parish**
- How will we begin new beginnings with new ways: what **socialising** can we plan ahead for....who will join a new team....who will offer hospitality to visitors to SJS gardens now...will Bingo be possible in future
- will we need to put on another mass in SJS? We will celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart in Sacred Heart church also, on Sunday 13th June: will we have enough stewards?
- **Pentecost is the time** when we launch our new parish Vision and statement, the Parish Prayer and Priorities for Mission, with a Year Plan, hoping to be improved upon later by the Synoding of the others.
- **The new Parish Vision Team** are working on things now, and we are urging each of them to focus their help on a particular aspect of the 5 Facets of a Fully Functioning Parish
- **Synoding Southport:** collaboration is needed now in serving the **Hospital, Hospice and Hartley Hospital**, the Home/School/Parish vision for **Christ the King Catholic High School**
- **Our chosen charities.....champions for each?**
- **Hospital Ministry:** some restrictions still, but our lay chaplain Maria Parker and Fr Kevin, the Catholic Chaplain part of the Ecumenical team visit as needed. Please ask the staff to contact the chaplaincy or phone Maria on 07467374830