



17TH MAY 2024

## MASS TIMES

### Sacred Heart Church Mass Times

There are two Churches in our Parish. Holy Family in Kirkholt and Sacred Heart on Kingsway. The Parish Priest is Father Simon and he resides in Sacred Heart Presbytery.

### *Saturday at Sacred Heart*

*5.15 Confessions*

*6.00 Vigil Mass*

*Sunday*

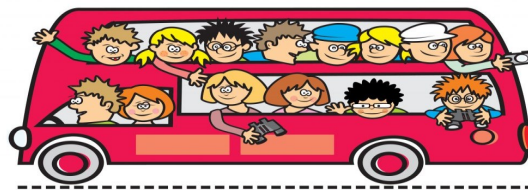
*9 am at Holy Family*

*11 am at Sacred Heart*

## PENALTY NOTICES



## SCHOOL TRIPS



Y3 20th May Summit Up

Y1 21st May Hollingworth Lake

Y4 22nd May Neeli Mosque

Y4 20th June Tropical World

Y2 26th June Lytham St Annes

Y1 9th July Blue Planet Aquarium

EYFS 5th July Williams Den

**Please log onto Parent Pay to give permission for your child to attend**

### School closes

Friday 24th May 3.15 pm for half term  
and re-opens Monday 10th June 8.45 am

## Specials Persons Day Meal

Tuesday 11th June Times to follow

Would you like to have a meal with your child?

Details and payment on ParentPay.

Deadline Thursday 23rd May.

Limited to one adult per child

### Menu

Braised steak and onion bap with chunky chips

Or

BBQ filled pulled quorn burger with slaw and chips

Double chocolate muffin

### Poor attendance

Children who miss more than 20 sessions/10 school days unauthorised absence in a 12 week period will receive a Penalty Notice which is £60 per parent.

### Holiday absences

Children who miss 10 sessions/5 school days unauthorised absences will receive a Penalty Notice which is £60 per parent, per child. Holiday requests will be reviewed separately and in exceptional circumstances may be approved.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NGL

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

## ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

## PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a dummy account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

## COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

## INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service: informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

## QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "... NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

## ACCIDENTAL Y GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

### EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

### BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

### THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://ngl.link/#what-s\\_ngl](https://ngl.link/#what-s_ngl)

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

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**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This coming Sunday, your parish church will be celebrating a great and joyful feast, Pentecost Sunday. It is the feast of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church, a gift which we now receive at Baptism, Confirmation, and at Mass.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the risen Jesus offers his disciples the Holy Spirit and inner peace so that they would never be alone, to strengthen them, and to be their helper forever. Jesus never wants us to be fearful, lonely, or disturbed, and he also offers us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This true, lasting peace, offered by Jesus (the removal of all anxiety, worry, and envy), comes only from God. It is not dependent on peaceful conditions; we can experience it even in the midst of turmoil and uncertainty.

Enjoy a very special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **PENTECOST**.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough*



**A Word from Pope Francis**

*"The extraordinary outpouring of Pentecost is an event that continues. The Holy Spirit transforms us and wants to transform the world."*

**THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



In the evening, the disciples were gathered in a room. They had locked the doors because they were afraid of the people who had crucified Jesus. Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said to them. He showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord. "Peace be with you," Jesus said to them again. "As the Father has sent me, so I now send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said to them. "If you forgive the sins of anyone, then they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

*Adapted from John 20:19-23*  
**Pentecost Sunday, Year B**

**Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.**  
**Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.**

**2024 The Year of Prayer: Family Time Prayer & Share**

**Good News for Everyone**

When we love Jesus, we listen to him and try to live the way he asks us to. We do not have to do it by ourselves though. Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit, our helper who guides us along the way, helping us when things are difficult.



# HEADTEACHERS AWARD

Headteachers award children awarded this week in Nursery to Riley for great listening skills on the carpet and to Rosie for lovely sharing outside.

In Reception Year to Abeeha for gaining confidence in speaking out during carpet time and to Davey for coming to school and working hard everyday.

In Year 1 to Franklin for excellent mental maths work on sharing and to Martim for letting others share his toys in his special room.

In Year 2 to George for taking great pride in his work this week and to Szymon for a tremendous effort un his RE work, drawing an Icon.

In Year 3 to Oliwia for producing a great story board in RE and to Emma for trying her best in writing a diary.

In Year 4 to Evie for her effort in achieving her personal best and to Emmanuel for his great effort with his times tables.

In Year 6 to EVERYONE for their hard work and determination during SATS week.

Well done everyone.