

## Saint Julie

Howards Lane Eccleston St. Helens WA10 5HJ

Telephone: 01744 28196

April 2018

## St Julie's Children's Liturgy Group

Dear Parent/ Carer

We have recently received guidance from the Archdiocese in relation to the arrangements for children's liturgy groups. As you know we have operated children's liturgy for many years and have welcomed children of all ages to join us. However, the guidance from the Archdiocese is very clear and states that children's liturgy is for children aged three years and above or for those children over the age of three who are expected to attend independently of a parent or carer.

In order for us to be compliant with the guidance from the Archdiocese we will introduce the new arrangements following the Easter break. This means that from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, only pre-school children aged three and above should attend liturgy group.

This will enable pre-school children to listen to and understand the gospel reading of the day. Every child is well cared for by the experienced Liturgy team and will be returned to their parents & carers after the session.

Obviously we want to ensure that those of you who bring your babies and toddlers to Mass have access to toilet facilities and a 'time out space' should you need this during Mass. The Lady Chapel and the area at the back of church is available as always. However, we must emphasise that the Lady Chapel is a Holy Place and not a substitute for crèche facilities.

We would also invite you to the hall after Mass for tea and coffee and a chance to meet and catch up.

We know that this will mean a change for some of you, but we hope you understand the need for us to be compliant with the guidance from the Archdiocese. If you have any questions please speak to one of the Liturgy Group leaders.

Kindest regards

Father Tom, Parish Priest

John Leake, Children's Liturgy Leader

Christine Williams, Church Safeguarding Representative.