



## St Winefride's RC Church

5 Burton Road, Little Neston, CH64 9RF

Fr Paul O'Grady Tel: 0151 721 3035

parishpriest@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253

deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Deacon Jim Kay Tel: 07746743921

deaconjim@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Jayne Shakespeare - parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020

Fr Paul is saying Mass behind closed doors and will continue to do so whilst the church is closed. Masses this coming week, are listed below.

#### Mass Intentions from this Saturday are as follows:

<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	Sheila & Thomas Topping	<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	Jack Henesy
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Daniel Healy	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Marie Thelwell
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Pat Cummins	<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Remembering V-E Day World War Two Veterans
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Parish Family	<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Ron and Maureen Jones

#### Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick at home or in hospital, including:

Sue Lawton  
 Frances Wright  
 Pat Cummins  
 Pat Matthews  
 John Barber  
 Ted Henesy  
 Dorothy Robinson  
 and son John Robinson

Patricia Davies  
 Rosemary Southwell  
 Sarah Alouane  
 Dot Davies  
 Emily Haines  
 Anthony Kane



Please do get in touch via the parish office e-mail if you want anyone adding or removing.

**We have some great news from Dot Davies who has been in contact. For those of you who don't know Dot she is a reader, Eucharistic Minister and one of the flower ladies.**

**"Can I thank everyone who is saying prayers for my recovery from acute myeloid leukaemia. I am feeling much better after the intensive chemotherapy and eating well. I am sure this is thanks to all your prayers so I would be very grateful if you would continue as I am not out of the woods yet and still attending haematology every week. Thank you all again".**

#### Fr Paul Writes:

Another week goes by we must continue our prayer for all medical teams and scientist who are trying to find a drug to kill or prevent the virus. I also you to pray for Peggy Challis' brother who was killed while riding his bike in the Kilkenny region of Ireland.

We are also to remember in your prayers for Monica Ellis who is seriously ill at this time. We pray too her family and friends.

As you know the funerals of Ron and Maureen Jones took place at a graveyard service last Monday. When we are able to come back to church, we will have a Mass for all those who have died.

This week we have two letters for us to read. The first one is from Pope Francis the other from Bishop Mark. Both these letters call us to pray especially the Holy Rosary during this month of May. You can see the link from Deacon Jim to join the rosary group each day. With my remembrance at Holy Mass through this week.

#### Pope Francis letter

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.



For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

**Pope Francis**

You can access what the pope has to say each day be heading to <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

#### Daily Rosary at 10.30am with St Winefride's parish

To join in please download **Zoom.us** either as an "app" on your phone or tablet or download from the **Zoom.us** website to your laptop. It is free and simple registration with your email and a password. When you have Zoom then type in or click the link below; 'If you prefer to join in over the telephone, please ring Deacon Jim just before 10.30am.

<https://zoom.us/j/252387114>

password: [AveMaria](#)

If you would like to join in with reciting the **Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm** each Friday you are most welcome. Please use the same Zoom login details as for Rosary. Ron Jones had a strong devotion to the Divine Mercy and it would be a fitting tribute to him at this time.

## A message from the Bishop to the people of the Diocese during the public health crisis, 26th April 2020



I send this short message to you as we continue to walk day by day through this crisis. I know that tens of thousands have been able to join me in the Cathedral via livestream, yet I am conscious that I have not been able to speak personally to many others in the Diocese. I want to assure you, whether you find yourself today in our hospitals and care homes; in self isolation at home; or living amidst the many restrictions of this time, that we remain united in prayer.

Be assured that you have a place in my prayer every day. I particularly want to thank your priests and deacons who have continued to serve in so many generous ways, not least in the care of the sick and dying and above all by the daily offering of the Mass celebrated alone. I know you are held in their daily prayer. I also want to record our gratitude at this moment in history to all the doctors, nurses, care workers, cleaners, our police and shop workers and all of the essential services together with so many volunteers. I know many others are praying and interceding hidden from human sight. Pope Francis reminds us, it is all of you who are quietly and heroically writing the story of this time. In the Gospel, we hear how even in the most desolate and bewildering moments, the Risen Jesus walks with us even when we fail to recognise Him. He allows our hearts to once more burn within us and inspires the prayer, "Stay with us, Lord Jesus." I hope the re-opening of our churches will not be too long delayed so that we can recognise Jesus Himself as the first disciples recognised Him in the breaking of the bread – in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist with all joy renewed. In the meantime, let us continue to pray wherever we find ourselves: Stay with us, Lord Jesus as we walk through these days. May God bless you and all your loved ones,

**+ Mark Bishop of Shrewsbury**

### LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

- Walsingham: [walsingham.org.uk](http://walsingham.org.uk)
- St. Anthony's, Wythenshawe: [churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe](http://churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe)
- Fr Denis McBride: [rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online](http://rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online)
- Bishop Robert Baron: [wordonfire.org/daily-mass/](http://wordonfire.org/daily-mass/)
- Shrewsbury Cathedral: [dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://dioceseofshrewsbury.org)
- CAFOD Children's Liturgy: [cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy](http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy)  
(This is a fantastic resource for children.)

### A message from the office

**Ways to Stay in Touch with Parish News - Visit the parish website**  
[www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk](http://www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk)

**Sign up for the weekly parish newsletter via email. To join send an email to the office at**  
[parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk)

## **NEW "Online giving to the Parish"**

For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page, to allow you to donate to the Parish, has been added to the Parish website. There is a new Online Donation button on the home page of our website. By clicking on it, it will take you to the Online Donation website run by **InvestMyCommunity**.



Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way.

You can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

#### **Things to note:**

- \* You will need to use a password each time they donate – this is created the first time that they make a donation.
- \* All donations made by Parishioners are acknowledged by an email from **InvestMyCommunity**.
- \* Please also be aware that donations appear on the bank/credit card statements of the donor with the narrative "Invest My School".

**Any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mike Jevons – [mike\\_jevons@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_jevons@hotmail.com)**

**Thank you for your continued support**

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donor/page/StWinefrideNeston2218>

**Some useful local contacts which St Catherine's, Hoylake have been circulating to their parishioners are below:**

- \* **NHS Volunteer Responders Portal.** This site will provide you with further information if you are self-isolating and need support. You can find out how you can access support and things to consider if you are going to receive support. <https://royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/nhs-volunteer-responders-portal/isolating-volunteering>.
- \* **NHS Mental Health Crisis Line 0300 303 3972.** It covers Wirral, Chester West, Chester East and is staffed 24/7.
- \* **Kooth** is aimed at young people (aged 11-25) offering free, safe and anonymous support through booked, online counselling sessions. [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

Also **Neston Town Council in conjunction with the Community Centre** are helping people who can't get out and **need food or prescriptions collecting**. Contact on 0151 336 7805 or [www.nestoncyc.uk](http://www.nestoncyc.uk)



In this time of lock-down and social distancing please do not go out especially in order to obtain food donations for us. Text and on-line financial donations are just as welcome.

If you are shopping and would like to donate food items we are currently high-lighting a priority for:

**Instant mash, Cup-a-soup, bottles of cordial / squash.**

We try to keep the "Most Needed Items" list on our website as up to date as possible so that you can consider including them. Donations can be left in Sainsbury's Neston.

<https://westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donatefood>

**Activities for the children** - Lynne Vaughan who runs the Sunday school at St Michael's church has put together various activities for the children to get involved in each week. If you would like a copy of the materials or know a family who would like to receive them, then please get in contact with the office via e-mail and the information can be sent over.

### Marriage Week 2020

11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May is the week that is nationally set aside to celebrate commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage. The theme this year is "**The Forever Conversation**," recognising the need for continual open communication to enable a marriage to be long lasting. Marriage Encounter is working in partnership with Marriage Week UK to promote events and celebrate marriage.

For more information see <https://marriage-week.org.uk/>

### **THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM TONY TOPPING** **"CONFUSION"**

*If we Christians are what we should be, we will set this world on fire. St. Catherine of Sienna*

As Cleopas and his companion walked along the road to Emmaus, they felt confused and angry. All their hopes and expectations were shattered. How could this happen? Why did it happen? They were so disappointed. They felt let down. They were angry with God, why did he let it happen? What had they done to deserve this? Most of all they were angry with Jesus. They had given up everything for him because they believed him; they believed that he was the Christ, that he would save and deliver Israel, yet he gave in without a word. He did nothing to defend himself. He could have roused the people to revolt against his arrest. Pilate would have taken notice; he would have released him but Jesus said nothing. The disciples did not understand and were annoyed when this stranger approached them, how did he not know what had been happening in Jerusalem yet they told him all about it and the stranger listened.

The other evening, I watched a drama on television, I should say half watched as I was doing something else while it was on; I can't even remember the title of the drama, but I think I got the idea of it. It was about a man who was left a diary in the will of someone he knew thirty years previous. He remembered clearly all that went on in his life at that time. As he delved further and talked to others who were around at that time, he realised that his memory of events did not correspond with theirs. When he learned the truth, he became a changed man. I think the idea behind the story is that the way we interpret the past is influenced by how we are in the present.

We only see an event from the perspective of the role we played in it. It is only when we hear other interpretations of the event that we begin to understand it from a broader perspective.

The disciples were bewildered yet this stranger who spoke so eloquently and so knowledgably about the scriptures made them feel the way they had when they first met Jesus. The fire in their hearts was rekindled. The stranger gently reproached them for their lack of understanding and began to explain to them all the passages in the scriptures which were relevant to what had been going on over the last few days. They were so fired up they insisted that the stranger should stay and eat with them. They wanted to hear more.

I think I have sympathy with the disciples. When I think about the present situation, I too am bewildered. When I watch the press conferences and hear the statistics of how many have contracted the disease and how many have died from it, I am angry and confused. I ask why? How? Could it have been prevented? Jesus listened to the disciples. He is listening to us now. Only through listening to him will we find answers. Then perhaps our lives will be changed. The fire within us will be rekindled. We will no longer take things for granted We will praise and thank God for all his gifts and learn to cherish them.

***Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us,  
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.***

Lord watch over us and bring us safely through this crisis. Grant a speedy recovery to those who are suffering and eternal rest to those who have died. Bless and reward all those who have valiantly worked to keep us safe; the doctors, nurses, carers and all the front-line workers. Help us to learn from this experience and be better prepared if there is another pandemic.