



## 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

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Mass Intentions for this coming week **		
20 Mar	Saturday 6 pm	Dot and Jess Jones
21 Mar	Fifth Sunday of Lent Sunday 9.30 am	Fr Chris
22 Mar	Monday	
23 Mar	Tuesday	Private Prayer 7 - 8pm Anniversary of first lockdown
24 Mar	Wednesday	
25 Mar	Thursday	
26 Mar	Friday	
27 Mar	Saturday 6 pm	Diana Phillips
28 Mar	Palm Sunday Sunday 9.30 am	Ruth Doyle

Currently there are only two Masses being celebrated.  
Saturday evening at 6pm  
and  
Sunday at 9.30am  
  
Retired priest  
Fr Kevin Prince will  
celebrate Mass.  
  
Mass will also be available  
to live stream.

The offertory collection will be taken at the end of Mass and not during Mass. Please place any donations, envelopes or loose change in the basket held by the Steward. If you wish to make a donation, please have your money/envelope ready as you leave. Thank you.

### Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber	Ted Henesy	Judy Howard
Patricia Davies	Dorothy Robinson	Maureen Grace
Frances Wright	Sheila Burrell	Maureen Adams
Rosemary Southwell	John Swann	Betty Davies
Pat Cummins	Pat Hemmington	Barbara Evans
Sarah Alouane	Bill Williams	Eva Bennion
Pat Matthews	Joyce McAsey &	Andy Ablitt
Tony McDevitt	Maurice McAsey	Mary Schofield



Please also remember Fr Paul.

I spoke with him last week and he is thankful for all your prayers and messages.

Please do get in touch with the parish office via e-mail or phone if you want to add or remove someone from the Prayer list or have a Mass intention. Thank you.

During Fr Paul's convalescence, pastoral oversight of St Winefride's is given by Canon Stephen Coonan of Our Lady and St John's Heswall – 0151 342 6581

## TIMETABLE OF ACTIVITIES WITH DEACON JIM AND FRIENDS

Daily Rosary at 9.00 am apart from Sunday	To join in please download <b>Zoom.us</b> either as an "app" on your phone or tablet or download from the <b>Zoom.us</b> 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; <a href="https://zoom.us/j/252387114">https://zoom.us/j/252387114</a> password: <a href="#">AveMaria</a>	
Stations of the Cross Thursday 8pm	<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b> <b>EVERY THURSDAY AT 8PM THROUGH LENT AND HOLY WEEK,</b> <b>This will be available at the same Zoom address</b>  <b>PLEASE COME AND JOIN US FOR A PRAYERFUL REFLECTION ON THE WAY OF THE CROSS.</b>	
Bible study Wednesday 4.30 pm	This <b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 4.30pm.</b> We will discuss the gospel reading for the following <b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Palm Sunday</b> <b>First reading Isaiah 50: 4-7, Psalm 21 Gospel Mark 14: 1-15: 47</b>  Access as usual on Zoom or 07746743921 for audio only.	
Divine Mercy Friday 3 pm	If you would like to join in with reciting the <b>Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm</b> each Friday you are most welcome. Please use the same Zoom login details as for Rosary.	
Coffee Morning Saturday 10 am	Come and join in St Winefride's coffee morning. 10.00am Saturdays at the usual Zoom address or by phone.	

### Reflection on the Sunday Gospel by Fr Stephen Coonan



Today's gospel concludes John's presentation of the public ministry of Jesus and provides a bridge to the account of his final days. The Greeks who would like to see Jesus, underline the universal dimension of the lifting up and the glorification of the Son of Man: "And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself." Having witnessed both the sadness of death and triumph over it in his raising of Lazarus from the dead and having reached the hour of his own death Jesus now speaks of the paradox of life through death. As the springtime festival of Passover draws near, Jesus points to the mystery of the grain of wheat, which after seeming to lie dead in the soil, now springs up to sustain life. This dying and rising provides a pattern for Jesus' disciples. "Anyone who loves his life loses it. Anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life." Loving life in this context does not refer to the proper sense of dignity and joy we should have as graced people. It means a preference for the world and human glory that can blind us to God's love. Hatred of life means rejection of the claims of the world and a willingness to serve and follow Jesus.

Church will be open for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March between 7.00-8.00pm on the anniversary of the first Covid lockdown.** It will be an opportunity for private prayer to remember all those who have died of the virus during the pandemic and also a time to remember all who have been affected and still are affected by Covid 19.

Let us all pray for a return to normal life again during 2021.

**LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:**

St Winefride's Parish Church - [www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk](http://www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk)

- Walsingham: [walsingham.org.uk](http://walsingham.org.uk)
- St. Anthony's, Wythenshawe: [churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe](http://churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe)
- CAFOD Children's Liturgy: [cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy](http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy)
- Shrewsbury Cathedral: [dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

<https://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral>

All times and details of other services available search Church Services TV on Google [ChurchServices.tv](http://ChurchServices.tv) live mass and services from Churches in the UK and Ireland

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



Please do let me know any news you may have, with most of us working from home and not meeting up, any news is lovely to hear. A birthday, anniversary, new member to the family, baby or pet!!

If you know someone who does not have access to the internet and would like a copy of the newsletter, then please contact me on the parish office e-mail. I am working from home, but will be popping into the office each Friday to print items etc. Posted newsletters, will arrive a little later.

**Ways to Stay in Touch with Parish News – Visit the parish website for information and live stream.**

[www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk](http://www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk)

[parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk)



**Masses at St Winefride's during holy week.**

Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> April is at 7pm

Good Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 3pm

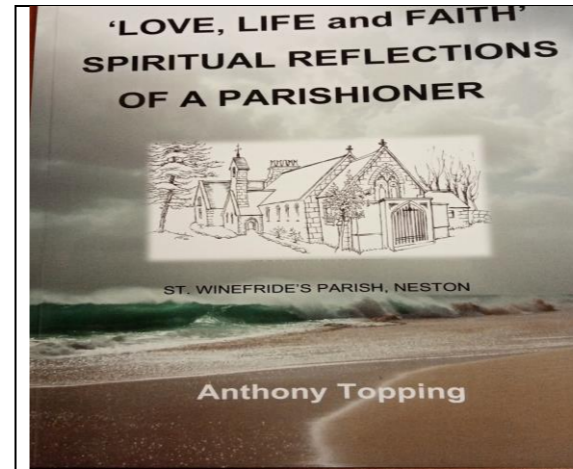
Holy Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April Easter Vigil at 8pm.

Plus on Easter Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April there will be Mass at 9.30am and 11am.



**MASS INTENTIONS STILL TO BE SAID FOR;**

**“Bridget, Ernan, Michael, Bill, Geoff and Grandad Bertie”  
Moira Griffiths-Parr, The Radburn family in Tasmania  
Late Grandfather Thomas Welham  
Carol Saunders, Fr Gerry Courell,  
Dr Mike Azurdia and his wife Gill Azurdia,  
Frank Power, Alan Jones, Terry Saunders**



***“Love, Life and Faith”***

***Spiritual Reflections of a Parishioner***

Tony's son has organised for all of Tony's reflections over the years to be put together in a book. The book has now been published and are now available to buy.

If you would like a copy then please contact the office. **The books are £7.50 each.** Cheques to be made payable to Winefride's Parish Church or you can pay by cash.



**READERS**

The new readers list up to the end of May is now on the website. If you are not on the list but are free to read at either Sat 6pm or Sun 9.30am then please just e-mail me back on the parish office e-mail. The next few weeks are detailed below. Thank you. Jayne – Parish Secretary

	Saturday 6pm (vigil)	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday 11.00 am
	<b>20 March</b>	<b>21 March</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
READERS	C Haines	R Pisarek	
	<b>27 March</b>	<b>28 March</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
READERS	F Byrne	T McGlynn	
<b>EASTER WEEKEND</b> Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April and Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> April			
	<b>Saturday 8pm (vigil)</b> <b>(Note time change)</b>	<b>Sunday 9.30am</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00am</b>
READERS	Deacon Jim or Mike	Clark family	Agnes Cropper
	<b>10th April</b>	<b>11th April</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
	K Ankers	AM Millar	



**Friends of Hampstons Well (Burton)** - If you have been out on your lockdown walk along Station Road, Burton, you may have noticed the transformation of Hampstons Well, an beautiful ancient site and place of local historical significance. A number of people (including a few parishioners) are working with CWAC to try to redevelop the site which had been sadly neglected in recent years. If you would like to find out more, there is a Facebook Page - Friends of Hampstons Well (Burton), where you can keep up to date with the progress.



Many Congratulations to Pat Cummins on the occasion of her **80th birthday**. Pat is a wonderful lady. She and her husband Gerry lived in Neston for many years with their three sons Gerald, Micheal and Fergal, before they moved to Malpas and then to Rossett just outside Chester. Gerry passed away a few year ago but when they lived here Gerry was a brilliant asset to the Parish running many events and parish do's!! He was also a Governor in both St Winefride's and the Catholic High for many years. Pat continues to have a great interest in St Winefride's and always asks after you all. Pat's health hasn't been good for a few years now, but she is very unwell at the moment and would be grateful for your prayers.



**Shoe box appeal** – Dorothy is asking in advance for the shoe box appeal in the autumn. Something to keep you busy over the next 6 months!! *“If anyone feels like **knitting hats, scarves, or toys** during the remaining months to October it would be very much appreciated”!* *Many thanks.* D Barber

**WALKERS** - Just to update you on the money raised by the three parishioners walking 10,000 steps a day for CAFOD during Lent. At present they have raised £902 but still have a couple of weeks left. This is fantastic as their initial target was £300.

**PRAYFUL SONG** – there have been some new songs uploaded for you to listen to. Check it out at; [singalongs.podbean.com](http://singalongs.podbean.com)



**A BIG THANK YOU FROM JAYNE, Parish Secretary.**

I continue to receive such lovely e-mails from you all each week and yesterday I was given a beautiful flower arrangement. Thank you Angela and Pam, so very kind. Tell Pat from the flower society she is very clever. Thank you.



**Prayer Resource for March:  
month of Saint Joseph**

**Diocesan Prayer:**

The Heavenly Father chose you, Saint Joseph, to be the husband of the Holy Mother of God, and to watch over His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In times of joy and trial, pray for us so that we too can recognise the loving plan of the Eternal Father, who always works for the good of those who love Him.

Teach us, Guardian of the Holy Family, to be attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit; and to draw closer to the Lord Jesus in all the circumstances of our lives and, above all, in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

At the last, pray for us that we may happily join you, the just and faithful servant, to praise God forever in the company of Our Lady and all the saints.

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayer of Pope Francis:**

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

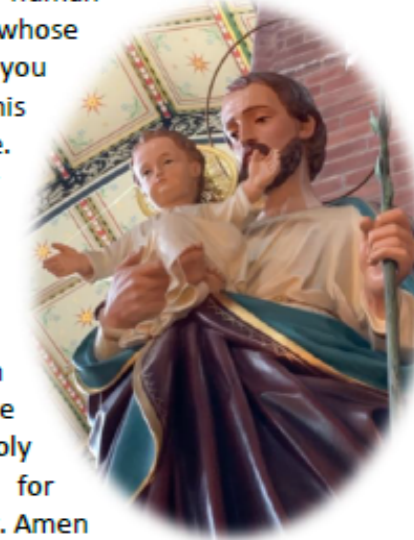
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.



more prayer resources are available here:  
[www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**Prayer:** *from the Roman Missal*

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen



**A Short Litany of Saint Joseph:**

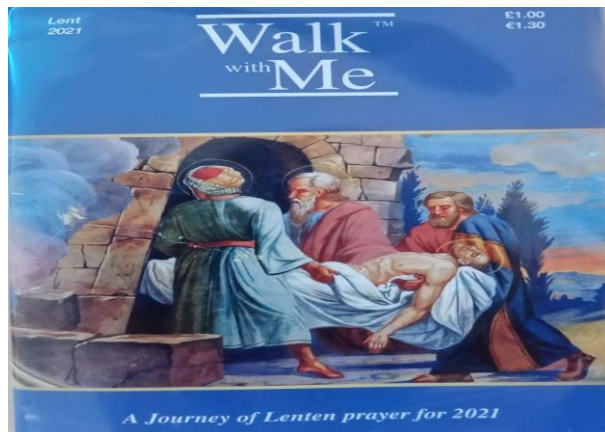
God the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.  
God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.  
Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.  
Holy Mary, pray for us.  
Saint Joseph, pray for us.  
Spouse of the Mother of God, pray for us.  
Chaste Guardian of the Virgin, pray for us.  
Foster-father of the Son of God, pray for us.  
Head of the Holy Family, pray for us.  
Joseph most just, pray for us.  
Joseph most chaste, pray for us.  
Joseph most prudent, pray for us.  
Joseph most valiant, pray for us.  
Joseph most obedient, pray for us.  
Joseph most faithful, pray for us.  
Mirror of patience, pray for us.  
Model of all who labour, pray for us.  
Glory of family life, pray for us.  
Pillar of family life, pray for us.  
Consolation of the afflicted, pray for us.  
Hope of the sick, pray for us.  
Patron of the dying, pray for us.  
Protector of the Holy Church, pray for us.



### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.....

Please remember in your prayers the family of Rodger Hemington. Especially his wife Pat. Rodger died last Friday, he had been battling with cancer for many months. Rodger was the uncle of Deacon Mike and brother-in-law to Tony Topping.

Tony has asked if you could pray for Rodger and of course the family that they will have the strength to come to terms with their loss.



### A Journey of Lenten prayer for 2021

The Walk with Me booklets are here.

Copies of the booklets are in the church porch and are priced at £1.00 each. If you would like to take one, please do and then just put the money in the red brick box.

Thank you.

As church is open again, I have organised with the Foodbank team in Chester to resume their collection from St Winefride's from **this week, 25<sup>th</sup> March**. If you would like to make a donation to the foodbank, please leave any items in the boxes under the table as you come into church. Thank you.



As the foodbank items collected were quite low this week, I cancelled the collection, but all will resume from next weekend.

**Most needed items as of 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021 are as follows; Instant noodles, instant pasta, sweets, chocolate, cup of soup, instant mash, jams and spreads, (i.e peanut butter and chocolate spread).**

**LIVE STREAMING** - Please note that camera images and sound of services are now transmitted on the internet but not recorded. This is to help us share our faith with others who are unable to attend in person. If you have any concerns about the use of live streaming during a service or mass, then please contact the office.



**“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**.

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

### Gift Aid Scheme 2021/22



The **offertory envelopes** for this tax year are available to collect this weekend. If when you come to Mass if you just let a Steward know that you want to collect your envelopes, they will then arrange to get them to you. If you have your number ready, that may speed up matters. Thank You.

Alternatively, I am in the office on a Thursday and Friday, so if you are calling up to the graveyard or passing church and want to collect from the presbytery, then the best time to call would be between 10am and 1pm or ring before to check.

The new yellow envelopes start on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021** for the new tax year. Please **do not use** before this date. If you are no longer paying Income Tax please let Jayne, Parish Secretary, know as soon as possible. Either by telephone on 0151 721 3035 or via the parish e-mail. We must adhere to the Inland Revenue rules for operating our Gift Aid Scheme. Also, if you have changed address since the last tax year, could you also please let Jayne know so that we can keep the Diocesan central records up to date?

Do you pay Income Tax and donate cash each Sunday into the loose plate? If you do, please consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme as the Diocese can claim 25p back from the Government for every £1 you donate at no cost to you! There is at least **£2,000 from the Loose Plate that we could potentially claim back each year**. All you need to do is to sign one form declaring that you are a taxpayer and then decide whether to donate by a bank standing order (second form) or by weekly envelopes. The required forms are available by contacting Jayne in the office or download from the website. If you need any further information to help you to decide whether or not to join the Gift Aid Scheme please do not hesitate to contact the office.

A number of parishioners have changed from offertory envelopes to now paying by standing order. If you have done this, thank you. You will **not need to** collect any envelopes. If you want a standing order mandate, then just let me know.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY QUIZ ANSWERS

1. What food is most associated with Mothering Sunday? c) Simnel Cake
2. In Ancient Greece, which goddess was celebrated on Mothering Sunday? c) Goddess Rhea
3. 'Mother's ruin' is a common British name for which alcoholic drink? a) Gin
4. In which Indian city, did Mother Theresa found her missionary? c) Calcutta
5. How many cards are sent for Mothering Sunday in the UK? c) 30 million
6. In which year did Marie Curie become the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize? b) 1903
7. Mother of Pearl is a common name for? a) Nacre
8. Who was the mother of Queen Elizabeth 1? a) Anne Boleyn
9. Which popular Mothering Sunday flower do Christians believe were made from tears of Mary when she wept for Jesus on the cross? a) Carnations
10. When did women get the parliamentary vote in the UK? a) 1918

**Children's Sunday Liturgy Page.** Parents, please feel free to print off the page for your children to colour and complete!



**Welcome:** Jesus today uses the image of a grain of wheat to talk about what is in store for him – death and resurrection. He says that one single grain of wheat can produce a rich harvest. Let's think some more about this today.

**Opening prayer:** God of life, we pray that all the seeds that we plant may bear much fruit, so that none of your people go hungry. Amen.

Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Gospel: John 12:20-33



Find Lent activities and prayers at [cafod.org.uk/families](http://cafod.org.uk/families)

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

no one  
beyond reach

Reflection by Tony Topping

## THE GREATEST MYSTERY

*It shall come to pass in the latter days  
That the mountain of the house of the Lord  
Shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
And shall be raised above the hills  
And all nations shall flow to it.*

I have been meditating this week on a mystery. Not one that was created by Agatha Christie or Colin Dexter or solved by great sleuths like Miss Marple or Morse, but an unfathomable mystery. The mystery of God. My Cousin, Frank (Topping) wrote about at an impossible God. A God that cannot be explained or comprehended. A God that cannot be but is. If we could understand and explain God, he would not be God. Nor can we know and understand what heaven and hell are like. Few of us can really grasp the idea of eternity and infinity, at least I cannot. I can only try to imagine what we will encounter after death.

Throughout the Old Testament, God has gradually revealed himself to us through the prophets who told us he was a loving and compassionate, slow to anger, forgiving and merciful, faithful and true. Jesus, the son of God, was the ultimate teacher. He said "Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the law of the prophets, I have not come to abolish but to complete them". (Matt 5:17) When he was born of Mary, he became one with us and taught us how we should live. When he suffered and died for us, he showed us the immensity of his love for us. When he rose again, he proved to us that we too can share in his divinity. To do so, there is a transition we have to experience, from mortal to immortal, from the physical to the spiritual.

I imagine death is a portal we have to pass through where we leave our mortal bodies behind. What happens to us on the other side of that portal will depend on what level of holiness we have attained in our life here on earth. In the bible, mountains are very important. Abraham was led up a mountain to prove his faithfulness to God. Moses received the ten commandments on a mountain. Jesus taught us to pray on a mountainside and the Transfiguration occurred on a mountain. So, I think that we will have a mountain to climb. For many of us who have little or no climbing experience it will be like reaching the base of Everest knowing we *must* reach the summit. Great saints such as Teresa, Anthony and Francis who have reached such a high level of holiness here on earth will be able to fly straight to the summit but for others such as me, Mount Purgatory will be daunting but not hopeless for I believe that purgatory is not a bad place. We will have the certain knowledge and assurance from the Holy Spirit that we will be able to reach the summit and there be able to enter into his kingdom and see the face of God. Having that knowledge and assurance will make that ascent a labour of love.

*On this mountain, the Lord of Hosts  
Will make for all people a banquet of rich food.  
On this mountain He will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples  
And the shroud enwrapping all nations, He will destroy death for ever.  
The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*