



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

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Jayne Shakespeare - parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Palm Sunday

5th April 2020

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

Masses Intentions for this week from Sunday are as follows:

Sat 4th	Parish Family	Sun 5th	Theresa Keogh
Mon 6th	Jane Haimes	Sun 5th	Louis O'Sullivan
Thurs 9th	Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor	Tues 7th	Rosemary Southwell (health)
Sat 11th	Parish Family	Friday 10th	For all those who are ill at home or in hospital
		Easter Sunday Sun 12th	For all the NHS workers and care staff

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Sue Lawton	Patricia Davies
Frances Wright	Rosemary Southwell
Maureen & Ron Jones	Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews	Dot Davies
John Barber	Sarah Alouane
Dorothy Robinson and son John Robinson	



Please get in touch if there are any alterations. Information taken from the March Prayer List in church. Do e-mail the office, if you want anyone adding or removing.

A note of Bible readings through lent has been put together and is on the website under the newsletter section. Please take a look along with a reflection from Tony called Covid.

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;

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

Fr Paul writes: We must now make full use of the opportunities of live streaming and of social communication, to continue being united in prayer and in the pastoral care of so many who are now isolated in their homes. May I also suggest that in the daily physical exercise which allows many people to leave their homes we might recommend the devotional practice that our parishioners greet the Real Presence of Christ in the Tabernacle from outside of our churches as they pass with a prayer, an act of spiritual communion or a simple Sign of the Cross.

Live Streaming can be found the Diocese website. The address is

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

Be safe and look out for our neighbours and offer help if you can.



Please take a look at the website <http://www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk>. This week, under **Newsletter 5th April** will be the Sunday Message and Holy Week readings. Regards Fr Paul

The Official Companion of the Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry

'This is your Dowry, O Holy Virgin'

"..Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to Your Word". Mary's words at the Annunciation echoed into the heart of King Richard II when he declared

'This is your Dowry, O Holy Virgin, therefore, do thou rule in it.'

Today, as a people inspired by this dedication, we implore the protection and guidance of Mary, Mother of Jesus. We have devoted our hearts and entrusted our country to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We have made our own Holy House where Christ may dwell, as Richeldis made in Walsingham. Now, we share in Mary's joy at the Annunciation in our isolation, until we come together again! We thank you for joining with us on this journey and we encourage you to carry this dedication and witness to Mary's guidance to Christ through continual prayer. Join us for the Walsingham Novena, as we pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic.

'This is your Dowry, O Holy Virgin, therefore, do thou rule in it.'

With prayers from The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham.

Thank you to Barbara Rivers for reminding us of "Our Lady" during this difficult and challenging time that we are all experiencing. Masses and information can be obtained from the website below.

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk>

you can access what the pope has to say each day be heading to

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Please also remember the coronavirus booklet with various information is on the website.

We have been offered some Easter materials to be able to use with your children as a virtual Sunday club. If you would like copies of the materials then please e-mail the parish office.



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Easter Sunday

12th April 2020

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

Masses Intentions from this Saturday for the next two weeks are as follows:

Sat 11th April	Parish Family	Easter Sunday 12th April	For all the NHS workers and care staff
Monday 13th	Fr Gerry Courell	Tuesday 14th	David Williams
Thursday 16th	All those sick with Covid	Friday 17th	Vincent Jevons
Saturday 18th	Dr Marioth	Sunday 19th April	Michael Halley
Monday 20th	Parish family	Tuesday 21st	Paul James Shakespeare
Thursday 23rd	John Christopher Holden	Friday 24th	Marie Jones
Saturday 25th	Joan Kay	Sunday 26th	Parish Family

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Sue Lawton	Patricia Davies
Frances Wright	Rosemary Southwell
Maureen & Ron Jones	Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews	Dot Davies
John Barber	Sarah Alouane
Dorothy Robinson and son John Robinson	



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Please remember in your prayers the family of David Williams who was 79 and died a week last Monday. David had a huge impact on the spirituality of SVP and was an inspiration too many and best summed up in a letter from his daughter about his life and dedication to the SVP. For many years David played the music at St Winefride's SVP Christmas Lunch and was well known to many of our parishioners. A man who battled cancer twice in his life died just one week after developing symptoms of the coronavirus.

His daughter wrote; *there won't be a funeral at this time of crisis, but we will hold a memorial Mass and celebration of his life at some point in the future. In the meantime, if you would like to do something in Dad's memory, please no flowers, please donate to the SVP. Dad was a faithful and dedicated member of the Saint Vincent De Paul Society from the age of 16 until today, serving at several levels, from visiting local elderly and isolated people every week, to consulting on, writing and advising all 135 countries on the International Rule, (the legal operational and spiritual constitution of the international society). Sometimes even in his 70s, he would work through the night on his computer, and, when I asked him why he hadn't gone to bed, he would respond, "I just needed to get this back to Burkina Faso" or "I just needed to 're-write this letter from Saint Paul". Dad loved thinking writing. He wrote the book "The Mind And Heart of a Vincentian" and was working on a new edition.*

Dad early-retired from the Royal Insurance at 51 and dedicated himself to the SVP.

As well as all the work on the Rule and his book, in his 60s he was the only lay person in a Vatican/SVP mission to China, during which he carried letters to a Bishop who had been imprisoned 28 years by the regime, and his group had to change their itinerary daily to stay one step ahead of the Secret Police, who pursued them everywhere they went. Last year he went to Rome to work with the Vatican lawyers to renegotiate the SVP 's legal relationship with the Roman Catholic Church vs Pope Francis' reforms. Dad believed in a universal God and fought to retain the membership of people of all faiths and none in the SVP, and the service to people of all faiths, and none, by the SVP.

Dad had a special regard for the Ba'hai and wrote a British Ba'hai wedding service. In India Dad will be remembered by our community in Kolkata every time my Brother Arindam sings Catholic hymns at Hindu pujas and parties - he learned them all from an iPod Dad gave him. Dad will be remembered by his friends worldwide for his hard work, his thoughtfulness, his fun cringy jokes, his brilliant piano playing and many lovely singalongs, through which he helped to raise thousands for charity, and which brought us all so much pleasure. ❤ Dad was passionate in his interests, an avid reader and intellectual, collector of theological books, of music, of films.

Along with David Williams can we also pray for the families of Marie Jones, sister to Agnes, Nora and Rosalie and John Christopher Holden the late husband of Patricia who have also just recently passed away.

Please take a look at the website <http://www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk>. This week, under **Newsletter 12th April** will be the following documents:

An Easter card
Reflection on the Easter Sunday Gospel by Fr Paul
Poster to print and display
Sunday Message
A reflection from Tony Topping called New Order

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

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

3rd 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:

Saturday 2nd May	Sheila & Thomas Topping	Sunday 3rd May	Jack Henesy
Monday 4th	Daniel Healy	Tuesday 5th	Marie Thelwell
Thursday 7th	Pat Cummins	Friday 8th May	Remembering V-E Day World War Two Veterans
Saturday 9th	Parish Family	Sunday 10th	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	Patricia Davies
Frances Wright	Rosemary Southwell
Pat Cummins	Sarah Alouane
Pat Matthews	Dot Davies
John Barber	Emily Haimes
Ted Henesy	Anthony Kane
Dorothy Robinson	
and son John Robinson	



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
- St. Anthony's, Wythenshawe: churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe
- Fr Denis McBride: rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online
- Bishop Robert Baron: wordonfire.org/daily-mass/
- Shrewsbury Cathedral: dioceseofshrewsbury.org
- CAFOD Children's Liturgy: 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

Sign up for the weekly parish newsletter via email. To join send an email to the office at
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

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

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



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

11th – 17th 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.



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Fifth Sunday of Easter

10th 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:

Saturday 9th	Sheila and Thomas Topping	Sunday 10th	Ron and Maureen Jones
Monday 11th	Daniel Healy	Tuesday 12th	John Butcher
Thursday 14th	Pat Matthews	Friday 15th May	Roger Harris
Saturday 16th May	Monica Ellis	Sunday 17th May	Parish family

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
Dorothy Robinson

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Anthony Kane
Ted Henesy



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

Good News - We have been advised by Clem that his granddaughter Emily, who is a nurse and was suffering with Covid, has recovered and returned to work.

Fr Paul Writes: Another week! This weekend we pray for the Repose of the Soul of Monica Ellis who died at home. We pray for John and his family and for all who are grieving during these difficult days. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

As I write to you, I do not have any new news on Covid-19 and the eventual opening of churches. As soon as the bishops receive this information from Government, they will inform the Parish Priests. Thank you for your patience.

As we remember V.E. Day we give thanks for our freedom. We also remember those who worked in the "Land Army" and all who served and sacrificed for the nation.

Regina Coeli: Pope prays for vocations and Covid sufferers

During his 'Regina Coeli', Pope Francis recalled Vocations Sunday and invites international cooperation to deal with coronavirus pandemic.

Courage to respond to God's call

He commented that this Day reminds us of what Jesus said, "that the field of the Kingdom of God requires much work, and we must pray to the Father to send labourers to work in His field." The Pope noted that "Christian existence is always a response to God's call, in any state of life." He also stressed that "priesthood and the consecrated life require courage and perseverance; and without prayer one cannot continue along this path."

"I invite everyone" said Pope Francis, "to ask the Lord for the gift of good labourers for His Kingdom, with hearts and hands open to His love."

Closeness during pandemic

During his words following the recitation of the Regina Coeli, the Pope again expressed his closeness to those who are suffering from Covid-19, and to those caring for people stricken by the virus at this time. Pope Francis also expressed his support for an international collaboration that is taking place with various initiatives to respond adequately and effectively to this serious crisis.

It is important, he said, "to bring together scientific capacities, in a transparent and impartial way, to find vaccines and treatments and to guarantee universal access to essential technologies that will enable every infected person, in every part of the world, to receive the necessary health care."

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Underlining the importance of prayer at this difficult time, the Pope said he encouraged, on this coming 14 May, “believers of all religions to unite spiritually for a day of prayer and fasting, to implore God to help humanity overcome the coronavirus pandemic.” Pope Francis also remembered Our Lady in this Marian month of May and encouraged the faithful to spiritually visit Shrines dedicated to Mary during this health emergency.



LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

Message from a parishioner:

Dorothy Barber has e-mailed to say that she has found the Mass at Christ the Prince Peace” in Weybridge most uplifting. They say Mass in the week at noon and on Sunday at 10am. If you would like to take a look the link is www.cpp.org.uk/

A message from the office

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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

CHURCH OFFERTORY GIVING

Some parishioners who use Offertory envelopes have asked how they can contribute at this time.

* Your donation can be put into your envelopes as usual and then put into the collection once Masses recommence. You can just use one envelope to do this if you prefer.

* Alternatively, you could set up a Standing Order. Please contact the Parish Office for details of how to do this. The office can either send a form out or give details of the parish bank if you use online banking. parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

* An online donation page has also been set up by the Diocese to simplify the process of giving online. The webpage allows you to make a one-off donation or a regular monthly payment. You can access this by following the details that follow. There is a minimum donation of £5.00.

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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.

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Any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mike Jevons – mike_jevons@hotmail.com

Thank you for your continued support

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



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

11th – 17th 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 “THE GOOD SHEPHERD”

At the start of lockdown, to keep my mind active, I decided to write down my thoughts, my reflections, on what was happening during this crisis. Drawing inspiration from the daily mass readings, I have managed to write five reflections, one a week but this week I had seemed to run out of inspiration, my mind was blank. But then, on Monday the feast of English Martyrs, I read a text from St. Matthew's gospel (10:19) telling me not to worry, the Spirit would tell me what to say. I decided to just scribble whatever thoughts came into my mind. The following is the result. I hope it is acceptable.

At the beginning of WW2, Winston Churchill promised nothing but “blood, toil, sweat and tears” but he inspired the country to fight them on ‘the beeches- we shall never surrender’. In the present crisis, the government has promised difficulty and hardship but has urged us to stand together and help each other for we are all in this together, we are not alone.

It is true, we are not alone. Sunday was Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Old Testament, God is referred to as the shepherd of his people. Jesus is the Son of God and he himself claimed to be the Good Shepherd. Saturday was the feast of St. Athanasius, who attended the Council of Nicea and, as bishop of Alexandria, fought vehemently and ceaselessly against Arianism. For me, if Jesus was not wholly God, he could not have redeemed us for only one who is consubstantial with God the Father, creator of all things, could wipe away our sins and only one who is wholly man could atone for the iniquity of mankind. I believe that Jesus is the Christ, both God and man. He said, “I, the light, have come into the world, so that whoever believes in me need not stay in the dark” (John 12:44-50). Jesus is the light of the world, not a created light but one which is divine.

During this Corona tragedy, there are people who want to personally gain from the crisis and are working in the dark to prey on the weakest and most vulnerable but the light has shone brightly on those who are valiantly and courageously putting themselves forward to help those who are suffering. There is so much love and appreciation shown by all good people; all the ordinary people who are showing so much care for their neighbours. When Betty and I go for a short walk around the block for exercise, those we meet give us a wide berth, not to show contempt for us but to show us love and respect. When those who are taking advantage of the weather by working in their gardens, when they see us, they smile and say hello. People are so much more friendly. Family members are so much closer and supportive of one another. I am moved when I see on the news the stories of good people who are making isolation more bearable for the lonely and the needy. We are not alone! The good shepherd never takes his eyes off us.

Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine: so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from You, none of it will be ours, it will be You who shines through us upon others. O let us thus praise You, in the way which You love best, by shining on all those around us (St. John Henry Newman).



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Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

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Seventh Sunday of Easter

24th 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:

Saturday 23rd May	Parish Family	Sunday 24th May	Pauline McNulty
Monday 25th	Fr Courell	Tuesday 26th	Sue Lawton
Thursday 28th	Sheila Burrell	Friday 29th	Sue Thomas
Saturday 30th	Dr Marioth	Sunday 31st May	All hospital patients

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
John Barber
Dorothy Robinson

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Ted Henesy
Sheila Burrell



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

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

At the above same Zoom address on Wednesday 27th May at 3pm please join in a light hearted quiz and discussion on the Acts of the Apostles Ch 20-28

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.

Over the last few weeks, the Catholic Bishops of England's and Wales have written to the Prime Minister requesting for our churches be opened for the Sacraments. If the answer no, then a further request was added, that the churches be open for private prayer while all the safety guidelines would be implemented.

"Cardinal Vincent Nichols spoke to presenter Justin Webb on BBC Radio 4's Today programme on 14th May about how Catholic Churches can be safely re-opened for private prayer as the UK government eases its lockdown restrictions to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Justin Webb (presenter's cue)

Is it right that you can go to a garden centre or to the council tip, but not to church? Faith leaders are meeting ministers on Friday to try and change this. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Cardinal Nichols

What we want to say (to ministers) is that the issue of how people are able to practice their faith are profound and are sensitive and we would like a bit more sensitivity from the government. And we would like to remind them that the Catholic Church certainly has put forward already detailed protocols, agreed with Public Health England about how we can start the process, step by step, of making churches available for people.

We want to do this for a couple of reasons, one is because they offer a private, quiet space for individual prayer and that helps people's inner stability, and also because the faiths are a terrific motivator for aspects of the service that are given in society today. Within a mile of here there are two Catholic institutions that feed 300 people every day and that is motivated, in a good part, by their faith.

Now, in these last weeks, we've been creative, we've been faithful. Mass has been celebrated every single day in Catholic churches. People have joined in online but there's something, a big, big feeling in the religious communities, of wanting to get back to a fuller practice of their faith, as long as we can do it safely.

Justin Webb

What would it involve in practical terms?

Cardinal Nichols

Well, to begin with, I would like churches available for people to go and kneel and say their prayers, privately, individually. It would mean a routine of supervision; a routine of social distancing; a routine of cleansing. And all of that we believe we can do.

There's another thing it needs. It needs an understanding of what goes on in places of worship is quite different from one to another. So, a personal, individual prayer in a Catholic church is not something that is much done in Pentecostal churches, which tend to concentrate on big gatherings, and it's not what's done in mosques where people pray side by side. So we need a bit of differentiated thinking.

If I could use the analogy of sport... At the moment, it is okay to play tennis with your family, in a while it will be okay to have a kick around with your mates in the park. It will be quite a time before we can go to formal football matches. It's all sport, but we need to differentiate. We are talking about the practice of faith, but we also need to differentiate to make things safe – step by step.

Justin Webb

You can see, can't you, why the government is so ill-equipped to do that in a sense. They don't want to get involved in one faith being allowed to do something that another isn't. But you are saying, if you are going to be literate about religion, you have to grasp the nettle, if i can mix up all sorts of metaphors."

Cardinal Nichols

Yes and probably be stung a bit as well.

Justin Webb

Well, that's the point isn't it?

Cardinal Nichols

This is why the task-force that meets will bring together these perceptions and the religious literacy that is needed to take this forward. But I think it can be done. We have to do it in a very co-operative way, reflecting Lord Blunkett's comments. But we've got plans; we've got preparation and we know the depth of peoples' feeling and their need, so that they can live their faith well and safely. That's what we are looking for.

Justin Webb

It was that last point I was going to finish with if we may. What have you heard from people about the need that they feel in themselves physically to be in Catholic churches?"

Cardinal Nichols

The Catholic faith has a particular structure and pattern which is built around sacraments and sacraments are explicit moments in which we are contact with the Lord. People have been distanced from their sacraments. They have been able to follow Mass every day and hundreds of thousands of people have joined in online. But every single one of them wants to be able to receive Holy Communion.

It's a fast for us = it's quite a painful fast – and that's true for other faiths. I was talking to four Imams yesterday and they would say the same. Think of the patterns of Ramadan and the sacrifice of the Muslim community is making by never meeting outside their families during Ramadan, and at the end of the big feast.

So there is a great deal of deep spiritual sacrifice being made and, okay, we're willing, but we want to know that we are appreciated and the sensitivities are recognised and that we have these opportunities to open up – safely, step by step.

Justin Webb

Cardinal Vincent Nichols thank you very much for speaking to us.

Fr Paul writes: Please the Cardinal and our own Bishop, Bishop Mark in your prayers.

Please keep in your prayers the family of Jacqueline Williams and Monica Ellis whose funerals are next week for Monica and the week after for Jacqueline. Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Be assured of my prayer at Mass for your family. Please pray for Father Chris and the many members of our Parish who live on their own. **Fr Paul**

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

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We have had some lovely news from Tony and Betty Topping.



"Betty and I are celebrating as we have a new Great-grand granddaughter. She was born yesterday, Wednesday 20th May. Baby, parents, grandparents and Great-Grandparents are all well and very happy. Thank God!"

CHURCH OFFERTORY GIVING

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* **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

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Reflection by Tony Topping

WHAT IS LOVE?

“Rivers do not drink their own water; Trees do not eat their own fruit. The sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy, but much better when others are happy because of you.” Pope Francis.

On Monday, my sister sent me this quotation by Pope Francis. It helped me to make some sense of the jumbled thoughts that were crowding my mind over the weekend. What is love? St. John tells us that God is love but God is infinite, unfathomable, immeasurable and beyond human understanding, so how can we know what love really is? I love you! Only three little words but such a big statement. What do we mean when we say it? When we are young and we meet someone to whom we are attracted we say we are in love. We like being with him/her and we enjoy the feeling it gives us when we spend time with that person. But is it not a self-centred satisfying of our own desires? It may be the beginning of love but, at this stage, it is certainly not a perfect love.

In recent days, I have seen on television stories of women and men carers who continue to do what they do, despite the danger, not because of the money they earn, for they are grossly underpaid for what they do, but because they love the ones they take care of. Perhaps love is a giving of oneself. During these last few crisis months, there have been many who have courageously displayed unselfish and unconditional love.

God has given us all we have. He gave us life. He gave us water to drink, food to eat but most importantly, he gave us himself. Jesus, who was divine, did not cling to his divinity but humbled himself to be as we are. He was born in poverty and lived in humble obscurity until it was time to reveal himself.

He then, for us, allowed himself to be tortured, publicly humiliated and put to an agonising death. The night before he died, he prepared his disciples for all that was about to happen. He assured them that he would not leave them orphans but would send an advocate, a spirit of truth. Nowadays, when people hear the word spirit, they seem to think of ghosts and ghouls, vampires and zombies. The Holy Spirit is God; God is love and as St John tells us, “There is no fear in love, perfect love drives out fear. Fear has to do with punishment and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love.” *1Jn 4:16-19.*

The young couple who fall in love, if their relationship develops, their love will grow into a giving relationship. They will learn to put the other's need before their own. As we get older, like our bodies, the passion of our youth seems to fade a little but not the love. Like good wine, with age, love matures and improves. I thank God, for He gave me a wife who has put up with me, loved and cherished me for the last fifty-nine years.

O Jesus, help me to learn to love, not for my own sake, but let me recognise you in all the young and old, the sick and the dying, the poor and the lonely and all who are in need. Help me to love you with a perfect love.





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Pentecost Sunday

31st 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:

Saturday 30th May	Dr Marioth	Sunday 31st May	All hospital patients
Monday 1st June	All teaching staff	Tuesday 2nd	Anthony Daintree
Thursday 4th	Sheila Trimmer	Friday 5th	Anthony Hewitt
Saturday 6th June	Parish family	Sunday 7th June	Joe Thompson

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
John Barber
Dorothy Robinson

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Ted Henesy
Sheila Burrell



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

Daily Rosary continues at 10.30am (apart from Sunday) 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

QUIZ - At the above same Zoom address on **Wednesday 3rd June at 3pm** please join in a light hearted quiz and discussion. This week's bible reading is the Book of Revelation Ch 1-11 inclusive.

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.

Fr Paul writers....

Another week passes by. The government have begun to allow small groups of friends to meet up but not to be in each other's houses. Hopefully all will go well and in time will you be able to come to our church for silent prayer. The celebration of Mass, I hope that soon we will be able to gather once more in celebrating the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord and to receive him in the Eucharist.

As soon as we are given the lights to move forward by the government and the bishops of England and Wales. I will pass the information onto our website to keep you abreast of these changes. Please do keep in your prayers Sheila Trimmer from Avon Close who died on Thursday, may her family be consoled by your prayers. Please also pray for all the senior members of our parish who are still 'locked down' at home.

You will find below a letter from the bishops of England and Wales with the issues of opening the church. As a number of you will know I do you celebrate Mass every day during this lockdown for all the parishes intentions but especially those who have requested a message to be said for them or their family or friends. Once more be assured of my prayers and remembrance in Mass.

Please keep Bishop Mark in your prayers. Along with his brother bishops of England and Wales.

PREPARING TO EMERGE FROM LOCKDOWN

As we await an announcement regarding the re-opening of churches for private prayer, we have been asked by the Bishop's Conference to begin considering who in each of our parishes might be nominated to serve as a "COVID-19 Safety Lead" to help assist with the implementation of safety policies as our churches re-open.

I would be grateful if you begin giving thought as to who might be able to undertake this task at parish level. I would also be grateful if you could begin to give some consideration to those parishioners who might be approached and subsequently trained in public health requirements to serve as stewards facilitating this long-anticipated reopening. It will be important to be conscious that parishioners who fall into a "risk category" could not be invited to volunteer for these roles. The risk categories include those aged 70+, pregnant women, and anyone with underlying health conditions. As part of this process, risk assessments will need to be drawn up and appropriate PPE purchased along with cleaning materials. The Diocesan Health and Safety Officer, Julie Tinsley, will return to work next week to begin drawing up guidance and advice which will be issued in due course.

At diocesan level, we have been able to secure some limited supplies of PPE (face masks, gloves, disposable aprons and hand sanitiser along with barrier tape and floor marking tape) which we will be seeking to increase in the coming weeks working with "churchmarketplace". However, this will be a good time to consider ways of securing more readily available supplies of domestic cleaning materials such as household disinfectant; disposable cloths, disposable or kitchen "rubber" gloves and disposable aprons. Hand sanitiser will also be needed which should be at least 65% alcohol in order to be effective.

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

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

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Update - Rosemary Southwell, who is a member of the CWL. We now have details of the nursing home in Prenton where she is currently staying. Her family and close friends tell me that she is continually improving but missing all her friends here at St Winefride's. If you would like to contact Rosemary by letter or send a card then contact the parish office for details. Thank you.

I was hoping for a few news stories from parishioners this week, but I think everyone is outside enjoying this lovely weather instead of being at a computer or on their phone!! We are very lucky to have such great weather, makes queuing for food shopping even quite enjoyable. Standing outside with the sun on your face possible, making conversation with the person in front but still keeping safe.

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Any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mike Jevons – mike_jevons@hotmail.com

Thank you for your continued support

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

Reflection by Tony Topping

RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH

Come o Holy Spirit, renew the face of the Earth

As I sit each day and watch the press conference from Downing St., I get the feeling that many feel the same frustration that I feel. Day after day, ministers repeat the same warnings, stay at home, stay alert, help the NHS, save lives. When will we be able to go out? When can we go back to work? When will we see our families again? When will life get back to some kind of normality? The impatience shows when the Question is asked, why did this happen? Could it have been prevented? Was the government prepared for it? Did they act as quickly as they should have? Did world governments co-operate with each other? How are we going to make sure that it won't happen again? We are all sitting at home watching and waiting and worrying.

When Adam tasted the forbidden fruit, God promised to send a Christ, a redeemer. From then, the history of the chosen people in the Old Testament was a time of waiting for the one who would save the people of Israel. Jesus was the Christ who would save the world, but he was rejected and put to death. So, began, for the disciples, another time of watching and waiting and worrying. Jesus had promised to send an advocate to guide them. I can imagine how, like us now in lockdown, Mary and the disciples must have felt, gathered together in that upper room, frightened and frustrated, waiting and Questioning. They, too, were asking why did it happen. Why did God let it happen? Could they themselves have done anything to prevent it happening? But they also had faith and hope for Jesus had promised to send his Holy Spirit. We, too, can believe and hope, For Sunday is the feast of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is with us still. After He had descended on the apostles, they had faith, love and courage to go out and spread the good news throughout the world.

Our world today is in crisis and I am not talking of just the virus for I think that is the result of all the serious issues we have not found solutions to. Scientists tell us that global warming is coming to a point of no return. Every day, species are becoming extinct. During world lockdowns, carbon emissions have reduced dramatically but as restrictions begin to be relaxed, they will rise again. Throughout the world, people are dying from a lack of food and water and from disease. Even in our own country, people are living on the streets without homes, jobs or food, yet, during the crisis shelter and food have been found for them. We must find a way to convince world leaders that these are the problems that need to be solved. Like the apostles, we are being asked to spread the word of God. If we have faith, The Holy Spirit is there to help us.

Excerpts from the Morning Prayer of the Church: -

Make us generous, warm hearted and unselfish; - Help us always to think of the needs of others. Lord, may your spirit come to our aid.

The apostles waited and prayed for the coming of the spirit. Gathered together in their company, we pray for his coming tonight and joyfully proclaim the goodness of God- Father, send us your Spirit.

On the day of Pentecost, the church is filled with joy. Strengthened with measureless hope, we pray to Christ, who is calling the church together in the Holy Spirit; - Lord, renew the face of the earth.

Holy Apostles and Martyrs in Wallasey

I have received a message with a link to **Holy Apostles and Martyrs in Wallasey** on their celebration of Laudato Si.

I thought you might like to see the video of what their parish has put together to celebrate the 5th anniversary of Laudato Si.

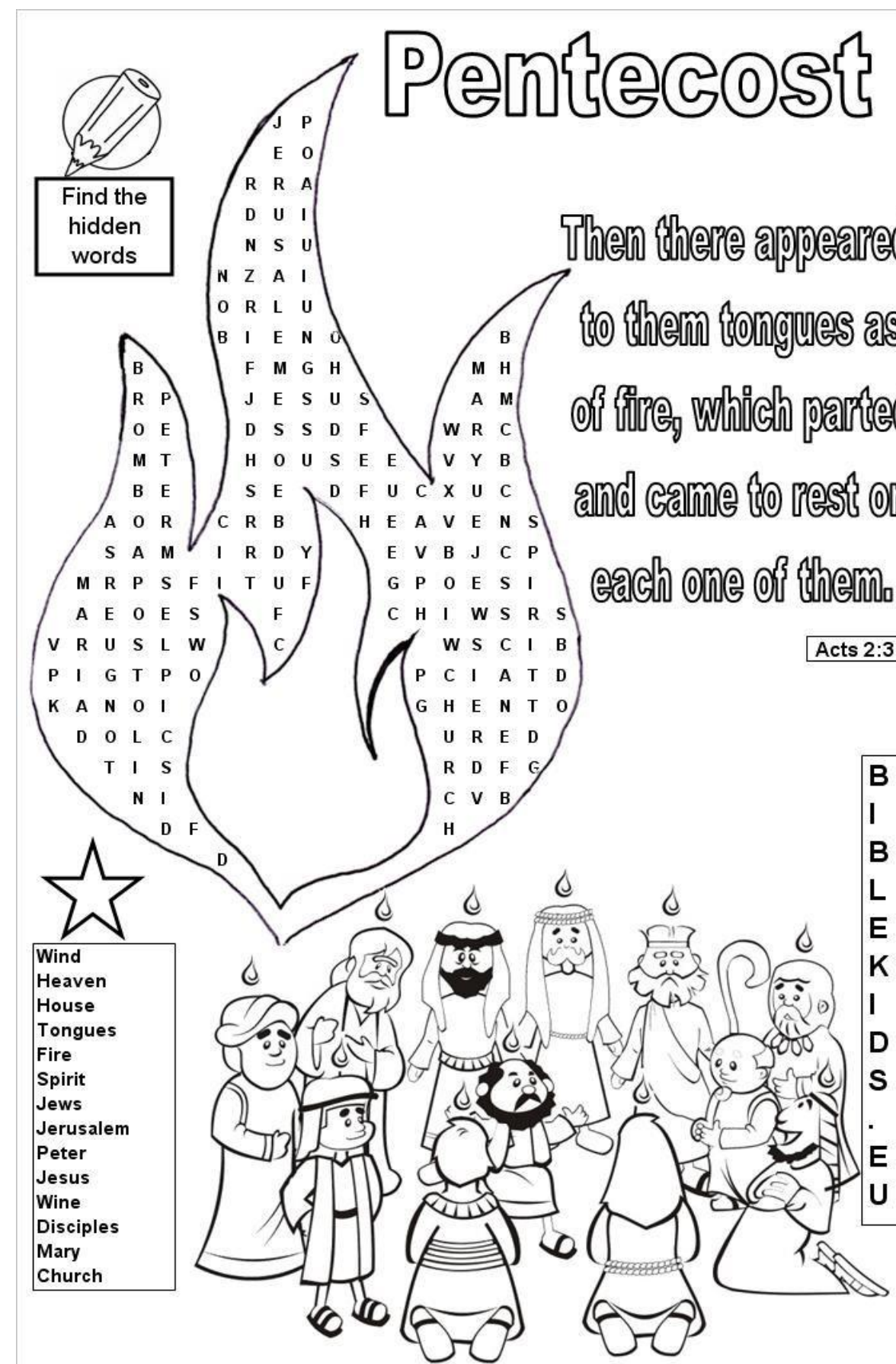
More than 70 parishioners contributed poems, photos, artefacts, poems etc to show God's creation. They say "it isn't a super-slick production" and they adhered to social distancing throughout but it shows what can be done under lockdown.

The video went live a week ago and is available on their parish website holypostlesandmartyrs.org please pass on to whoever you think might enjoy it. Do take a look.

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.

There is something for the children on the next page as well.

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





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

Trinity Sunday

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.

7th June 2020

Mass Intentions from this Saturday are as follows:

Saturday 6th June	Parish family	Sunday 7th June	Joe Thompson
Monday 8th	Fr Jim McGrath	Tuesday 9th	Rachel & Tom Kay - Thanksgiving
Thursday 11th	Ron & Maureen Jones	Friday 12th	Hilda Haines
Saturday 13th June	Maureen Bainbridge	Sunday 14th June	Parish family

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
John Barber
Dorothy Robinson

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Ted Henesy
Sheila Burrell



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

Daily Rosary continues at 10.30am (apart from Sunday) 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

Bible study - At the above same Zoom address on **Wednesday 10th June at 3pm** please join in for bible study and discussion. This week's bible reading is the **Book of Revelation Ch 1-11** inclusive. There will be a quiz **on Wednesday, 17th June**. No Quiz this week!

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.

Fr Paul writes.... Over the last few weeks, I have been involved with the funerals of several members of our parish community. Death comes to each and every one of us. Yet our faith lets us experience the Lord Jesus, the One who is the cause and summit of the fullness of life. This reality is open to all. It is the meaning of the feast we celebrate this Trinity Sunday. As Jesus says it is the 'will of my Father that I should lose nothing that my Father has given to me'. In these days we remember the Fathers unconditional love, transforming us into Children of light. We are closely united with the Son who has endured pain and suffering in his powerful love and who has conquered death in rising from the dead.

The Holy Spirit consecrates and makes us holy and unites us in the eternal love of God. In these testing times, when suffering is so widespread and beyond our understanding, the power of God will fill our lives with hope and courage.

Please keep Sheila Trimmer and her family in your prayers. Sheila's funeral takes place on Wednesday this week. Can you also keep in your prayers Fr Stephen from OLSJ. His Mum Theresa Coonan died on Thursday. We understand she had been poorly for some weeks.

Please be assured of my prayer for yourselves and your families.

With all good wishes, **Fr. Paul**



Archbishop John wrote to the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, over a week ago expressing his understanding of "a growing sense of dissatisfaction" particularly as our churches are not yet permitted to open where a growing number of retail outlet will soon open their doors.

"Religious faith can help support people, both directly and indirectly, with respect to their wellbeing. Access to places of worship is integral to this."

Archbishop John also wrote to all MP's with constituencies in the Archdiocese.

Letter of Archbishop John Wilson

27 May 2020

Dear Prime Minister

May I, first of all, say how pleased I was by your recovery from Covid-19, and also congratulate you and your fiancée on the birth of your son.

I write as the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, a Diocese which covers all the Greater London Boroughs south of the River Thames, the County of Kent, and the Medway Unitary Authority. The Diocese comprises 175 parishes and 169 schools, both primary and secondary. Our most recent statistics indicate that over 80,000 people attend church for Mass each Sunday and our outreach into local communities is considerable.

Since the Government's decision, on 23 March 2020, to close places of worship our churches have remained shut. We accepted this as part of the important strategic effort to save lives and contain the spread of Covid-19. Important Christian festivals during Holy Week and Easter all took place behind closed doors, each priest celebrating alone without a congregation.

As restrictions have been lifted, there is growing frustration that churches remain closed for private, individual, visits of prayer. This comes when restrictions on access to other 'non-essential' facilities are being relaxed. For Catholics, access to church buildings is spiritually essential, something recognised by other Governments internationally.

Respectfully, I believe that it is now time for churches to be allowed to open for individual visits for private prayer. Supervision and hygiene regimes can be put in place akin to those in supermarkets and any churches that cannot implement these would remain closed.

At stake here are two paramount principles. The first is freedom of religion and the second is basic equality and justice. Total church closure was justifiable in the initial weeks of the pandemic. However, to enable non-essential shops and services to open, while keeping churches closed for individual prayer, is an infringement of both religious freedom and equity.

I am not requesting special treatment for the Catholic Church. I appreciate that there is a Faith Task Force seeking to address the needs of religious groups and we are represented on this. There is, however, a growing sense of dissatisfaction. I ask that you please take seriously the needs of different religious traditions and, where their place of worship is necessary to their faith, you create parity of access consistent with that for retail outlets.

The long term mental health implications of Covid-19 are as yet unknown. Religious faith can help support people, both directly and indirectly, with respect to their wellbeing. Access to places of worship is integral to this.

I realise that you carry enormous responsibility at this time. I assure you of the desire of the Catholic Church to collaborate in ensuring our country recovers from Covid-19 in ways that are safe and secure. Respectfully, I ask, however, that you please act to enable those places of worship that desire to open, and are able to guarantee proper hygiene regimes, to be able to do so for individual visits for prayer. I receive letters and emails everyday asking for this, but the decision rests with you and I believe that it is now time to make this possible.

With the assurance of prayers

Yours sincerely

✠ John Wilson
Archbishop of Southwark

We have tonight (Fri 5th) received more news about church opening for private prayer, and details will follow shortly. John Kane our Health and Safety Representative has kindly volunteered to be our “COVID-19 Safety Lead role” but will need volunteers to serve as stewards. Below is the information we had received last week about how we will move forward as a church. Fr Paul

PREPARING TO EMERGE FROM LOCKDOWN – repeated from last week's newsletter

As we await an announcement regarding the re-opening of churches for private prayer, we have been asked by the Bishop's Conference to begin considering who in each of our parishes might be nominated to serve as a “COVID-19 Safety Lead” to help assist with the implementation of safety policies as our churches re-open.

I would be grateful if you begin giving thought as to who might be able to undertake this task at parish level. I would also be grateful if you could begin to give some consideration to those parishioners who might be approached and subsequently trained in public health requirements to serve as stewards facilitating this long-anticipated reopening. It will be important to be conscious that parishioners who fall into a “risk category” could not be invited to volunteer for these roles. The risk categories include those aged 70+, pregnant women, and anyone with underlying health conditions. As part of this process, risk assessments will need to be drawn up and appropriate PPE purchased along with cleaning materials. The Diocesan Health and Safety Officer, Julie Tinsley, will return to work next week to begin drawing up guidance and advice which will be issued in due course.

At diocesan level, we have been able to secure some limited supplies of PPE (face masks, gloves, disposable aprons and hand sanitiser along with barrier tape and floor marking tape) which we will be seeking to increase in the coming weeks working with “churchmarketplace”. However, this will be a good time to consider ways of securing more readily available supplies of domestic cleaning materials such as household disinfectant; disposable cloths, disposable or kitchen “rubber” gloves and disposable aprons. Hand sanitiser will also be needed which should be at least 65% alcohol in order to be effective.

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

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

A message from the office:

Ways to Stay in Touch with Parish News - Visit the parish website

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



News items: Do you have any good news stories that you would like to share, here in the Parish Newsletter? Are you celebrating a special birthday, anniversary? Birth of a child/grandchild? Do let us know and spread the happiness! Send your good news story and a photo (only if you want) to the parish office e-mail above.

Update - I now am able to update you with the nursing home Rosemary Southwell is staying in; Windy Knowe Nursing Home, 15, Waterford Road, Oxtol, Wirral, CH43 6US. Tel 0151 653 3006.



Deacon Jim and Carolyn are overjoyed at the birth of their granddaughter Ffion Grace Kay on 30th May.

Mother Rachel and their son Tom live in South Wales so Jim and Carolyn are unable to visit but thankfully modern technology allows lots of video contact. Prayers of thanksgiving for baby Ffion and for Her mum and dad!

From Dorothy Barber - Thank you to everyone who has contacted me after my fall. I broke 2 fingers in my right hand, which is now in plaster, up to below elbow with only my thumb free! So I am slowly becoming well practised in writing with my left hand!! I have some help in each day but I long for my independence!! Many friends have been very kind and I am extremely grateful for the help given.

CHURCH OFFERTORY GIVING

Some parishioners who use Offertory envelopes have asked how they can contribute at this time.

* Your donation can be put into your envelopes as usual and then put into the collection once Masses recommence. You can just use one envelope to do this if you prefer.

* Alternatively, you could set up a Standing Order. Please contact the Parish Office for details of how to do this. The office can either send a form out or give details of the parish bank if you use online banking. parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

* An online donation page has also been set up by the Diocese to simplify the process of giving online. The webpage allows you to make a one-off donation or a regular monthly payment. You can access this by following the details on the next page. There is a minimum donation of **£5.00**.

A message from The Trussell Trust - During April 2020, food banks in our network saw an 89% increase in need compared to the same period last year, with a staggering 107% increase in emergency food parcels for children.

You have helped the food banks in our network achieve a great deal in the last few weeks as they face this increased need and adjust to new ways of working. We're proud to have you standing in solidarity with us, food banks, and people in crisis.

But no one should be struggling to keep their heads above water.

We have been seeing rises in food bank use for the past five years but this 89% increase - with the number of families coming to food banks doubling - is completely unprecedented and not right. People need to be able to put food on their table.



FOODBANK

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>

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

Thank you for your continued support

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

Reflection by Tony Topping

PEACE

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you.

There is so much unrest in our world; unrest and mistrust between East and West and between neighbouring countries which often leads to war; unrest between religions which often leads to resentment and violence; unrest in families which sometimes leads to separation and divorce. It is always the innocent, the children and the poor, who suffer the most. During the first half of this year, there has been a great deal of anxiety and apprehension brought about through fear of a detestable virus that has killed so many and has isolated us from our family and friends and has even forced us to find a new way of worshipping. Many have experienced a deterioration in their physical and mental health.

The above phrase will be familiar to all who attend mass for it is part of the prayer which follows the Lord's prayer. It is a prayer addressed to Our Lord Jesus Christ asking him for peace and unity in accordance with his will. Every time we pray the Our Father, we say “Thy will be done.” These words are repeated countless times whenever we ask for God's help. Jesus himself, in the Garden of Gethsemane, prayed to his father that the chalice be taken from him but he ended his prayer with the words, “not mine but Thy will be done.” He surrendered himself to the will of his father.

Jesus bequeathed to the apostles and to us the gift of peace but not a peace that would banish suffering and persecution, trial and tribulation. It is a peace deep within us. A surrendering of our will to the will of God. St Alphonsus Liguori called it a conformity to the will of God. I know it is easy for me to say, me who has had such an easy life and never had to experience severe pain as others have, yet even so, it is hard for me to put into practice that renouncing of my own will and surrendering to God's. There are so many worldly things that tie us down and prevent us from soaring to that great height which will truly set us free. Each morning when I awake, I thank God for this new day and offer it up to him in thanksgiving and in reparation for my sins. Perhaps because of my age, I feel genuinely grateful and contrite, but as the day goes on there are so many distractions and I am weak, worldly things occupy my mind and I have to consciously turn my thoughts back to God. I think about the holy martyrs who suffered persecution, torture and death yet went to the scaffold singing praise to God. They were able to do so because of the faith and inner peace that Christ had bequeathed. I remind myself of the words from the morning prayers:

As the new day begins let us praise Christ, in whom is the fullness of grace and the Spirit of God.

We praise you Lord and we thank you for all your blessings

Give us peace of mind and generosity of heart, grant us health and strength to do your will.

May your love be with us during the day, guide us in our work.

Lord give us your spirit

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.

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



*The Most Holy Trinity
Gospel: John 3:16-18*



Show your love for the world. Find activities at cafod.org.uk/primary

Illustration: Erika Pál Charity no 1160384 and a company limited by guarantee no 09387398



St Winefride's RC Church

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Jayne Shakespeare - parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Sunday 14th June 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:

Saturday 13th June	Maureen Bainbridge	Sunday 14th June	Parish family
Monday 15th	Sheila Trimmer	Tuesday 16th	Dot Davies
Thursday 18th	Parish family	Friday 19th	Tony McDevitt
Saturday 20th June	Dr Marioth	Sunday 21st June	Patrick Lowes

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber	Patricia Davies
Frances Wright	Rosemary Southwell
Pat Cummins	Sarah Alouane
Pat Matthews	Dot Davies
Tony McDevitt	Ted Henesy
Dorothy Robinson	Sheila Burrell

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

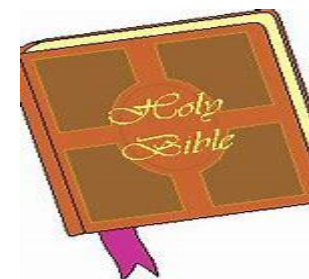


Daily Rosary continues at 10.30am (apart from Sunday) with St Winefride's parish

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](#)



Bible study - This week's bible discussion on Revelation Ch12-17 inclusive. Either via the Zoom address opposite or ring Deacon Jim on his mobile to join in at **3pm Wednesday 17th June**.

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.

An important message from Deacon Jim.... Feast of Corpus Christi marks the reopening of our churches!!

All being well we hope to have church re-open this week at St Winefride's for private prayer. This is great news and an answer to so many prayers. The control of the virus and protection of our community is still our highest priority though and so strict controls will be in place to help achieve this. John Kane is our Covid-19 health and safety coordinator and we are grateful to him and a team of volunteer Stewards helping us achieve this.

The church will open initially for an hour every day 1.30 - 2.30pm and will be supervised by two Stewards. The number of parishioners will be limited to no more than 10 in the church at a time and at busy times your visit will be limited to 15 minutes to allow others to pray in their turn. Limiting the use of benches, maintaining safe distance and regular cleaning of surfaces will also help keep everyone safe. All this will be kept under review but even with these restrictions, this is still great news and the beginning of a journey back towards fully opening our church and celebrating Mass once more some day soon.

Your prayers and patience will be needed in the weeks ahead but let's enjoy reopening our church especially at this time of celebrating who we are, the Body of Christ!

Thank you to those parishioners who have so far volunteered to help with the opening.

Fr Paul writes...

It is good news that the church can open for private prayer.

Please see Deacon Jim's and our Health and Safety Covid Leader John's invitation as to how we journey into the new 'norm' for visit to church. I am very grateful for the hard work they have done to make our church a safe and continual place of prayer.

Within the next two or so weeks we will be able to see and join in Mass from St Winefride's. There will be more information on our Website very soon.

May we remember all who are sick and those who have died, especially those who have died because of Covid 19. May the Lord bless them and send His Spirit of Balm upon those who are mourning in their loss.



Bishop Mark has asked us to pray for;

DEACON BRIAN MCCARTHY

Canon Michael Gannon VG presided at the graveside funeral service at Southern Cemetery, Manchester, for Deacon Brian McCarthy earlier this week. May he rest in peace.

FATHER JOHN WRIGHT

The funeral service for Father John Wright also took place this week at Telford Crematorium. Let us remember John in our prayers. May he rest in peace.

THE WILSON FAMILY

I would be grateful if you could remember Mark, the son of Father Colin Wilson in your prayers, who begins hospital treatment tomorrow. We were also very sorry to learn of the death of Colin and Alison's dear granddaughter, Helen, in April. May she rest in peace. Please keep all the family in your prayer. With my prayers and remembrance at Mass throughout this week. **Fr Paul**

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

**You can also access what the pope has to say each day be heading to
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**OUR VERY OWN DEACON JIM IS CELEBRATING
HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY ON MONDAY.
THAT IS A LOT OF DAYS!!**

**A BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM EVERYONE
WITHIN ST WINEFRIDE'S PARISH.**



View from a teacher: Last week saw us begin the next stage of our Covid preparation for our Wirral primary school; namely the increase of number of children spending their day in school; the numbers increased from our steady 20 each day during full lockdown, to 70 last week with next week's numbers expected to surpass 140.

Like many teachers, since the beginning of lockdown, I have been busy providing on-line lessons for my own class, childcare for the children of key workers and providing telephone support to parents overwhelmed with the enormity of home schooling for the first time and not knowing where to turn. I have been amazed by the warmth and support of our parents, who despite their obvious concerns have shown immense trust

in their children's school during this period. The coronavirus pandemic has forced teachers to operate completely out of their comfort zone and has caused me personally to reflect on the importance and relevance of the relationships we build up over the course of a school year.

We begin the academic year in September, eager to make a good impression with our children and parents; we make a point of engaging parents to ensure we have their trust and support; we take time to find out about our children's hobbies, interests and family lives, all of which help us to connect with the children in our care and all this before they are taught a thing! We work hard in developing the wellbeing and social and emotional provision for each child, only to see the fruits of our efforts brought to a happy completion in July.

As we near the culmination of what has been a highly unique academic year, I am reminded of the first letter of St Peter, which highlights to me, particularly at this time, the importance of good relationships and why the efforts of teachers should not be taken lightly. "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

* An online donation page has also been set up by the Diocese to simplify the process of giving online. The webpage allows you to make a one-off donation or a regular monthly payment. You can access this by following the details on the next page. There is a minimum donation of **£5.00**.



FOODBANK

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

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

CHURCH OFFERTORY GIVING

Some parishioners who use Offertory envelopes have asked how they can contribute at this time.

* Your donation can be put into your envelopes as usual and then put into the collection once Masses recommence. You can just use one envelope to do this if you prefer.

* Alternatively, you could set up a Standing Order. Please contact the Parish Office for details of how to do this. The office can either send a form out or give details of the parish bank if you use online banking. 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.

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Things to note:

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- * 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

Thank you for your continued support

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

A VIRTUAL BIRTHDAY

On Sunday, 14th June, I will have been on this Earth for 80 years. However, because of the present situation, I have postponed my birthday until next year. I will stay at 79 for another year. As I cannot have a real birthday celebration with all my family around me, I still hope to have a virtual celebration thanks to modern technology. I am sure that all my loved ones will think of me and offer prayers for me. I look forward to seeing them one way or another.

During the past few months, I have thought a great deal about my family and realised How blessed I am to have been born into such a wonderful family. Apart from our children and grandchildren, over the last few months, I have been in touch with brothers, sisters, cousins and friends, some of whom we have not seen for quite a long time. It has been wonderful to catch up with so many. Some have continuing age and health problems and a few have suffered with Covid-19. I have been deeply moved by the many messages of love and support which have passed between all of them and the prayers that have been offered for each other. I know, too, that our parish family have also been very supportive of one another.

When I think in the present moment, I miss my family and friends and I wonder when it will end and I feel sad. I know that lockdown has been an ordeal for all of us, but when I think back, it seems that three months have flown by. Fr. Paul has said to me many times when I have been worried about someone or something, "What were you worried about this time last year?" Of course, I could never remember. We will get through this. During this period of crisis, there have been many stories of love and kindness by good people towards, not only their loved ones, but towards complete strangers. I think that people, during lockdown, have rediscovered their Christian values. Some bad things have happened and we've had time to reflect and realise that we must put an end to global injustice. So, I won't bemoan the things that I miss but thank God for the good things that have happened during this period and pray that we will all resolve to continue to be kind and generous to one another.



**A BIG BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALSO TONY FROM ALL AT
ST WINEFRIDE'S PARISH CHURCH**

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





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

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 21st June 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:

Saturday 20th June	Dr Marioth	Sunday 21st June	Patrick Lowes
Monday 22nd	Gladys May Moreton	Tuesday 23rd	Anne & Jeff Telford (Anniversary)
Thursday 25th	Maureen & Peter Roca	Friday 26th	Joan Hewitt RIP (Funeral – 10.30am Landican)
Saturday 27th	Parish family	Sunday 28th	Chris Henderson

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
Tony McDevitt
Dorothy Robinson

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Ted Henesy
Sheila Burrell



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

Daily Rosary continues at 10.30am (apart from Sunday) 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](#)



Bible study - This week's bible discussion is Revelation Chapters 18-22 inclusive. Either via the Zoom address opposite or ring Deacon Jim on his mobile to join in at **3pm Wednesday 24th June**.

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.

An important message from Deacon Jim.... The church will be open from 1.30 - 2.30 pm from this **Monday 22nd June** for private prayer. Initially, we will open church on a Monday, Thursday and Saturday. There are guidelines and rules that we have been given by our Health and Safety Manager and they are at the end of the newsletter, so please do read them. Also, if you are showing any signs at all of Covid-19, please do not come to church.

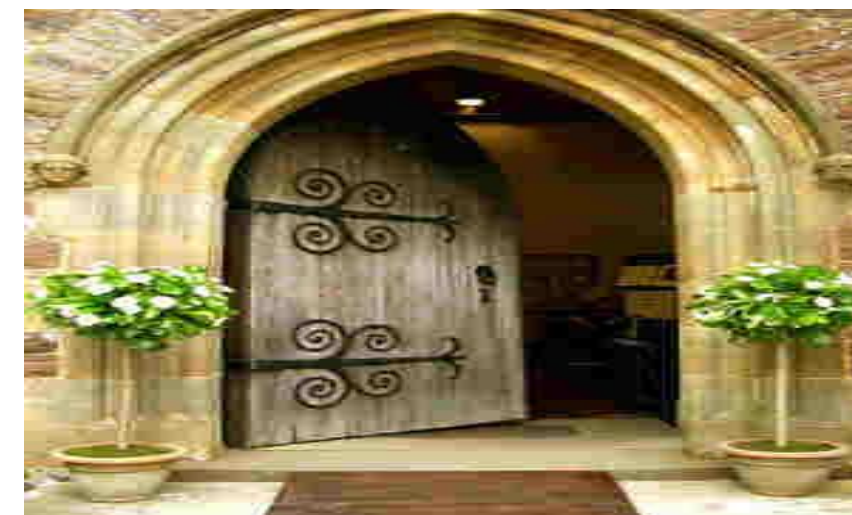
Fr Paul writes... Please keep in your prayers the families of Joan Hewitt and Gladys May Moreton who both died last weekend. Joan's funeral is this Friday. Gladys was 100 and resided at Hallwood Court in Neston. Her funeral is to be confirmed shortly.

Hoping that you are all well. The Government has given permission for places of worship to be open.

Cardinal Nichols, our own bishop Mark and all the Bishops of England and Wales have been petitioning the Government for this to happen. So, from this Monday 22nd June, our Church will be open 1.30pm-2.30pm as detailed above. Please be guided by the stewards who will be present in the church.

Sadly, I am not allowed to be with you at that time however I shall be celebrating Mass at 11 am each day for your intentions. Unfortunately, I shall be celebrating on my own in a locked church. However, we have a little light of hope that within two weeks you will be able to access Mass in your homes via a video link and so we shall be together again. More news next week.

All I ask of you is to pray for one another, especially those who have to make decisions on our behalf, be they secular or religious. With my constant prayer. **Fr. Paul**



LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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

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

A message from the office:

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News items: Do you have any good news stories that you would like to share, here in the Parish Newsletter? Are you celebrating a special birthday, anniversary? Birth of a child/grandchild? Do let us know and spread the happiness! Send your good news story and a photo (only if you want) to the parish office e-mail above.



News from St Winefride's School - We have just finished our 13th week of lockdown in school. I say *lockdown* and not *shut down* as St Winefride's has remained very much open throughout this time, closing only for weekends and bank holidays. We have a regular band of vulnerable and key worker children who have been coming into school. The staff have worked together in teams throughout this time to provide childcare for these children.

Teachers continue to do a great job ensuring that work is provided for the children at home; also, communicating with parents and children through the Dojo system (email) and telephone. Last week, all the children were sent a little message by 'snail mail', the first time some children have received a letter addressed to them.

Mrs Roberts and Mrs Davies have been working hard to keep up the morale of our school community with lots of wonderful events and activities. You may have seen some of these on our school Facebook page, on the CH64-About My Area webpage or even on the local news on television! From what I hear the whole of the parish has enjoyed Mrs Roberts's idea to share all our Holy Communion photographs through the ages.

On 22nd June, school opening will be extended to the children of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on a part time basis and we hope to be able to offer all the other children at least one afternoon in school with their current teacher to end the school year but this is all dependent upon the R rate.

Mrs Hoskinson will be leaving St Winefride's at the end of the summer term to spend more time with her two daughters while they are young. Mrs Hoskinson has been teaching at St Winefride's for 13 years and, I am sure she will not mind me telling you that, it was a very difficult decision for her to make but it is the right one for her family. We thank her and wish her and her family well for the future.

Other more joyful staff news - Miss Riley and her partner are expecting a baby in the autumn. Congratulations to them both! Mrs Ormes, Headteacher.

From Dorothy Barber - There is a lot of upset and anger in the world at the moment and I have a prayer which I say each day and I would like to share with you.

Lord grant peace to our troubled world

Grant understanding of our cultural differences

Grant respect for the dignity of peoples and nations everywhere

Grant recognition of our common humanity
Our equal citizenship
On the face of the earth

For we all live
in the one house
this earth this tent
among the stars

Lord guide us all
in the way of peace. Amen





FOODBANK

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 or tinned potatoes
Tinned cooked meats, corned beef or ham
Tinned meats such as stews, steak or hotpots
Cup-a-soup
Small bottles of cordial / UHT juice

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.

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Some parishioners who use Offertory envelopes have asked how they can contribute at this time.

* Your donation can be put into your envelopes as usual and then put into the collection once Masses recommence. You can just use one envelope to do this if you prefer.

If you have not received your box of new envelopes, please e-mail the parish office and from the beginning of July we can organise to get these to you.

* Alternatively, you could set up a Standing Order. Please contact the Parish Office for details of how to do this. The office can either send a form out or give details of the parish bank if you use online banking. parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk.

An online donation page has also been set up by the Diocese to simplify the process of giving online. The webpage allows you to make a one-off donation or a regular monthly payment. You can access this by following the details on the next page. There is a minimum donation of **£5.00**.

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Thank you for your continued support

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THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Sunday was the feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, previously known as Corpus Christi. It was also my birthday. My sister said what a wonderful day it was to celebrate a birthday and so it was but it was tinged with a little sadness for it was the day that my great-granddaughter was meant to have her first Holy Communion. Of course, with lockdown, it had to be postponed. Still, we had a very joyful weekend with staggered visits from family groups, we followed all the distancing rules which was strange and very hard, and lots of phone calls and messages for which I am very grateful. Virtual hugs and kisses are not the same though. It is difficult for two- and three-year olds to understand why they cannot give Nana Betty and "Pops" big hugs.

The feast brought back a lot of memories for me. In his homily on Sunday, Fr Edmund said he has kept a record of every mass he has said since his ordination, where it was said, with whom and for what intension. I presume he must keep a daily diary. For the last thirty or so years, I have served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. It has been a wonderful ministry giving me the privilege of taking communion to many people who were ill or nearing the end of their lives. All became very dear friends. I wish I had kept a record of all the people I have taken communion to. My memory does not serve me well these days and I cannot now remember all of them. My most recent one was Ellie, a real character and a true Liverpudlian. I visited her every Sunday, except when I was on holiday, for about twenty years. She was a hundred and two years of age and as bright as a button. She was spared lockdown for she died a few weeks before it started. It was a blessing for her for I think it would have been a terrible ordeal for her but I miss her a lot. Those I visited were always very grateful. They didn't realise what a great privilege and a joy it was for me. They truly inspired me and helped to deepen my faith. I hope they are all praying for me now.

Tomorrow, Friday, is the feast of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. In the house where I grew up, there was a statue of The Sacred Heart. It sat on the landing at the top of the stairs. It could be seen from the front door as you stepped into the hall. My parents had a great devotion to The Sacred Heart for one of the promises of displaying the image was that the family would stay close. All my siblings and most of their families live in our local vicinity. So, I have much to thank God for.

*Christ be near at either hand,
Christ behind, before me stand
Christ be with me where e'er I go,
Christ around, above, below*

*Christ be in my heart and mind,
Christ within my soul enshrined.
Christ control my wayward heart;
Christ abide and ne'er depart.*

*Christ my life and only way,
Christ my lantern night and day;
Christ be my unchanging friend,
Guide and shepherd to the end.*

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



CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

What do you mean by 'private prayer'?

Individuals may come to church to pray. Mass and Confessions will still not be available in church. There will be a 15 minute time limit on a person's time in church if there is a queue outside, to enable as many people as possible, the chance to come and pray.

Can I come with my friend or family?

People from the same family or household may come together and sit next to each other. If you are not from the same household, you must sit separately, observing the 2m social distancing rule. Seats will be shown to you by the Stewards.

Can I just turn up at church?

Yes, but there will be set times and days church is open. At the moment Monday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon. 1.30pm – 2.30pm.

You may have to queue outside, as the Diocese has advised that a maximum of 10 people (excluding stewards) are to be allowed in at any one time.

Do I need to wear a mask or gloves?

It is entirely up to you! The Diocese **have not stipulated** that visitors must wear any PPE. Please be reassured that all surfaces (handles, kneelers, seats etc) will be thoroughly cleaned at the beginning and at the end of each 1.0 hour prayer session, with appropriate cleaning materials.

Visitors will be asked to wipe down the seat and handrail they have used with wipes provided and adhere to the 2m social distancing rule whilst in church and follow the one-way system.

Visitors will also be asked to clean their hands using the hand sanitizer gel provided, on entering and leaving the church.

Will I be able to use the toilets whilst in church?

No, unfortunately access to all the facilities (toilets, kitchen etc) will be closed to the public.

Can I light a candle?

A limited number of votive candles will be available to light from a candle already alight. Please ensure that if someone is lighting a candle and you need to pass by them, that you maintain the 2m social distancing rule.

We are hoping that over the next couple of months, these rules will be able to be relaxed a little and more people will be able to come to church. We will keep you posted on any changes that we are made aware of.

Church Visiting Rules as of 22nd June 2020

We warmly welcome you to our church. To reduce the risk of spreading infection, please ensure that you take the time to read the following rules, when coming to pray in our church:

- * No more than 10 people are allowed inside the church (excluding Stewards) at any one time.**
- * Each person is allowed a maximum of 15 minutes inside the church.**
- * Hands should be sanitized on the way in and on the way out of church.**
- * Please observe the one-way system in place, when entering and exiting the church.**
- * Votive candles may be lit from a candle already alight**
- * Please note, that any statues or religious paintings etc. should NOT be touched.**
- * Please sit in the seat number allocated to you.**
- * When you are ready to leave, please wipe down the seat and handrail with the wipe provided and dispose of in the bin**
- * The normal social distancing rules apply at all times, when waiting outside and when inside the church. Please try to stay 2m/6ft away from another person.**
- * The toilet facilities are not available in church.**

Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter. Hopefully, these measures will enable our churches to open for prayer to everyone. If these rules are not adhered to, the church will be forced to close its doors once more. Please stay safe.



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Jayne Shakespeare - parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk



Bible study – For bible study this week we are going to discuss the Our Father. In preparation please read the very last section of the Catechism, part 4 section 2 on Christian Prayer available online at https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_P9V.HTM

Wednesday 1st July, 3pm at the Rosary Zoom address or ring Deacon Jim to connect by 'phone.'

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.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 28th June 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:

Saturday 27th	Pauline Tunstall	Sunday 28th	Chris Henderson
Monday 29th	Parish Family	Tuesday 30th	Kenneth Richards
Thursday 2nd	Gladys May Moreton RIP (11.00 St Winefride's - graveside)	Friday 3rd	Leslie T Cooke
Saturday 4th	All parishioners on our prayer list.	Sunday 5th	Carol Saunders

Please do let us know if you would like a Mass said for someone by e-mailing the parish office.

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Dorothy Barber
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
Tony McDevitt
Dorothy Robinson
John Kane
Maureen Grace

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies
Ted Henesy
Sheila Burrell
Judy Howard



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

Daily Rosary continues at 10.30am (apart from Sunday) 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](#)

Fr Paul writes... I hope you are all well and safely enjoying these sunny days while always remembering that the **Covid 19** is still at our side.

With sadness I announce the death of **Frances Smith**, wife of Len. Her funeral service will take place on the 6th of July in Blacon. May the good Lord send a spirit of consolation to Len and the family and also grant his wife Eternal Rest.

I will be celebrating a Mass on the day of Frances' funeral for the repose of her soul.

Pray too for Gladys Moreton whose graveside service takes place this Thursday 2nd July at 11.00am. May the Lord comfort her family and grant eternal rest to her soul.

I am hopeful that we will have 'live streaming' for Mass and quiet prayer in the near future. Considerable adjustments are being made in the church to allow for this. We will also be able to have some talks on the work of the Holy Father and the work of our Parish community.

You will see at **the end of the newsletter**, the information that Bishop Mark and his brother bishops have made re the opening of the Church for weekend Mass. I have a duty to ensure the safety of all who come to Mass and other occasions. In light of this, I feel it may take an extra week to prepare the church for the weekend of 11th and 12th of July. I feel that we need this time, to be given more advice from the Bishops and Government and also to adjust the church for this new phase.

At this time if the church were opened for weekend Masses, we could have only a maximum of 30 Parishioners for each Mass. You will understand that this will require very thoughtful preparations. I encourage you to read Bishop Mark's letter to the Priests and Deacons. Bishop Mark offers us a deeper understanding of the days and weeks ahead. Personally, I hope and pray that some sort of order will enable all of us to fill our spirits with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Let us keep Bishop Mark, with his Brother Bishops in our prayers.

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

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- St. Anthony's, Wythenshawe: churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe
- Fr Denis McBride: rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online
- Bishop Robert Baron: wordonfire.org/daily-mass/
- Shrewsbury Cathedral: dioceseofshrewsbury.org
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News from St Winefride's School Below are some great lockdown poems from some of our Key Workers' children:

Love – I love spending more time with my family,
Often going out for a walk.
Chocolate is the only thing Grace eats.
Knocked into lockdown,
Doctors helping us to survive.
Ollie only playing computer games
We are running out of toilet paper.
NHS are heroes

By Mollie – Year 5

Loved being with my mum,
Only allowed to go and walk.
Cea Cea's washing machine broke down in the kitchen
King Boris been bossing us all around,
Doctors help you get better.
Often we used to have sleepovers but not now!
Work, boo! My mum is still going to work.
Normally, all of the children are in school.

By Darcey – Year 3

Lockdown is terrible.
Overtime, coronavirus will disappear.
Carrots and vegetables are healthy to eat.
Knowing one day it will all end.
Do your best to keep safe.
Oh no! Coronavirus is still here!
When will this all be over?
Not seeing my cousins...so sad.

By Edward – Year 2



The coronavirus pandemic is causing challenges for us all, and we are very sorry that we cannot visit your church at this time to share the Mary's Meals story.

Until we can be together again, our founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, has recorded a special message for your parishioners.

You can find his message, filmed outside the shed in Argyll where it all began for Mary's Meals, [here](#). We hope you will help to spread the word about our beautiful mission by sharing it on your website or social media channels.

Do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you need the message in another format, or if you would like a copy of one of our moving films, [Child 31](#) and [Generation Hope](#), to share with your parishioners. A children's activity pack, based on the story of Mary's Meals, is also available to download [here](#).

Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers, and we look forward to meeting you again soon. If you would like to register interest in hosting a talk from one of our volunteers when it is safe to do so, [contact us](#).

May the Lord bless and keep you,
Daniel Adams
UK Executive Director, Mary's Meals

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9e_zhu98HY&feature=youtu.be



FOODBANK - 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.

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ROCK AND SAND

*Grant us, Lord, a true knowledge of salvation, so that we may serve you faithfully,
all the days of our life.*

As I sit here in my office with my laptop in front of me and connect to the live stream mass from Shrewsbury Cathedral, recently, I have kept a pen and some paper handy in order to take a few notes of what Bishop Mark, or Father Edmund, has to say in his homily. I often find them inspiring. Of course, this is not something I can do when attending mass at church, I have to try to remember what the priest says. The other day, while speaking about Saint John the Baptist. The bishop mentioned Jansenism, comparing it to the present pandemic and said how the heresy had lasted for three centuries. I have to admit that my education is not good enough to fully understand it. I think it is about predestination and whether we ourselves have any input into our ultimate salvation. Later, I tried to google it but became even more confused. My faith is a very simple faith.

I cannot believe that our destiny is determined before we are even born. We do have a place in God's plan but we have a choice. We have free will. We may not know what God's plan for us is but we can choose to respond to his call and to whatever seems to be the path that he has put before us or we can choose to go our own way. When we sin, we are making a choice, we are not being forced into it although sometimes it might seem that we are. When we sin, we know we are doing wrong and we can choose to do the right thing although sometimes it is so hard to resist doing wrong. It is still our choice to make.

I was given a book written by Denis McBride called "Where does the Story of Jesus Begin". I have started reading it but have not yet read enough to comment on it, but on the back cover it asks, where does my own story begin? On reflection, I think it must start with my parents; the love they had for each other; their shared faith in God, in Jesus and his Holy Catholic Church. In my childhood, I absorbed that faith and devotion and although, at times during my life, I have questioned it, that faith has remained deep within me. As I have said many times, my faith is a simple one. If I have misquoted or misinterpreted what Bishop Mark said, I apologise to him and to those who read my reflection. I speak only the words that are in my heart and pray that they are what The Holy Spirit has put there. In this morning's gospel (Thursday), Matthew 7:21-29, Jesus talks about two houses, one built on rock and one built on sand. I pray that mine is built on rock.

The important thing is not to say beautiful words about God, but to do the will of the Father and so reveal God's will and his presence in the world. (From the app "Pray as you go".)

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



Today we hear how Jesus gave Peter the keys to the kingdom of Heaven.



Bishop Mark's letter to Priests and Deacons.

A MOMENT OF GREAT JOY We are about to embark on the next, decisive stage of our re-emergence from the state of national lockdown with the public celebration of Mass and the availability, at set times, of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

All is due to begin from Saturday 4th July however, **I wish to stress that every parish must feel free to go safely and surely at its own pace.**

The reports which you have shared with me of the joy that has marked the re-opening of church doors, came about thanks to all the hard work involved in the detailed preparation of some 60 of our churches to open for private prayer. I am very much aware of the pressure which the demands of COVID safety have brought. However, nothing can take away the joy of being able to assist many to return, in the weeks ahead, to Confession, Mass and Holy Communion. Amid the pressure of the many details of our compliance with standards of safety may we keep in sight the goal and great joy to be shared.

MESSAGE FROM THE METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOPS

I attach a message of encouragement for this Sunday from Cardinal Nichols, together with Archbishops Longley, McMahon and Wilson on behalf of the bishops, which I would be grateful if you could share with your parishioners in every way you can. We are approaching a moment to be celebrated and also to be approached with care and caution. I think this is the note clearly sounded in the Archbishops' note to the Catholic faithful. SUNDAY AND HOLY DAY OBLIGATION The faithful continue to be dispensed in this national emergency from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. We have not yet returned to a state of "normality" and there are parishioners who may remain shielded/isolated for many medical reasons. For this reason, I would want to encourage the livestreaming of Mass to be continued wherever possible and the encouragement of prayer in the home and acts of spiritual communion for those unable to attend Mass.

TWO GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS I always want to share the advice I have received and today I am pleased to share with you two documents issued this morning from the Bishops Conference. I should note that we are **expecting more general guidance from the Government at some stage**, however, the guidance prepared for the bishops takes into account the best advice and practice available. The guidance assumes that all the provisions for the safe re-opening of a church for private prayer have already been put in place. The documents place a great responsibility on us to ensure that the Mass and the Sacraments can be celebrated safely in the weeks and months ahead. I think it likely that we will receive additional guidance as new questions and issues inevitably arise:

- 1) Guidance for The Celebration of Mass In reading this document you will notice that a decision is to be made, **which I entrust to each Parish Priest who will best know the local situation: Safe Numbers a) To remain with the two-metre social distancing within the church and the number agreed in your risk assessment.**
- 2) To adopt the one metre plus social distancing provision and to consult with the Vicars General and Julie Tinsley our Health and Safety Officer to establish a new and significantly larger safe number for the church. The adoption of one metre plus will require the wearing of face masks for all who attend and the closure and cleaning of the church after every celebration of the Mass.
- 3) a) It may be possible for you to consider an outdoor Mass with all the vagaries of an English summer this would allow one metre plus social distancing without the use of face masks and would significantly increase the numbers able to attend. The Altar would of course need to be covered and shielded from wind, rain and even sunshine!
- 4) Distribution of Holy Communion

The national guidance leaves us with two choices: a) To distribute Communion silently at the traditional time for Holy Communion and in the traditional place in the manner described in the first option using a kneeler or perhaps a small table to create the social distance required of us

b) **To distribute Holy Communion** silently at the end of Mass from an established point with a kneeler or table allowing the faithful to depart from Mass immediately after receiving Holy Communion I think you will see that there are no easy options and we will need to find our way forwards in a way that is both reverent and safe for the parishioners.

Readers

I think you will note the requirement of single use gloves and the possible need to adjust face masks for the purposes of reading. I would wish to add that according to your judgement, I am happy in these extraordinary circumstances for the clergy to read all of the Scripture readings at Mass.

How Do We Regulate Numbers?

I dearly wish I were able to offer you a readymade solution to this most difficult question. I fear that it will be a source of upset when people arrive to take part in Mass and are not able to attend for safety reasons. It is the stewards who will most often be faced with this situation and a very unpleasant dilemma. I would suggest a clear and compassionate notice be prepared to clearly indicate at the entrance, that the safe number of participants has now been reached and it would be necessary to either attend Mass in the grounds of the church or to return for a later Mass. It may help the stewards simply to be able to point to this notice when the church has reached capacity.

Some dioceses are considering an on-line prebooking of places in church or a ticket distribution, however, this does not overcome the difficulty when people or entire families arrive at the church door without prior booking. One means to help overcome this problem would be to increase the number of Sunday Masses celebrated. The simplification of the Liturgy should allow us to do this more easily. At the Cathedral, this will be the approach that I will propose. I would ask you to seriously consider whether this would be possible. As already mentioned, it may also be helpful to consider the possibility of an outdoor celebration of the Mass which allows a greater number to attend.

2) Guidance for Confession In my previous Ad Clerum, I outlined the benefits at this time of hearing Confessions out of doors. In the guidance received today, we can now envisage Confessions within the church with social distancing and hygiene requirements Diocese of Shrewsbury - Ad Clerum 20/26 June in place, either in the church itself or with extra conditions within a confessional where there is an enhanced physical divide between priest and penitent. I commend all the advice to you in the light of your local circumstances. However, this is the time for us to begin announcing and making provision for the return of many to the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

FUNERAL MASSES

I want to note that from 4th July, following the safety requirements for Mass, it will be possible to celebrate Requiem Masses once more. Again, **I leave the judgment as to whether this is possible to the local Parish Priest.**

FURTHER GUIDANCE

We might expect further guidance in the weeks to come on the pastoral care of the sick. I would want to record all of our thanks to Canon Chris Thomas, the General Secretary of the Bishops Conference, who has done such outstanding work in helping co-ordinate our response to this public health emergency. I have certainly been grateful for his availability to assist the bishops and dioceses through every difficult day of this crisis. FOR TODAY ... I think the documents attached will be sufficient for today! I hope you will be able to ponder the content over the weekend and then consider the next steps in the coming week. I am sure there will be many questions arising which I will do my best to address. Be assured of my understanding of the difficulties and complexities involved in taking these next positive steps forward in the parishes. With remembrance in my prayer and with my gratitude,

+ Mark Bishop of Shrewsbury