



ST WINEFRIDE'S RC CHURCH
5 Burton Road, Little Neston, CH64 9RF

Fr Ravi Bosco A.L. Tel: 0151 336 4189 parishpriest@stwinefridesneston.org.uk
Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253 deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Ordinary Time Week XXVI

29th September 2013

28 Sep	SATURDAY	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Olive Mulcahy
29 Sep	SUNDAY	2 nd Collection: Clergy Education & Training Fund	8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Michael Walsh
30 Sep	MONDAY	St Jerome	9.00 am	Mary & Julie Mulligan
1 Oct	TUESDAY	St Theresa of Child Jesus	9.00 am	Veronica Kelly
2 Oct	WEDNESDAY	Guardian Angels	9.00 am	Helena Callaghan
3 Oct	THURSDAY		9.00 am	Michael Walsh
4 Oct	FRIDAY	St Francis of Assisi	9.00 am	Alice Fearn
		Requiem	12.15 pm	Eileen Devonald
5 Oct	SATURDAY	St Thomas of Hereford	9.00 am	Peter Anderson
		Baptism	12:00 noon	Jack Ian William
5 Oct	Next Weekend SATURDAY	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Stanley & Agnes Jones
		2 nd Collection: SVP	8.45 am	The Parish
6 Oct	SUNDAY		10.45 am	Cropper Family
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman, Karen Dawson, Silvia Saddler.

RIP: Eileen Devonald, Alice Fearn, Ellen May Walsh, Hugh Bryan, Brian Ashley, Elizabeth Keenan

From Fr Ravi...

Besides our regular monthly masses at our primary school, I had the privilege, a few days ago, of visiting children, class by class, from Year 3 to 6, and felt encouraged to see their familiarity with all our mass prayers. I especially thank the head teacher and the staff for their continuing commitment.

The recent meetings that we held for First Communicants and Confirmation Candidates along with their parents drew great response. The church was half full for the confirmation meeting and we are glad that our faith-formation programme is able to reach out to young people. My special thanks to their parents who show keen interest in passing on the catholic faith to the next generation and I sincerely appreciate their cooperation.

We are blessed with magnificent altar servers. With around 20 regular servers at Sunday masses, 14 came to our meeting which was a tremendous response and their motto "to serve joyfully at the altar" also transformed into being joyful during their meeting! They have decided to meet regularly every last Monday of the month.

God Bless!

FROM BISHOP MARK

Clergy Education and Training Fund – Special Collection: Today the annual collection for the Clergy Education and Training Fund is being held. Special envelopes are available for you to use. If you use weekly Offertory Envelopes, please can I ask you to write in your envelope number. If you do not have this, or you give to your parish by means of standing order, please write in your name and full address (including postcode). It will then be possible to claim Gift Aid on your donation if you have joined the Gift Aid scheme.

A leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how you can make a regular donation of whatever amount to the Fund by standing order, or how you can donate by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid to boost your donation to the Fund. On the training and formation of priests, the future of our Diocese so much depends, and I would ask that you give your support in whatever way is possible. It is, in every sense, an investment in the future life and mission of the Diocese.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: W Morgan, A-M McLean.

First Holy Communion: All first Holy Communicants will be welcomed at 10.45 Mass, 3rd November 2013.

Confirmation: The first meeting for candidates will be on Sunday 6th October at 9:45 am in the presbytery. Their Act of Commitment will be made at 10:45 am mass on Sunday 3rd November with Bishop Mark.

Music Ministry: Our meeting with musicians and choir members was held on Thursday. We invite your cooperation in celebrating a meaningful liturgy with your active participation and there will be music practices at 10am each Sunday – ALL WELCOME! If you sing or play an instrument and can join us, please contact Maria on 336 4622.

Altar Servers: Preparation for the Bishop's Visitation will take place on Monday 14th October and Monday 28th October both at 6:30 pm in church.

RCIA: The RCIA programme (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) which has helped a number of our community members in the past, will begin from January 2014. Those willing to be fully received into the Catholic Church and those wishing to be strengthened in their faith are most welcome to register their names before Christmas this year.

Parish Hall: Based on discussions at the parish groups' meeting there will be a small refrigerator and a microwave for the kitchen area. Provision is being made for a projector and screen for the hall, which will make presentations easier and also let us hold film events in the future.

SVP: The District SVP groups thanked all who supported and did the walk last weekend, about 50 of us and 2 dogs did the walk. As the SVP National awareness month comes to an end the a representative of our SVP will be speaking at each mass next weekend 5/6th October and a retiring collection will be taken for the work of the SVP in our Parish.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: Shoe Box Covering – can you help with covering the shoe boxes on Saturday 5th October? At 10.00am in the church hall. Please bring your own scissors!

Christian Aid Rep: We are still need some volunteers to liaise with the Neston Christian Aid committee on behalf of St Winefride's. Support will be given by the Neston and District Churches Together reps and we'd be delighted to have you on board! If you can help please contact Barbara Rivers (336 2972) or Deacon Mike (353 0253): ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk We are very pleased to welcome Gillian Barber as the St Winefride's Rep for Women's World Day of Prayer. Many thanks for coming forward!

Catholic Voice: The autumn addition is now available in both church porches and includes an article by our own Fr Chris and a report on the Ordination to the diaconate of Deacon Mike.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: At St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) – 4pm.

Diocesan Mass for Grandparents: Mass celebrated by Bishop Davies at St Wilfrid's Church, Northwich CW9 5NP on Saturday 5th October at 12 noon.

The Little Way: a day on the spiritual path of Therese of Lisieux on Saturday 5th October, Sandymount House of Prayer, Crosby led by Fr Michael Miners O.C.D.S. 10.00am - 4.00pm. To book phone 0151 9244850. Offering: £12. Bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

World Mental Health Day: Thurs 10th October. A Healing Mass, at 7.30pm at St Catherine's Church, Birkenhead Road, Hoylake, CH47 5AF. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered and all are welcome. Further information contact Ann Crisp 0151 632 6617

Marriage and Family Life Commission: Conference on Passionist Parish Family Groups on Friday, 25th October, 12.30 - 2.30 pm at Our Lady's Presbytery Parish Centre, Shaw Heath, Edgeley, Stockport SK3 8BQ Tel: 0161 480 2489 pat.munroe@btinternet.com



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Ordinary Time Week XXV

22nd September 2013

21 Sep	SATURDAY	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Thanksgiving for the Harvest/the Fruits of Human Work	6.30pm	The Cason Family
22 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45am	Health: Sadie Douglas
23 Sep	MONDAY	St Pio of Pietrelcina	10.45am	The Parish
24 Sep	TUESDAY	Our Lady of Walsingham	9.00am	Special Intention
25 Sep	WEDNESDAY		9.00am	Jerry Wilson
26 Sep	THURSDAY	Ss Cosmas & Damian	9.00am	Don Miller
27 Sep	FRIDAY	St Vincent de Paul Requiem Requiem	9.00am 10:45 am 3.00pm	Health: Diana Slater Carmel Patterson Hugh Bryan Ellen May Walsh
28 Sep	SATURDAY	St Wenceslaus, St Lawrence Ruiz & Comp	9.00am	Winefride Jellicoe
28 Sep	Next Weekend SATURDAY	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Clergy Education & Training Fund	6.30pm	Olive Mulcahy
29 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45am	The Parish
			10.45am	Michael Walsh
<p>Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm</p>				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Gowney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman, Diana Slater, Karen Dawson, Silvia Saddler.

RIP: Ellen May Walsh, Hugh Bryan, Brian John Ashley, Elizabeth Margaret Keenan

From Fr Ravi...

One of the great strengths of the Parish is the number of active volunteers who work so hard for the good of our Parish in effective and silent ways. In keeping with my promise when I first came to St Winefride's, to listen and learn from you, I invited leaders and representatives of all of our active groups and ministries in the parish to a meeting last Wednesday. It was so invigorating to listen and learn more about your contributions in our Parish and explore ways and means to help each other in our faith journey.

I am proud to say that our community is blessed with a dedicated team of leaders and volunteers at all levels of faith-formation, faith-celebration and faith-action. The contribution of all these parishioners without expecting recognition or public appreciation, deserve all our gratitude. Personally, I said a prayer of Thanksgiving to God for all of you who make my ministry in our Parish, so pleasant, easy and rewarding.

Even as we appreciate all our volunteers, it is important to know that it is up to each one of us to make this Parish into the kind of community we want it to be. The more we share love, the more the community becomes a loving community; the more we care, it becomes a caring community; the more we give time, it becomes an active community, proclaiming God's love in beautiful ways. The best way to keep the glorious tradition of St Winefride's going is to commit yourself to at least one group or ministry in our Parish. We look forward to welcoming you, and working along with you to realise all our hopes and aspirations for our life together.

We thank you for what you are to St Winefride's and may God continue to bless us with health, happiness and peace.

FROM BISHOP MARK
Clergy Education & Training Fund
Special Collection

Next weekend the annual Collection for the Clergy Education and Training Fund will be held. On the training and formation of Priests, the future of our Diocese so much depends.

Special Envelopes are available for you to use. A leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your regular donation by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid for your donations to the Fund. I ask that you give your support in whatever way is possible for the provision of the best formation for a new generation of priests. It is in every sense an investment in the future of the life and mission of the Diocese.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Communion: An important meeting will be held on Monday 23rd Sept at 7.00pm in school for all parents of children in Year 3 (those at our parish primary school and in other schools) wishing to prepare for First Communion in June 2014. As the date and time for our preparatory sessions are to be finalised during this meeting, please do attend and fill in the form available in our back porch/parish website.

Confirmation: Candidates wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 8 and above) are invited, along with their parents/guardians, for a meeting on Monday 23rd Sept at 7.30pm in church to plan the schedule for their preparation. There are a number of interesting activities planned by our committed team of Catechists and the celebration of the sacrament will take place in our Church during the summer term of 2014.

Altar Servers: We invite all our energetic Altar Servers and those wishing to join this happy team of boys and girls to a meeting on Tuesday 24th Sept at 6.30pm in Church. At a similar meeting last year, they learnt some of the liturgical terms and prayers for the beginning and end of mass. I especially encourage their parents to bring their children along for this meeting. Refreshments will be available after the session.

RCIA: The RCIA programme (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) which has helped a number of our community members in the past, will begin from January 2014. Those willing to be fully received into the Catholic Church and those wishing to be strengthened in their faith are most welcome to register their names before Christmas this year.

Reflections this Weekend: At Masses this weekend we receive a letter from Monsignor Keith Newton, Ordinary of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, about the contribution that the Ordinariate is making to the life and work of the Catholic Church in this country. The Ordinariate is the structure under which former Anglicans who wish to enter the full communion of the Catholic Church, bringing with them some of the traditions and beauty of the Anglican heritage in which they were nurtured, may do so.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

PARISH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Louise Wilkinson, Tina Davies

SVP: District walk from St Winefride's Church to Parkgate and back, on Sunday 22nd September 2.00 - 4.00pm. Come and join us or, if you can't, please sponsor a walker.

Children's Garden: Thank you to all our young parishioners who suggested names for our garden. After looking at all your wonderful suggestions we have chosen the name "The Children's Peace Garden". Keep watching the garden grow and listen out for future events.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: Can you help with covering the shoe boxes on Saturday September 28th and/or 5th October? At 10.00am in the church hall. Please bring your own scissors!

Macmillan Coffee Morning: CWL are joining the world's biggest coffee morning to raise money to fund nurses who support cancer patients. Friday 27th September in the church hall at 9.30am. All welcome.

YSVP: Our new officers have been elected by the group: President- Jordan Henshaw, Vice President - Dominic Lisboa, Secretary - Emily Hughes.

SPUC: Many thanks to all who supported our tea/coffee, cakes, raffle and Bring & Buy during the summer. We raised £345.52. Our Annual Walk of Witness is on Saturday 5th October. Please join us if you can or sponsor us (sponsor forms in both porches).

Celtic Notes: Friday 11th October in our School Hall. Tickets on sale priced £6.00. If anyone wants a lift to the concert, please contact Margaret on 336 2050.

Piety Stall: Open after the summer break in the Church Hall after each Sunday Mass. We are now supporting 'Shrewsbury Diocese Children's Society' with all money raised being donated to the society.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: At St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) – 4pm.

Diocesan Mass for Grandparents: Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies at St Wilfrid's Church, Northwich CW9 5NP on Saturday 5th October at 12 noon.

Marriage and Family Life Commission: Conference on Passionist Parish Family Groups on Friday, 25th October, 12.30-2.30 pm at Our Lady's Presbytery/Parish Centre, Shaw Heath, Edgeley, Stockport SK3 8BQ Tel: 0161 480 2489 pat.munroe@btinternet.com



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Ordinary Time Week XXIV

15th September 2013

14 Sep	SATURDAY	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Home Mission Sunday	6.30 pm	Vera West
15 Sep	SUNDAY	Second Collection	8.45 am	The Parish
16 Sep	MONDAY	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	10.45 am	Patrick Doherty & Madeline Scott
17 Sep	TUESDAY	St Robert Bellarmine	9.00 am	Health: Karen Dawson
18 Sep	WEDNESDAY	Beginning of the School Year Mass	9.00 am	Health: Margaret Kennedy
19 Sep	THURSDAY	St Theodore of Canterbury & St Januarius Funeral Service	9.00 am 9.10 am	Health: Tracy & Sean Family For St Winefride's School
20 Sep	FRIDAY	St Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions	9.00 am	Mary & Julie Mulligan Elizabeth Margaret Keenan
21 Sep	SATURDAY	St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist	9.00 am	Int: Fay & Paul Hally
21 Sep	SATURDAY	Next Weekend 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	The Cason family
22 Sep	SUNDAY	Thanksgiving for the Harvest/the fruits of Human Work	8.45 am 10.45 am	Health: Sadie Douglas The Parish
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haines, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman, Diana Slater, Karen Dawson.

RIP: Canon John O'Reilly, David Hillhouse, Elizabeth Keenan

From Fr Ravi...

As the new academic year is well underway and we return to our workplaces and schools refreshed by the long and sunny summer, we at St Winefride's are continuing with arrangements to take the next steps in planning our pastoral mission. We have arranged a number of meetings over the next few weeks, which I am sure you will make every effort to attend, as we continue to grow into a truly caring, sharing community for everyone – even our Children's Garden is a modest step in realising this Parish Vision.

Wednesday, 18th September at 7pm in the presbytery: A meeting has been arranged for all the leaders/representatives of active groups/ministries in our Parish. By listening to one another we can be inspired by our commitment and direct our energies towards a common vision.

Monday, 23rd September at 7pm in School: A meeting for all parents of children in Year 3 (including those at St Winefride's Primary School) wishing to prepare for First Communion in June 2014. As the date and time for our preparatory sessions are to be finalised during this meeting, please do attend and fill in the form available in our back porch/parish website.

Monday, 23rd September at 7.30pm in Church: Candidates wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 8 and above) along with their parents/guardians are invited to this meeting, again to plan their schedule for their preparation. There are a number of interesting activities planned by our committed team of Catechists and the celebration of the sacrament will take place in our Church during the summer term of 2014.

Tuesday, 24th September at 6.30pm in Church: For all the energetic Altar Servers in our parish: at a similar meeting last year, they learnt some of the liturgical terms and prayers for the beginning and end of mass - the enthusiasm with which they say it has been observed by many priests. I especially encourage their parents to bring their children along for this meeting. Refreshments will be available - but after the session!

Thank you again for your commitment and appreciation of all that we do at St Winefride's and may God continue to bless us all with peace and happiness, all our days. God bless!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: L Dee, A Williams, D Roberts, M Harris.

Bible Study: The next meeting will be on **Tuesday** 17th Sept 7.30pm at 2 Allan's Meadow. We are reading sections 31,33 & 34 (missing out section 32.) in the study book.

SVP: September is SVP National Awareness Month, during the month look out for the posters at the back of Church.

Sponsored Walk: SVP District Walk - St Winefride's Neston to Parkgate Sunday 22nd September. Proceeds in aid of the upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre. All are invited to join us.

YSVP: First meeting for all members Sunday 15th Sept at 10am. Contact Barbara Rivers for more information on 336 2072. New members welcome.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: Empty shoes boxes needed (with separate lids, not hinged). See porch for details of wanted items.

Macmillan coffee morning: CWL are joining the world's biggest coffee morning to raise money to fund nurses who support cancer patients. Friday 27th September in the church hall at 9.30 am. All welcome.

SPUC Annual Walk of Witness: From Aigburth through Liverpool City Centre will be held on Saturday 5th October. Please join us if you can, or sponsor us.

Pro-life Conference: Blackpool on Saturday 21st of September 9.30am till 5pm.

CWL meeting: Thursday 19th September at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. Guest speaker will be Pat Wood who will give a flower demonstration. All welcome.

Little Church: Recommences Sunday 15th September during 10.45 Mass in Church Hall for children aged 3-7.

Ministers of the Word: New weekend readers rota from October 2013 to January 2014 available now in the sacristy in hard copy. Please collect yours.

Piety Stall: Open after the summer break in the Church Hall after each Sunday Mass. We are now supporting 'Shrewsbury Diocese Children's Society' with all money raised being donated to the society. This year we have already passed over more than £2000 to this very deserving cause. A big thank you to all who have contributed to this fantastic effort!

Red Box Mission Holders: Please collect your free magazine 'Mission Today' from the church porches. Also if any red boxes needing emptying, please leave in the church porch next weekend 22nd Sept or ring 336 1261

Celtic Notes: Friday 11th October in our School Hall. Tickets on sale shortly. For more information on these events see the notice boards or contact Margaret on 336 2050 or Judy on 336 7056

St Anselm's College open day: Wednesday 18th September from 5 - 8pm for pupils currently in year 5/6.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: At St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) – 4pm.

Diocesan Mass for Grandparents: Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies at St Wilfrid's Church, Northwich CW9 5NP on Saturday 5th October at 12 noon.

Healing Mass: Saturday 21st September 12 noon at Sacred Heart & St Peter, Southmoor Road, Baguley, M23 1HP for all affected by mental health issues. Sacrament of the Sick will be administered. Sr Jo Bird will lead an afternoon of reflection.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY– 15th SEP 2013

Home Mission Sunday is the day in the Church's calendar when Catholic communities in England and Wales pray for, celebrate and support the work of evangelisation.

Bishop Kieran Conry, Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis, explains the theme of day and asks the Catholic community to embrace Home Mission Sunday and what it stands for:

"I would be most grateful for your support in promoting and celebrating Home Mission Sunday 2013.

"The theme this year is 'Crossing the Threshold: Ministry and Outreach to Non-Churchgoing (lapsed) Catholics'. It has been chosen in response to requests from all tiers of the Catholic community in England and Wales for this to be a significant focus of the work of evangelisation.

"It's estimated that while there are around one million churchgoing Catholics in England and Wales, there are at least four million who rarely or never visit their local parish. In response to this reality the Bishops' Conference Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis is inviting every parish to make ministry and outreach to non-churchgoing Catholics a special priority in the year ahead, beginning on 15 September 2013 – Home Mission Sunday.

"While the lapsation of the baptised is not new within the Catholic community, the worry and anxiety experienced by parents, siblings and grandparents of non-churchgoing baptised, is deep and heartfelt. We all hold in our hearts at least one person in our family who seems disconnected from the life of the Church."

On Home Mission Sunday, let us remember them in our prayers and also bring before the Lord the wider work of evangelisation in our countries.

"Thank you in advance for your prayers and support."



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Ordinary Time Week XXIII

8th September 2013

7 Sep	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	The Parish
	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time			
8 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Sally & John Hogan
			10.45 am	Adrian Jelley
9 Sep	MONDAY	St Peter Claver	9.00 am	Health: Sarah Stuart-Gill
10 Sep	TUESDAY	St Ambrose Barlow	9.00 am	Peter Anderson
11 Sep	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	TG: R.M. Jones and Family
12 Sep	THURSDAY	Most Holy Name of Mary	9.00am	Canon John O'Reilly
13 Sep	FRIDAY	St John Chrysostom	9.00am	Service of Word and Communion
14 Sep	SATURDAY	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9.00am	Int: Jane Dixon and Family
		Baptism	12noon	Mason Leo Hulton
14 Sep	Next Weekend SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Vera West
	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time			
15 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45 am	The Parish
	Home Mission Sunday			
	Second Collection		10.45 am	Patrick Doherty & Madeline Scott
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman and Diana Slater.

Praying for Peace, Message from Bishop Mark Davies

Pope Francis has called a universal day of fasting and prayer on Saturday, 7th September. The Holy Father will himself keep a Vigil of fasting and prayer in St Peter's Square from 7pm until Midnight. Pope Francis explained, "we will gather in prayer and in a spirit of penance, invoking God's great gift of peace upon the beloved nation of Syria and upon each situation of conflict and violence around the world."

Let us join the Pope in this prayer of intercession for peace united with our fasting and self-denial. I ask you, even at this short notice, to consider a time of public prayer in the parishes with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday evening around the time of the Vigil Mass and Confessions so that we may be consciously united across the Diocese with the Holy Father's vigil in Rome. "I ask all the local churches," Pope Francis said, "in addition to fasting that they gather to pray for this intention." May the Shrewsbury Diocese be united in this prayer and fasting with Pope Francis on Saturday interceding in particular for a peaceful end to the conflict in Syria and to the terrible suffering of the Syrian people. The Holy Father continues to call upon the international community to make every effort to promote clear proposals for peace. "I appeal strongly for peace," Pope Francis said on Sunday, "an appeal which arises from deep within me." I wish to repeat Pope Francis's appeal in his own words: "How much suffering, how much devastation, how much pain has the use of arms carried in its wake in that martyred country, especially among civilians and the unarmed! I think of the many children who will not see the light of the future. With utmost firmness I condemn the use of chemical weapons: I tell you that the terrible images of recent days are burned into my mind and heart. There is a judgment of God and of history upon our actions which is inescapable! Never has the use of violence brought peace in its wake. War begets war, violence begets violence."

The Gospel teaches that prayer and fasting are great and powerful means to intercede for deliverance from evil. Let us each try to respond to Pope Francis's heartfelt plea to pray and fast for peace on Saturday.

+ Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury

From Fr Ravi: If you were not able to participate in this universal day of fasting and prayer on Saturday, perhaps you could consider finding some time during the week to fast and pray for peace in the world.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: L Wood, F Byrne.

Bible Study: Wednesday 11th September at 7pm, 2 Allan's Meadow. Please read Judaism 28 - 30.

First Communion 2014: Important meeting for all parents on **Monday September 23rd at 7pm in school. Please do try to attend this meeting.**

For children (Year 3 and above) who attend schools other than St Winefride's: would parents/guardians kindly register their interest by completing the First Communion Form on the website or in the filing drawers in the back porch and return by 16th September. Parents/guardians of children at St Winefride's School will be contacted via school.

Confirmation 2014: Important meeting for all parents and candidates on **Monday 23rd September at 7:30pm in Church. Please do try and attend this meeting.**

All those in year 8 (from this academic year) or above kindly register your interest by filling out our application form on the website or in the filing drawers in the back porch and return by 16th September. Please could parents/guardians please attend to this as needed.

Children's Garden: After each mass all children in the parish are invited to write down their suggestion for a name for our children's garden (outside the back porch).

SVP: September is SVP National Awareness Month: posters at the back of Church.

Theatre Night: Wed. 11th September at Gladstone Theatre Port Sunlight 7.30pm "Dead Reckoning" Tickets £5.00 please contact Peter Middlehurst 3361269 or pjmiddlehurst@gmail.com for tickets

Sponsored Walk: SVP District Walk - St Winefride's Neston to Parkgate Sunday 22nd September. Proceeds in aid of the upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre,

CWL: Committee Meeting 7.30pm on Thursday 12th September in the Church Hall.

SPUC Annual Walk of Witness: From Aigburth through Liverpool City Centre Saturday 5th October.

Pro life Conference: Blackpool on Saturday 21st of September 9.30am till 5pm.

Celtic Notes: Friday 11th October in School Hall. See notice boards or contact Margaret (336 2050) or Judy (336 7056).

Reps Needed: Women's World Day of Prayer - to represent St Winefride's: why not give it a try! Also a Christian Aid representative needed. Please do consider volunteering. Contact Deacon Mike/Barbara Rivers if you can help: ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk. Many thanks.

Women's World Day of Prayer: Trip to Fulbeck, near Leeds on Wednesday September 25th. Details on website (Parish Life - NDCT) or contact Lynne Vaughan lynnevneston@gmail.com 336 8920.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

CANON JOHN O'REILLY (1945 – 2013) RIP



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Canon John O'Reilly who died peacefully in Arrows Park Hospital, Wirral, on Saturday evening 31st August 2013. He was a regular visitor to St Winefride's, enjoying his time here in Neston greatly, and many of us will have remembered his gentle, insightful talk during our Year of Faith Vatican II series.

Canon John was Parish Priest at Ss Catherine & Martina's, Hoylake and also Chancellor of the Diocese.

Funeral Arrangements: Thursday 12th September 7.30pm, Ss Catherine & Martina's, Hoylake, Vigil Mass. Friday 13th September 11am, Our Lady & the Apostles, Edgeley, Stockport, Funeral Mass (followed by interment in Stockport Borough Cemetery).

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Heritage Open Day: 14th/15th September St Alban's, Macclesfield – 37a Chester Road, Macclesfield, SK11 8DJ from 1pm – 5pm.

"Why Pope John Called the Council - Vatican II's teaching on Christian Unity": Saturday, 21st September, 10am - 1pm at St. Columba's Parish Centre, Chester, CH2 1SA.

Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday, October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) – 4pm.

Diocesan Mass for Grandparents: Celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies at St Wilfrid's Church, Northwich, CW9 5NP on Sat 5th October at 12 noon.

RCIA: Catechists meeting on Saturday 19th October 2013 at Saint Columba's in Chester.



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Ordinary Time Week XXII

1st September 2013

31 Aug	SATURDAY	<i>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	6.30 pm	Health: Maureen Wainman
01 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	John Jones
02 Sep	MONDAY		9.00 am	Mulligan Mary & Julie
03 Sep	TUESDAY	<i>St Gregory the Great</i>	9.00 am	Int: Tina, James, Rebecca Rourke
04 Sep	WEDNESDAY	<i>St Cuthbert</i>	9.00 am	TG: Joan Bartley
05 Sep	THURSDAY		9.00am	M. Viegas
06 Sep	FRIDAY		9.00am	Peter Anderson
07 Sep	SATURDAY		9.00am	Health: Edna Everitt
		<i>Baptism</i>	12noon	Sophia Isabella Sayce
07 Sep	SATURDAY	<i>Next Weekend 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	6.30 pm	The Parish
08 Sep	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Sally & John Hogan
			10.45 am	Adrian Jelley
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haines, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman and Diana Slater.

From Fr Ravi...

On Wednesday August 28th, our team of catechists met to plan the Faith-Formation activities for the coming year. Dates of catechises sessions that have been confirmed (where applicable) are outlined below along with the catechists involved with these sacraments/celebrations. If you would like to join any of the groups in their ministry, please do volunteer.

CELEBRATIONS	CATECHISTS	DATES
<i>Baptism</i>	Tony Topping, Micheline Johnson	Saturday March 15 th , 2014 Saturday October 18 th , 2014
<i>Bereavement Support Group</i>	Barry Lyonette, Micheline Johnson, Agnes Harrison, Ruth Murray	As required.
<i>Confirmation</i>	Micheline Johnson, Dee Roberts, Sue Davies, Helen Jones	APPLICATIONS BY SEPT 16th 2013 Parents and candidates: Monday 23 rd September 7:30pm
<i>First Communion</i>	Liz Dolley, Barry and Sue Lyonette, Tony Topping; Suzanne Hoskinson and other school catechists	APPLICATIONS BY SEPT 16th 2013 Dates tbc shortly.
<i>Marriage Preparation</i>	Barry and Sue Lyonette, Pam Nicholson, Karl Ankers	Saturdays on 1 st February, 1 st March, 5 th April 2014

Confirmation will be celebrated in St Winefride's and all those in year 8 (from this academic year) or above kindly register your interest by filling out our application form on the website (Forms to Download) or in the filing drawers in the back porch and return by 16th September. Please could parents/guardians please attend to this as needed.

First Communion for children (Year 3 and above) who attend schools other than St Winefride's: would parents/guardians kindly register their interest by completing the First Communion Form on the website (Forms to Download) or in the filing drawers in the back porch and return by 16th September. Parents/guardians of children at St Winefride's School will be contacted via school.

We would especially like to thank Edith O'Sullivan for her invaluable contribution in preparing so many of our First Holy Communion candidates over the years. We look forward to an inspiring year ahead and as a parish family support all those who will be involved in our catechises sessions.

We also keep our young people in our prayers at the beginning of the new academic year. We pray especially for those who are starting school for the first time and their parents, and those going to new schools. God bless!

Neston Christian Aid committee. Please do consider volunteering. Please contact Deacon Mike or Barbara Rivers if you can help: ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk. Many thanks.

Celtic Notes: Friday 11th October in our School Hall. Tickets on sale shortly. For more information on these events see the notice boards or contact Margaret on 336 2050 or Judy on 336 7056

Peter Anderson RIP: Brenda and family were very grateful for the many Masses, cards, letters and words of sympathy received following Peter's death. They were a great comfort. Thank you.

Tanzanian Craft Sale: Thanks to all who supported the recent sale of Tanzanian crafts in the Church Hall after 10:45 mass. The sale raised £82 for the Indigenous Education Foundation of Tanzania (IEFT).

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Why Pope John Called the Council - Vatican II's teaching on Christian Unity": Study day organised by the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission. Two talks with discussion led by Fr. Peter Phillips. Saturday, 21st September, 10am - 1pm at St. Columba's Parish Centre, Chester, CH2 1SA: starts promptly at 10am. Those from other Christian traditions also welcome!

Diocesan Youth Ministry: Don't Lose Sight of Jesus! A day to launch a varied programme of activities for young Catholics aged from 16 to 35. St Columba's, Chester CH2 1SA on Sunday 8th Sept. 12 noon - 6:00pm concluding with Mass. Please bring a packed lunch. A repeated but shortened meeting at St Peter's, Hazel Grove, SK7 4EA is on Monday 9th Sept. 7:00 - 9:00 pm. For more info and to register email shrewsyouth@gmail.com. Twitter @ShrewsYouth

Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: At St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday, October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) – 4pm.

Diocesan Mass for Grandparents: You and your family are invited to come to this Annual Diocesan Mass. Mass is being celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies at St Wilfrid's Church, Northwich (CW9 5NP) on Saturday 5th October at 12 noon. Most car parks in Northwich are free and there is some parking at the church. I would be grateful (for catering purposes) if you advise that are attending (Contact: info@stjohnvianney.co.uk Tel: 01606 42440) but please feel free just to turn up on the day. It would be wonderful to see you at the Mass.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Brian & Veronica Casey

SVP: September is SVP National Awareness Month, during the month look out for the posters at the back of Church.

Theatre Night: Wed. 11th September at Gladstone Theatre Port Sunlight 7.30pm "Dead Reckoning" Tickets £5.00 please contact Peter Middlehurst 3361269 or pjmiddlehurst@gmail.com for tickets

Sponsored Walk: SVP District Walk - St Winefride's Neston to Parkgate Sunday 22nd September. Proceeds in aid of the upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre, All are invited to join us.

Foodbank Donation: Many thanks to those who contribute so generously to the Foodbank Appeal. In August you donated over 125 Kg of food, well done! According to a recent article in a national newspaper, foodbank enquiries have risen 80% since April and the Wirral News reported that in Wirral over 4000 meals have been provided since the scheme started. Foodbank boxes are located in both porches where there are lists of suitable produce to donate, though nothing is refused.

SPUC Annual Walk of Witness: The Annual Walk of Witness from Aigburth through Liverpool City Centre will be held on Saturday 5th October. Please join us if you can or sponsor us.

Pro life Conference: Blackpool on Saturday 21st of September 9.30am till 5pm.

Pro Life Times: The Pro Life Times will be given out this weekend after all Masses.

Website: latest Justice & Peace bulletin available online in Parish Life section.

Parish Registers: Would anyone who has moved to the Parish since March 2012, or where there have been changes within the household, please fill in a registration form in the rear porch (in filing cabinet), or download from the website and email or return to the presbytery.

Women's World Day of Prayer: Neston committee invites all interested to join their trip to Fulbeck, near Leeds to Moravian Church and Museum on Wednesday September 25th. For further details please check our website (Parish Life - NDCT) or contact Lynne Vaughan lynnevneston@gmail.com 0151 336 8920.

Christian Aid Committee: Advance notice of Fun Quiz on Friday 11th October at URC.

Reps Needed! Women's World Day of Prayer - to represent St Winefride's: not an onerous task and very worth while! Also a Christian Aid representative needed for the well organised



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Ordinary Time Week XXI

25th August 2013

24 Aug	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Sp. Int: D Strawson
		21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.45 am	The Parish
25 Aug	SUNDAY	Baptism	10.45 am 12 noon	Frank Morgan Lauren Michelle Pamela Norman
26 Aug	MONDAY	Bl. Dominic of the Mother of God	10.00 am	TG: Karen Kirby
27 Aug	TUESDAY	St Monica	9.00 am	Adrian Jelley
28 Aug	WEDNESDAY	St Augustine of Hippo	9.00 am	John Piccolo
29 Aug	THURSDAY	The Beheading of John the Baptist	9.00 am	Peter Anderson
30 Aug	FRIDAY	Sts Margaret Ward, Margaret Clitheroe & Anne Line	9.00am	TG: William Spencer
31 Aug	SATURDAY	St Aidan & the Saints of Lindisfarne	9.00am	John Boyd
31 Aug	Next Weekend SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Health: Maureen Wainman
		22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.45 am	The Parish
1 Sept	SUNDAY		10.45 am	John Jones
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman and Diana Slater.

From Fr Ravi...

We approach parish life and mission at St Winefride's in all its three important aspects namely faith-formation, faith-celebration and faith-action. We also know from our own lived-experience and learning, that these three aspects are not isolated entities but rather that one leads to the other, constantly inviting us to see the total reality of Christian living. In this Year of Faith we have tried focussing on all three aspects. For example Faith-Formation included: Vatican II Talks, Bishop Brian's Lenten Mission, the Newman Exhibition; Faith-Celebration included: daily Adoration with renewed emphasis on our weekday masses, a lamp at the Lady Altar, importance to the Sacrament of Reconciliation; and Faith-Action included: team-working at different levels within the parish, charities supported by different groups, our weekly newsletter and website etc.

On Wednesday August 28th, our dedicated team of catechists will meet again to evaluate future activities and plans. Our catechists support the parish by assisting in many areas:

- helping parents and God-parents before **Baptism**
- preparing children and their parents for **First Forgiveness** and **First Communion**
- leading our **Confirmation** candidates
- guiding couples in **Marriage** preparation
- comforting those **bereaved** and helping them organise funeral services

As we sincerely thank those who have been involved in these important ministries in our community, we welcome your suggestions, especially with regard to communicating the beauty of our faith to the next generation and in nurturing the faith of those who struggle living our faith today. A resource library to assist the catechists in their mission is also being planned.

We congratulate all those who received their GCSE results this week and wish them the very best in their future plans. May the last few days of the holiday season, with its continued surprising sunshine warm our hearts and lift our spirits to new depths and to new heights.

God bless!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: W Morgan and A-M McLean

Bible Study Group: Wednesday 28th August, 2 Allan's Meadow at 7:30pm. Please read sections 25-27 in the study book.

Catechists: Meeting for all the catechists on Wednesday 28th August at 7pm in the presbytery.

SVP: September is SVP National Awareness Month, during the month look out for the posters at the back of Church.

Theatre Night Wed. 11th September at Gladstone Theatre Port Sunlight 7.30pm "Dead Reckoning" Tickets £5.00 please contact Peter Middlehurst 3361269 or pjmiddlehurst@gmail.com for tickets

Sponsored Walk: SVP District Walk - St Winefride's Neston to Parkgate Sunday 22nd September. Proceeds in aid of the upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre, All are invited to join us.

Website Statistics: For those who are interested, some numbers for our visitors to our website. These figures give an overview of its use so far.

Since its launch on 1st Jan 2013 - 31st July 2013 we have had 4,415 visits of which 1,763 are "unique" visits (i.e. unduplicated visits).

In total 35.5% of our visitors to the website over this period are "new/unique" and 64.5% are returning visitors. In this period we have had 19,825 page views (i.e. the total number of pages looked at by our visitors).

The top pages viewed are: home page (i.e. main page), newsletter, parish life, events and history. Our web site has been accessed mainly from the UK (92%), but also from Canada, India, USA, Ireland, Germany, Australia, Spain and Japan among others.

We do hope the website will be used more frequently as a parish resource. Rotas, contact people and numbers, newsletters, forms are all available online now and those who use it regularly certainly find it very helpful. The web team are always delighted to get information to put online, (especially from parish groups), plus any feedback or ideas for the future. Should anyone (especially those with any technical expertise) wish to join us, please do get into contact with the web manager. Happy surfing!

Church Flowers: The flower arranging group are meeting on Thursday 29th August at 9.45 a.m. in the presbytery to discuss the Bishop's visit in November (and Christmas!) If you have any ideas or can help you are very welcome to join us.

Parish Registers: Would anyone who has moved to the Parish since March 2012, or where there have been changes within the household, please fill in a registration form in the rear porch (in filing cabinet), or download from the website and email or return to the presbytery.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Why Pope John Called the Council - Vatican II's teaching on Christian Unity": Study day organised by the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission. Two talks with discussion led by Fr. Peter Phillips. Saturday, 21st September, 10am - 1pm at St. Columba's Parish Centre, Chester, CH2 1SA: starts promptly at 10am. Those from other Christian traditions also welcome!

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Shrewsbury Diocesan History Day: At St Mary of the Angels, Hooton, CH66 1QJ. Saturday, October 5th at 10.30am (for 11am) - 4pm.

The Catholic High School Chester GCSE Results: Another very successful set of GCSE results. Overall 73% of students gained 5 A*-C grades with 61% gaining 5 A*-C including English and Maths. The proportion of students securing 5A*-C including English and Maths is the best the school has ever achieved and all of the results show a significant improvement on last year's GCSE grades. The school converted to become an academy in March this year and so these are the first results for the new academy.

Mr John Murray, Head Teacher, praised the achievement of students of all abilities: "The success of our students across the board is most impressive. Our most able students did very well, but I am delighted with the achievement across the whole ability range. It is a great start at GCSE for our new Academy which I am convinced will go from strength to strength. The students and staff deserve every congratulation. To secure an improvement in results at a time when the examination boards have been under pressure to reduce pass rates is a fantastic achievement."



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Ordinary Time Week XX

18th Aug 2013

17 Aug	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	The Parish
18 Aug	SUNDAY	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.45 am	Emily Robinson
			10.45 am	Peter Anderson
19 Aug	MONDAY	St John Eudes	9.00 am	Tony Gerard Moreton & Fly
20 Aug	TUESDAY	St Bernard	9.00 am	R. M. Saunders & Fly
21 Aug	WEDNESDAY	St Pius X	9.00 am	Health: Jennifer Glass
22 Aug	THURSDAY	The Queenship of Mary	9.00 am	Mulligan Mary & Julie
23 Aug	FRIDAY	St Rose of Lima	9.00am	Edith & Elizabeth Webb
24 Aug	SATURDAY	St Bartholomew, Apostle Baptism	9.00am 12 noon	Peter Anderson Henry Leander Wyatt
24 Aug	Next Weekend SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Sp Int: D Strawson
25 Aug	SUNDAY	21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time Baptism	8.45 am 10.45 am 12.00 noon	The Parish Frank Morgan Lauren Michelle Pamela Norman
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Fiona Hardman and Diana Slater.

From Fr Ravi

Bishop Mark's Visitation:

I am delighted to share with you the good news that Bishop Mark will be visiting St Winefride's Parish on the 2nd and 3rd of November, 2013. In Christian tradition, visitations are a time of grace and blessing for the entire parish. I shall soon be discussing with you and our active parish groups how to make this visit fruitful for everyone. As you may be aware, on November 2nd we commemorate All Souls Day and on the 3rd of November this year, we will be celebrating 170 years of St Winefride's and we are privileged that Bishop Mark will be with us during these special days. I look forward to listening to your suggestions as to how to make these events special and participatory for everyone in our parish community - including all our parishioners from our very youngest to our most 'experienced' members, not forgetting the housebound and those not able to attend our Services regularly.

Congratulations to all those who have received their hard earned A level exam results. We hope that whatever the grades that the future for you all is exciting and stimulating. We also keep in our prayers those waiting for their GCSE results next week.

I am glad that many find the blue lamp in the Lady Chapel beautiful and an aid to prayer. As we continue to enjoy a great summer this year, please do know that wherever you are holidaying, you are remembered at St Winefride's and we look forward to seeing you fully refreshed and strengthened when you are back.

Happy holidays and God bless.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Louise Wilkinson and Tina Davies

Catechists: There will be an important meeting for all the catechists involved in different faith based activities on Wednesday 28th August at 7pm in the Presbytery.

SPUC: As well as providing the teas and coffees after Mass, for the next 2 weekends we will be having a "bring and buy" stall and a raffle. All donations welcome!

Sponsored Walk: SVP walk 22nd September 2pm Church to Parkgate and back proceeds in aid of the Society caravan in Talacre, Parishioners are invited to join us and the other District SVP in this fund raising

Newsletter Items for inclusion: Whenever possible please ensure announcements be emailed to the editor. If there are announcements running for several weeks please email them weekly to ensure inclusion. Handwritten notices as always are still accepted in the folder. Email: newsletter@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Website: Please take a look at the site as we are updating it periodically.. The gallery section will have photographs of events updated regularly. Ministers of the Word please note there is now a link to daily readings on the home page.

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. at Our Lady and St. John Heswall. Anyone willing to give an hour of their time each week to Our Blessed Lord and would like to join the rota please contact Ann: 342 7229, Barbara: 342 7012, Brenda: 342 6750, Maria: 342 5425 or come along at any time during the day whenever suitable. Thank you.

"Why Pope John Called the Council - Vatican II's teaching on Christian Unity": This study day has been organised by the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission as its particular contribution to the Year of Faith. Two talks with discussion led by Fr. Peter Phillips. Saturday, 21st September, 10am - 1pm at St. Columba's Parish Centre, Chester, CH2 1SA starts promptly at 10am. Those from other Christian traditions also welcome!

Churches Together in Wirral (CTiW): Graham Burgess, the chief Executive of Wirral Borough Council will lead a discussion on Thursday 12th September between 2 – 4pm at St David's United Reformed Church, Eastham CH62 9DG. Our local Dean Fr Nick Kern welcomes those interested.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

Outstanding A level results at The Catholic High School Chester: We are really delighted with the results and wanted to share them. Our Students were celebrating a most impressive set of A level results this year. Over 50% of the results were grades A* – B, with a record number of students gaining grades A* and A. This confirms the school's continuing trend of success for our A level students. Amongst the best results were those of Imelda Barnes and Joseph Durnin, who each achieved 3 A* grades and one A grade. Imelda is to read Mathematics at Oxford whilst Joseph will study Physics with a year in Europe at Imperial College.

Grace Carson, the Head Girl of the school, gained 2 A* grades and an A grade; she will read Law at University College, London. Head Boy Stephen Hayward will read Chemical Engineering at the University of Bath.

The Head Teacher, Mr John Murray, affirmed this when he said "I am delighted with these brilliant results which reflect the hard work and determination of our students and their teachers. This, together with strong parental support, has ensured that our Sixth Formers have more than reached their potential. Our new Academy has got off to a wonderful start."

From SVP President: Pope Francis asks us to work with the needy and vulnerable in our Society. We may not think there are such people here in Britain but sadly this is not the case. Your contributions to the Food Bank go in a small way to alleviate the pressure on families. Thank you all very much. Most weeks there are 2 boxes taken to the depot for redistribution. The NDCT is looking at the feasibility of a Food Bank and Distribution Centre in Neston to save the long journey to Chester or Ellesmere Port. Thank you once again for your contributions.

When delivering the food you have donated last week to the Warehouse, you were greeted with numerous trays of tins/cans and boxes of food, my original thought was off a Supermarket making a very generous donation, I was informed they received a call from a "Good Samaritan" asking them to meet him at a local supermarket, the good Samaritan turned out to be a Muslim, and as Ramadan was ending they had a collection in the local Muslim community, and donated the money raised to the Foodbank. God bless people of good will and also thank you to the Parishioners for your generous food donations, and continued support of the Foodbank.

Parish Registers: Would anyone who has moved to the Parish since March 2012, or where there have been changes within the household, please fill in a registration form in the rear porch (in filing cabinet), or download from the website and return to the presbytery or email.



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Ordinary Time Week XIX

11th Aug 2013

10 Aug	SATURDAY	19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Tony Casson
11 Aug	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Int: Margaret Bullock
		Wedding	10.45 am 2.30pm	The Parish Catriona Hamlet & Benjamin Darracott
12 Aug	MONDAY	St Jane Frances de Chantel	9.00 am	Peter Anderson
13 Aug	TUESDAY	Ss Pontian, Hippolytus	9.00 am	Int: Mary Henesy
14 Aug	WEDNESDAY	St Maximilan Kolbe	9.00 am 7.30pm	Health: Eva Bennion The Parish
15 Aug	THURSDAY	The Assumption of the BVM Holyday of Obligation	9.00am 7.30pm	Int: Julia Jones Catherine Nickson
16 Aug	FRIDAY	St Stephen of Hungary	9.00am	Fr John Roper
17 Aug	SATURDAY	Baptism	9.00am 12noon	Int: Anne Gibson Emily Rose Carruthers
17 Aug	Next Weekend SATURDAY	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	The Parish
18 Aug	SUNDAY		8.45 am 10.45 am	Emily Robinson Peter Anderson
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge and Angela Willasey.

RIP: Kevin Hughes, Peter Anderson, Adrian Jelley.

From Fr Ravi...

A Lamp at the Lady Altar - in Gratitude for 170 Years of St Winefride's!

On Thursday August 15th, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother. In honouring Mary's Assumption, we celebrate our humanity at its best and our hope in life eternal.

Celebrating our Humanity: Mary was a woman in a world ruled by men, was young in a world that valued age, was poor in a world that considered poverty as God's curse, was a peasant far from the corridors of power. Yet the liturgy on August 15th calls her 'the greatest honour of our human race' because being human has meaning deeper than power, recognition and wealth. Humanity at its best gives and receives, forgives and is forgiven, loves and is loved.

Celebrating our Hope: Seeing Mary in heaven assures us that there is a place in God for each one of us and there is a place for God in each of us. When Jesus said, "There are many rooms in my father's mansion," our hope leads us to believe that God's love embraces us all. Mary's 'yes' in a stable in Bethlehem and at the foot of the Cross in Calvary also implies there is a God created cavity in each of us that can be filled by God, and God alone - 'our hearts are restless until they rest in you'.

In this way, Our Blessed Mother leads us to Jesus and "the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians." [Catechism of the Catholic Church, #966].

When the renovated Lady Altar was blessed on 8th December 2012, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, it was suggested that a lamp could help us in focusing more fully as we pray and seek God's closeness through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. As we commemorate 170 years of St Winefride's this year, we will place a blue lamp in the Lady Chapel on the Feast of the Assumption in gratitude for all of God's blessings we have experienced in the church and parish community that we all love so very much. May God bless us all!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: L, Dee, A Williams, D Roberts, M Harris

Fr Denis' Bible Study group: Next meeting Tuesday 13th August at 7.30pm, 2 Allans Meadow. Please read Judaism chapters 22, 23, 25, 25.

Newsletter Items for inclusion: Whenever possible please ensure announcements be emailed to the editor using the newsletter@stwinefridesneston.org.uk email. If there are announcements running for several weeks please email them weekly to ensure inclusion. Handwritten notices as always are still accepted in the folder.

CWL Tea Party: Members and all ladies of the parish are warmly invited along on Friday 16th August, 2-4pm at Veronica's, 2 Westview, Church Lane. Raffle and Bring & Buy. Further details tel: 336 7150

Website: Please take a look at the site as we are updating it periodically. The gallery section will have photographs of events updated regularly. Ministers of the Word please note, there is now a link to daily readings on the home page.

SPUC: As well as providing the teas and coffees after Mass, for the next 2 weekends we will be having a bring and buy stall and a raffle. All donations welcome.

Sponsored Walk: SVP Walk: St Winefrides Neston to Parkgate Sunday 22nd September. Proceeds for upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2013: Arrangements have been made for Mass to be celebrated for all clergy and parishioners of St Winefride's in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

Greetings: Pope Francis has chosen this year to send a personal message to Muslims for the close of Ramadan. Usually a message is sent from the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue – a message from the Pope himself is an invitation to us all to dialogue and promote relations with the Muslim community.

Pope Francis' Message to Muslims Throughout the World for the end of Ramadan ('Id al-Fitr)

It gives me great pleasure to greet you as you celebrate 'Id al-Fitr, so concluding the month of Ramadan, dedicated mainly to fasting, prayer and almsgiving. It is a tradition by now that, on this occasion, the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue sends you a message of good wishes, together with a proposed theme for common reflection. This year, the first of my Pontificate, I have decided to sign this traditional message myself and to send it to you, dear friends, as an expression of esteem and friendship for all Muslims, especially those who are religious leaders.

As you all know, when the Cardinals elected me as Bishop of Rome and Universal Pastor of the Catholic Church, I chose the name of "Francis", a very famous saint who loved God and every human being deeply, to the point of being called "universal brother". He loved,

helped and served the needy, the sick and the poor; he also cared greatly for creation.

I am aware that family and social dimensions enjoy a particular prominence for Muslims during this period, and it is worth noting that there are certain parallels in each of these areas with Christian faith and practice. This year, the theme on which I would like to reflect with you and with all who will read this message is one that concerns both Muslims and Christians: Promoting Mutual Respect through Education.

This year's theme is intended to underline the importance of education in the way we understand each other, built upon the foundation of mutual respect. "Respect" means an attitude of kindness towards people for whom we have consideration and esteem. "Mutual" means that this is not a one-way process, but something shared by both sides.

What we are called to respect in each person is first of all his life, his physical integrity, his dignity and the rights deriving from that dignity, his reputation, his property, his ethnic and cultural identity, his ideas and his political choices. We are therefore called to think, speak and write respectfully of the other, not only in his presence, but always and everywhere, avoiding unfair criticism or defamation. Families, schools, religious teaching and all forms of media have a role to play in achieving this goal. Turning to mutual respect in interreligious relations, especially between Christians and Muslims, we are called to respect the religion of the other, its teachings, its symbols, its values. Particular respect is due to religious leaders and to places of worship. How painful are attacks on one or other of these! It is clear that, when we show respect for the religion of our neighbours or when we offer them our good wishes on the occasion of a religious celebration, we simply seek to share their joy, without making reference to the content of their religious convictions.

Regarding the education of Muslim and Christian youth, we have to bring up our young people to think and speak respectfully of other religions and their followers and to avoid ridiculing and denigrating their convictions and religious practices.

We all know that mutual respect is fundamental in any human relationship, especially among people who profess religious belief. In this way, sincere and lasting friendship can grow. When I received the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See on 22 March 2013, I said: "It is not possible to establish true links with God, while ignoring other people. Hence it is important to intensify dialogue among the various religions, and I am thinking particularly of dialogue with Islam. At the Mass marking the beginning of my ministry, I greatly appreciated the presence of so many civil and religious leaders from the Islamic world." With these words, I wished to emphasize once more the great importance of dialogue and cooperation among believers, in particular Christians and Muslims, and the need for it to be enhanced.

With these sentiments, I reiterate my hope that all Christians and Muslims may be true promoters of mutual respect and friendship, in particular through education. Finally, I send you my prayerful good wishes, that your lives may glorify the Almighty and give joy to those around you. Happy Feast to you all!



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Ordinary Time Week XVIII

4th Aug 2013

3 Aug	SATURDAY	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Graham Ellerton
4 Aug	SUNDAY		8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Dee Baker
5 Aug	MONDAY	Dedication of St Mary Major	9.00 am	Mulligan Mary & Julie
6 Aug	TUESDAY	The Transfiguration of the Lord	9.00 am	Special intention
7 Aug	WEDNESDAY	St Sixtus & Comp, St Cajetan	9.00 am	Int: Ian Cubbins
8 Aug	THURSDAY	St Dominic	9.00 am	Health: Peter Tweedale
9 Aug	FRIDAY	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Requiem	9.00 am 12 noon	Health: Caroline Harrison Peter Anderson
10 Aug	SATURDAY	St Laurence Wedding	9.00am 1.00 pm	Health: Sr Betty Twamley Fay L Knox & Paul M Hally
10 Aug	Next Weekend SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Tony Casson
11 Aug	SUNDAY	19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Wedding	8.45 am 10.45 am 2.30 pm	Int: Margaret Bullock The Parish Catriona Hamlet & Benjamin Darracott
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Gowney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Kevin Hughes, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge and Angela Willasey.

RIP: Peter Anderson, Adrian Jelley.

From Fr Ravi: From Neston to Krakow...

We were all touched by the way a 76 year old 'youth' was able to gather 3,500,000 young people on a beach, with his deep humanity and humble spirituality. He inspired the young people to proclaim the gospel and said more than just words 'what is necessary is proximity: to embrace, kiss or hug...' in order to communicate God's unconditional love and infinite mercy to humanity. When boldness and strength is associated with power, domination and violence, Pope Francis challenged young people to have 'the courage to be happy'. He seems to be echoing the words attributed to that great saint from Assisi: Proclaim the Gospel at all times; use words if necessary.

The next World Youth Day is to be celebrated in Krakow, Poland in 2016. WYD was first officially organised in 1986 and many are excited about the 30th year anniversary celebrations, two years from now. I am fully aware that at St Winefride's we have only two groups of people - those who are young, and those who are young in Spirit, which makes us all eligible to participate in the celebrations in Krakow!

As you will read in our newsletter we have a number of baptisms and weddings coming up and we delight in the joy of these celebrations. Whilst we enjoy the happiness of these events, we also remember many of our parishioners who are not keeping well or are undergoing intensive medical treatments. Quite a few, as you well know, have passed away to find rest in the Lord. As we enjoy the sunshine - not the Indian heat - may we reach out and touch one another with a smile, with a prayer, offering love and hope.

I wish you all a refreshing break this summer. May this holiday season, uplift our spirits, strengthen the bonds of unity in our families, foster friendships with new people and help in building a happier world for everyone. God bless!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Servers: Some of our children who received First Communion recently have already started serving at the altar. As we happily welcome them to this ministry, we request their parents, to kindly encourage their children to participate in this joyful experience of serving the community at the altar. If any parents wish to help in their training please do volunteer.

Parish Register: Would anyone who has moved into the Parish since March 2012, or where their have been changes within the household, please fill in a registration form available in the rear porch (in filing cabinet) or download from the website and return to the presbytery or email.

Maintenance: The chimney on the roof of the church is being re-pointed and maintenance work undertaken on the roof. I am sure that you are all very impressed with the way that the grounds have been maintained by the gardeners - well done all!

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

PARISH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Louise Wood and Fran Byrne

Website: Justice & Peace - The latest Bulletin is on the website under Parish Life, Justice & Peace. During the holiday season you can keep up to date with parish news by accessing the newsletter online.

Piety Stall: Holiday break from 21st July - Sun 8th Sept. Cards and small items will remain available in church. Should you require anything else during closure please check the display cabinet in the hall and contact Margaret or anyone serving teas after Sunday mass.

Sponsored Walk: SVP District Walk - St Winefrides Neston to Parkgate Sunday 15th September. Proceeds in aid of the upkeep and maintenance of the Society caravan in Talacre.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Justice and Peace Network: Networking Day - Open Meeting on Saturday 14th September 2013 from 10.30am-4pm at St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, CH2 1SA. Keynote speaker Vijay Mehta on "The Economics of Killing: How the West Fuels Wars and Poverty in the Developing World". More details on website (Parish Life - Justice and Peace) or from Ann Kelly 020 7901 4864 admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

OTHER

Theatre Night: Wednesday 11th September Gladstone Theatre Port Sunlight 7.30pm "Dead Reckoning" Tickets £5.00 please contact Peter Middlehurst 3361269 or pjmiddlehurst@gmail.com for tickets

WORLD YOUTH DAY: REFLECTIONS
Looking Back at Rio, Looking Ahead to Krakow
By Ann Schneible

Now that World Youth Day in Brazil has come and gone, some of those who were there are looking back and reflecting on their favourite moments.

For an entire week, Rio de Janeiro was filled with pilgrims who had journeyed to the South American city from across the globe for an encounter with Pope

Francis, as well as with the millions of other young people who share their faith.

The celebration culminated with Sunday's concluding Mass, presided over by Pope Francis on Copacabana beach, which was attended by an estimated 3 million people. As is customary, the pope announced the location of the next WYD during his Sunday Angelus address: Krakow, Poland.

"Everyone seems to be very happy about the fact that WYD is returning to the land of the founder, John Paul II," said Salt and Light producer Deacon Pedro Guevara-Mann. Deacon Guevara-Mann, who has just wrapped up his time in Rio covering the week-long festivities, said WYD 2016 is also significant because it will coincide with the 30th anniversary of the first official WYD in 1986.

A week in Rio

One of the characteristics of this year's WYD was the nearly constant rain. Rather than dampening the spirits of the pilgrims, Deacon Guevara-Mann said that, in reality, "no one seems to mind." "People just got wet," he said. "At the Papal Welcome Ceremony the Holy Father, referring to 'cariocas' or people from Rio de Janeiro, he said that he 'had always heard that the Cariocas do not like the cold and the rain but you are proving that their faith is stronger than the cold and the rain.'"

The event which set the tone for the week, said Deacon Guevara-Mann, was the Papal welcome ceremony. He noted how the musical presentation, entitled "Rio of Faith," demonstrated how Brazil is deeply rooted in the Faith. "I'll always remember when Pope Francis called for an applause to Benedict XVI. He assured us that Pope Benedict was watching on TV."

Vigil

On Saturday, some 3 million people filled Copacabana beach to attend a prayer vigil with Pope Francis. "The vigil was one of the most powerful ones that I've ever seen," Deacon Guevara-Mann said. "The music was perfect and prayerful; everything was just right: music, symbols, witnessing, worship, the Holy Father's message. It was truly a night when God was worshipped on Copacabana Beach."

"I'll never forget [the pope] telling the young people that in order to train we have to pray, go to the Sacraments and be loving to others. He made us all repeat those three and then added, 'you're not going to forget, are you? Tomorrow, will you still remember?'"

Throughout the week, and culminating with the Mass, Deacon Guevara-Mann noted how "there was much intellectual growth, but also emotional and spiritual growth. There were many emotional moments, such as the family with the little girl born without a brain, who were invited to bring her up during the Offertory at Mass and also during the Vigil when the man who'd suffered an accident and was left in a wheelchair asked us all to take out the cross from our backpacks and hold it up: 'pick up your cross.' It is that Cross that gives us strength."

"At some point, sometimes during the WYD experience, Christ calls us to stop being merely disciples and sends us as apostles. That was exactly the theme of this WYD, 'go make disciples of all nations.' Pope Francis reminded us over and over again to be disciples and also be missionaries. That's what it's all about."



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PASTORAL LETTER

To be read in all churches and chapels of the diocese on the 17th Sunday of Ordinary time.

My dear brothers and sisters,

Since the first missionaries sent by Pope Gregory arrived on the coast of England in the year 597 AD we could say that Christianity has formed the foundation of our common life and laws. This bedrock of Christian values has remained our nation's mainstay, despite all the upheavals of the past millennium. However, in our life-times we have witnessed a seismic shift from these Christian foundations. Parliament's decision to change the legal definition of marriage is the latest sign of this shift. We are facing together a completely new situation which invites us – with growing urgency - to engage in a “new evangelisation” and a courageous “lay apostolate,” always in the closest union with the Successor of the Apostle Peter, Francis our Pope, called to be “the rock” on which the Church is built. These have been the themes of my letters to you over this past year. It is surely when foundations are shaken, the ground taken from beneath our feet, that we need to give renewed attention to the sure basis on which our future can be built. As we prayed in the Mass today: Without you, O God, “nothing has firm foundation” (Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time).

I am conscious that I write to you when Pope Francis has travelled to Brazil to join millions of young pilgrims for World Youth Day. In recent debates we heard politicians express their hope that new generations might be so secularised in outlook that they will ask: Why was anyone concerned about this question? Blessed John Paul II often reminded us that our witness to the truth of the Gospel has a value, not only for the present time, but for all generations to come. In his meeting with the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Pope Francis spoke of the necessity of this Christian witness: “in a world which seems at times to call into question some of the foundations of society” the Holy Father said, “such as respect for the sacredness of human life or the importance of the institution of the family built on marriage” (14th June 2013).

Today I also wish to echo some important words of the Archbishop of Westminster in a message circulated to Catholics across the country. Archbishop Nichols declares that by this deconstruction of marriage, “our society has taken a significant step away from its Judeo-Christian foundations” (The Narrow Gate, A Reflection by the Archbishop of Westminster).

The Government's legislation does not, and cannot, change our understanding of marriage. In contrast to the new law, Archbishop Nichols reminds us, Christian teaching holds that marriage is a life-long faithful union of a man and a woman, ordained by God for the creation of the family and future generations. Marriage is the place where sexual relations find their proper place and God-given purpose. It would be hard to over-estimate in these respects the importance of marriage for human well-being and our ultimate good.

It might be easy to be carried along by the confusion in our country. “But this is not” the Archbishop of Westminster insists “the way of the Catholic as a follower of Christ.” We may be accused of an outmoded understanding of human relationships, or even of bigotry, when trying to live and present Catholic teaching as it has been given by God. Archbishop Nichols reflects that being out of step with society for the sake of the Gospel should be no cause for discouragement. “This is our calling,” he writes, and we are called to “live faithfully by the teaching we have received and to present it robustly and intelligently”- for “this teaching is no human construct but God's gift for our happiness.” The re-definition of civil marriage certainly adds to a sense that people of faith are becoming, in Archbishop Nichols's words, “strangers in their own land.” Nevertheless we must be ready, with genuine respect for every person, to give our witness as “energetic citizens and contributors to the common good of all.”

We look forward to the day when our society re-discovers its Christian roots and the authentic value of marriage as the foundation of the family. The Youth Catechism notes that nothing in the early Church fascinated people more about the “New Way” of the Christians than their homes and families. “In an unbelieving world, islands of living faith were formed,” the Catechism explains, and the great cities of antiquity which certainly did not share the Christian vision of morality “were soon permeated with domestic churches” – the Church in miniature, within the home and family. The Youth Catechism reflects that these “were like points of light. Even today families in which Christ is at home are the leaven that renews our society” (YouCat 271). I have no doubt that it is through such witness - your own witness - that the Christian foundations, increasingly discarded by the leaders of our society, will be discovered anew.

United with you in prayer today, together with the nine hundred pilgrims from the Diocese in Lourdes, may we give this true and faithful witness for all generations to come,

+ Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury

Ordinary Time Week XVII

28th July 2013

27 th July	Saturday	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Day for Life	6.30pm	Douglas Strawson
28 th July	Sunday		8.45am 10.45am	Terrence Hughes The Parish
29 th July	Monday	St Martha	9.00am	TG: Gabrielle
30 th July	Tuesday	St Peter Chrysologus Requiem	9.00am 11.00am	Patrick Caffrey Winifred Jellicoe
31 st July	Wednesday	St Ignatius of Loyola	9.00am	Sp Int: Sofar Family
1 st August	Thursday	St Alphonsus Liguori	9.00am	John Piccolo
2 nd August	Friday	St Peter Julian Eymard	9.00am	Int: Suzanne Holt and James J Hoskinson
3 rd August	Saturday	St Oswald Baptism	9.00am 12 noon	TG: Joe and Paula Tunstall James Peter Barry
3 rd August	Next Weekend Saturday	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Graham Ellerton
4 th August	Sunday		8.45am 10.45am	The Parish Dee Baker
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00am; Morning Prayer 8.40am; Rosary following 9.00am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially; Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Gowney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin. Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Clare, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr, Francesca Grace Peet, Kevin Hughes, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey

RIP: Winifred Jellicoe, Veronica Kelly, Andrea J Wood

Church Cleaners: Brian and Veronica Casey

Fr Denis' Bible Study Group: Next meeting Wednesday 31st July at 7.30pm, 2 Allan's Meadow. Please read Judaism 21, 22, 23.

Last Sunday's Offerings: Thank you for your generous support.

Food Bank: Pope Francis asks us to work with the needy and vulnerable in our society. We may not think there are such people here in Britain but sadly this is not the case. Your contributions to the Food Bank go in a small way to alleviate the pressure on families. Thank you all very much. Most weeks there are two boxes taken to the depot for redistribution. The NDCT is looking at the feasibility of a Food Bank and Distribution Centre in Neston to save the long journey to Chester or Ellesmere Port. A list of items suitable for donation is displayed near each box and on-line. Thank you once again for your contributions.



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Ordinary Time Week XVI

21st July 2013

20 July	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Bill Owen
21 July	SUNDAY	<i>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	TG: Debbie & Mike Topping
22 July	MONDAY		<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	9.00 am
23 July	TUESDAY	<i>St Bridget</i>	9.00 am	Dot Davies
24 July	WEDNESDAY	<i>St Sharbel Makhluf – Service of Word & Communion</i>	9.00 am	
			<i>School</i>	9.10 am
25 July	THURSDAY	<i>St James, Apostle Commemoration Service</i>	9.00 am 11.30 am	Peter Durrant Andrea Jacqueline Wood
26 July	FRIDAY	<i>Ss Joachim & Anne</i>	9.00 am 1.00 pm	Frank Jones Victoria Harrison & Michael D Carney
27 July	SATURDAY		9.00 am	John Piccolo
27 July	Next Weekend SATURDAY	<i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Day for Life</i>	6.30 pm	Douglas Strawson
28 July	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Terrence Hughes
			10.45 am	The Parish
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haimes, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Kevin Hughes, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge and Angela Willasey.

RIP: Veronica Kelly, Andrea J Wood, Winefride Jellicoe

Announcements:

Church Cleaners: Wendy Morgan and Anne-Marie McLean

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support:

CWL Raffle: Sat 27th and Sun 28th July to support CWL charities. Items donated by CWL members. Tickets £1 each will be sold at all Masses that weekend. Thank you for your support.

Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion: New rota available in the sacristy. Recently appointed Ministers will be added on the following rota to be issued in October 2013. Thank you. Any questions please phone 336 1261

SPUC Garden party: Many thanks to Veronica Cuthbert for hosting the party. Thanks also to all those who came and who gave donations and raffle prizes. In total a £267.75 was raised .

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:

Takes place this week with over 900 pilgrims making their way to the famous shrine by air and overland under the leadership of Bishop Mark.

On Thursday morning, July 25th, from 08:45 (BST) the diocese will be celebrating Mass at the Grotto with the Westminster and Brentwood pilgrimages with Bishop Mark presiding and archbishop Nichols preaching and then at 1:00 p.m we shall be taking some of our sick pilgrims to venerate the rock of the Grotto. These two events will be on Lourdes TV at <http://fr.lourdes-france.org>

During this week we invite you all to join in the pilgrimage prayer intentions which are as follows:-

- * For our new Holy Father, Pope Francis.
- * For our Emeritus Pope Benedict that we may continue to experience the fruits of his teaching.
- * For World Youth Day 2013.
- * For an increase in faith for all in the Shrewsbury Diocese

From Fr Ravi...

St Mary of Magdala - an Apostle to the Apostles!

On Monday [22/07] we celebrate the feast of St Mary of Magdala, one of my favourites of all time and one who has fascinated theologians and artists alike right throughout history. To start with, she was not named, as many of the other women are, in reference to a man [e.g. Mary, wife of Jacob] but is associated with her place, implying that she was a well-known, important person of repute (and wealth) in her town. No wonder, she could generously support Jesus with her gifts and resources.

Unfortunately, medieval art easily identified this woman, with the 'struggling' woman at Simon's banquet in Luke's Gospel or with the one who was saved from stoning in John's Gospel. Biblical scholarship clearly indicates that this link is misleading.

What we do know is that Jesus drove out 'seven demons' from Mary of Magdala and that she along with other women became disciples and benefactors of Jesus. Again, Mary of Magdala's struggle with 'seven demons' has been easily misrepresented. She struggled with wealth, fame and pride that came with her success in Magdala. Jesus' message stirred up her heart: "If you want to find yourself, you have to lose yourself." "It will be so hard for the rich to enter the Kingdom of Heaven - a camel passing through the eye of a needle." "When I was hungry, thirsty, naked, sick or in prison, you weren't there." "The rich man begged Father Abraham to let the poor beggar bring him a drop of water." "You can't serve two masters, God and money." Her heart was so emptied to be open to receive Jesus, to love him and to follow the new commandment of love - 'love one another as I have loved you'. She was there - every step of the way - with Jesus and his mother Mary, to the foot of the cross - when other well-known names fled, her heart was on fire with love.

And on the significant 'third day', when she found the tomb empty, she was ordained to see the Risen One alive and was chosen to be an apostle to the apostles. The love of Jesus freed Mary of Magdala. May the same freedom and joy be ours as we honour our beloved saint and a leader of the early Christian community, Mary of Magdala. May God bless us all!

Well done to the children of St. Winefride's!

I am sure all the family and friends of the children of St. Winefride's Primary School would like to join me in congratulating them on their academic and sporting achievements over the past few weeks.

....to the children in Year 2 and their teachers on achieving the following fantastic end of KS1 results:-

Reading	Writing
Level 2B+(expected level) – 78%	Level 2B+(expected level) – 72%
Level 2A+(above expected level) - 72%	Level 2A+(above expected level) - 50%
Level 3+ (well above expected level) - 44%	Level 3+ (well above expected level) - 17%

Maths
Level 2B+(expected level) – 84%
Level 2A+(above expected level) - 67%
Level 3+ (well above expected level) - 50%

....and to the Year 6 children and staff on achieving the following brilliant results in their end of KS2 SATs

Reading	Writing	Maths
Level 4*+ 88%	Level 4+ 92%	Level 4+ 88%
Level 5**+ 58%	Level 5+ 50%	Level 5+ 46%
	Level 6*** 8%	Level 6 4%

What does this mean...?

*Level 4 (4B) is the expected level for a child of this age. Many of our children achieved 4A in Reading/Writing and Maths and this is considered **above expected** level for a Year 6 child.

Level 5 is **well above the expected level for a child of this age.

Level 6*** is **beyond primary school** level for a child of this age.

UK Maths Trust Challenge Winners 2013

Four Year 5 boys recently took part in and won the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Challenge, which was held at Birkenhead School. In total 13 schools from Wirral and Cheshire applied to take part, including maintained and private schools. Each team had to undertake several demanding maths challenge activities. Each activity was timed and the children had to use a broad range of maths skills to complete them. Although they were fun games, it is needless to say they were rather difficult challenges for the children to complete. Well done boys!

Outstanding Contribution to Sport 2012/13 Award

Congratulations to our Year 6 class, who won the CH64 Games held at Neston High. They competed with great determination and showed fantastic sportsmanship. Moreover, St Winefride's has been awarded the *'Primary School Outstanding Contribution to Sport 2012/13 Award'*. Well done to all of the St. Winefride's children who represented the School this year and thank you to all of our staff who are dedicated to Sport.

Wirral Schools' Swimming Gala

After their success in the Ellesmere Port and Neston Swimming Gala, the children took part in the Wirral Final in June. Competing in both individual events and team races, we had great success and medal places including a bronze medal for Breaststroke Ffion Williams and a gold medal for James Klabou in the Breaststroke. It was a memorable evening with both parents and Gala officials commenting on the excellent performance and attitude of our Swimming Team.



St Winefride's RC Church
5 Burton Road, Little Neston, CH64 9RF

Fr Ravi Bosco A.L. Tel: 0151 336 4189 parishpriest@stwinefridesneston.org.uk
Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253 deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk
www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Ordinary Time Week XV

14 July 2013

13 July	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Veronica Whalley
14 July	SUNDAY	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sea Sunday – 2 nd Collection	8.45 am 10.45 am	The Parish Vera Molloy
15 July	MONDAY	St Bonaventure	9.00 am	TG: Joan Bartley
16 July	TUESDAY	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	9.00 am	Mary & Julie Mulligan
17 July	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	TG: Dot Davies
18 July	THURSDAY		9.00am	Greta Bently
19 July	FRIDAY	St John Plessington	9.00am	John Piccolo
20 July	SATURDAY	St Apollinaris	9.00am	Arthur Ferns
20 July	SATURDAY	Next Weekend	6.30 pm	Bill Owen
21 July	SUNDAY	16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.45 am 10.45 am	The Parish TG: Debbie & Mike Topping
<p>Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm</p>				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Gowney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haines, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Kevin Hughes, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge and Angela Willasey.

A Huge Thank You!

Thank you, from my family and I, to all at St Winefride's - both clergy and parishioners alike. Your response in prayers, support, gifts, organising coaches, teas, cakes and coffee, after the 1145 Mass, towards my family and myself have been truly overwhelming and humbling. I'm sure that my granddaughter seeing all the cards and gifts thought Christmas had come early.

Thank you also, to all who attended the Ordination at Shrewsbury Cathedral. Looking down from the altar and seeing so many familiar faces was wonderful and very calming. It was like being back in St Winefride's. I look forward to serving you all in my ministry, and always keep you in my prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Mike

Recycling in the grounds: Please when tidying graves ensure that any plastic bags or cellophane are placed in the appropriate bins. The Green Bins are for compostable material only. Thank you!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Year of Faith: We thank Canon Hoban for concluding our Vatican II lecture series on July 11th with such an interesting talk on 'The Challenges and Hopes facing the Church today'. Also to all those who participated wholeheartedly in these 10 sessions. Many thanks to Derek Pover and the many others who arranged our parish centre and organised the refreshments. All the visiting speakers were amazed at the warmth experienced here at St Winefride's.

Catechists: We had a fruitful meeting of all those involved in faith-formation on July 10th and we look forward to finalising our programme sometime in August to be fully prepared to launch into regular activities after summer break.

Gardeners: On July 3rd the gardening team met – we have 20 volunteers to care for our grounds which was a great response. Anyone else wishing to help please contact David McNulty (336 1959). The little garden area by the back ("new") porch is to be designated as a special place for our children.

Thank you: To all those who participated and organised the recent significant events in our Parish - Deacon Mike's ordination in Shrewsbury and St. John Plessington's mass in Burton. Our special gratitude and appreciation to Rev Cathy Helm for welcoming us so warmly in St Nicholas' Church. More updates on these events to follow.

Parish Register: Would anyone who has moved into the Parish since March 2012, or where their have been changes within the household, please fill in a registration form available in the rear porch (in filing cabinet) or download from the website and return to the presbytery or email.

Altar Servers: Some of our children who received First Communion recently have already started serving at the altar. As we happily welcome them to this ministry, we request their parents, to kindly encourage their children to participate in this joyful experience of serving the community at the altar.

YSVP: Thanks to YSVP and their coordinators, Barbara Rivers, Dorothy Barber, Veronica Cuthbert for animating this Sunday's Eucharist and for their contribution to the life of our parish.

PARISH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Louise Wilkinson and Tina Davies.

Bible Study Group: Wednesday July 17th at 7:30 pm at 2 Allan's Meadow. Please read Judaism 16 – 19.

Children's Garden: Calling all young parishioners – please come and help replant the bulbs in "your" garden by the back porch after 10:45 mass on 21st July. You will receive "Garden Ownership" certificates!

CWL: Meeting on Thursday 18th July at 7.30. This month's speaker is Caroline from Wirral Hedgehog Rescue. All visitors welcome, young and old alike!

Donations of cat and dog food very welcome (no fish please). **Raffle:** On Sat 27th and Sun 28th July to support CWL charities. All items donated by members of the League. Tickets £1 each and will be sold at all Masses that weekend. Thank you for your support.

Piety Stall: Holiday break from 21st July until Sun 8th Sept. Cards and small items will remain available in church. Should you require anything else during closure please check the display cabinet in the hall and contact Margaret or anyone serving teas after Sunday mass.

Website: Pictures from Deacon Mike's Ordination online in newsletter and events sections.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support:

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flooding in Lourdes: Lourdes has again been damaged by recent serious flooding. Images can be viewed online: www.lourdes-france.org. Last October our pilgrimage made a donation of €5000 towards repairs and we will make a similar donation again but if anyone wishes to add to that amount you are invited to send a donation to the Diocesan Pilgrimage Office, St Peters , 16 Green Lane, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK74EA. Cheques payable to Shrewsbury Diocese Pilgrimage Account. Electronic transfers: Shrewsbury Diocese Pilgrimage Account at Royal Bank of Scotland, 1 Dale St, Liverpool Sort code 16-24-06 a/c no 10124535 Reference FLOOD.

Petition for Lourdes: Pamela Kimpton is collecting petitions to take to Lourdes on the Diocesan pilgrimage. Please leave petitions in the Presbytery by 21st July.

ECUMENICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPUC Garden Party: Sunday 14th July at 2 West View, Church Lane. Admittance £3 including afternoon tea. Bring and Buy stall plus raffle (prizes gratefully accepted). Tickets now on sale or on the day.

Neston and District 'Churches Together': Our new logo has been finalised – a truly ecumenical effort by all involved. An NDCT website is also being designed and further details will be forthcoming.



OTHER

Chaplaincy Assistant: The Catholic High School, Chester is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic practicing Catholic as a Chaplaincy Assistant on a one-year fixed term contract. The successful applicant will assist in the running of school liturgies, chapel based activities, retreats, displays and charity projects, under the direction of the Head of RE. For further information please contact the Head teacher, John Murray on 01244 981600 or e-mail murrayj@christofidelis.org.uk by 17/07/2013.



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**We welcome our newly ordained Deacon, Mike Topping,
and assure him of all our support and prayers.
Frs Ravi Bosco, Denis Marmion and Chris Lightbound.**



Ordinary Time Week XIV

7th July 2013

6 July	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Eric Belcher
7 July	SUNDAY	14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.45 am	T G Loughe Family
			10.45 am	Johnson Family
8 July	MONDAY		9.00 am	TG: Margaret & Geoff Davies
9 July	TUESDAY	St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions	9.00 am	Claire Butler
10 July	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	Joan Alper
11 July	THURSDAY	St Benedict – Day of prayer for Europe	9.00 am	TG: Karen Kirby
12 July	FRIDAY		9.00 am	Frank O'Leary
13 July	SATURDAY	St Henry	9.00 am	Agnes Weston
13 July	SATURDAY	Next Weekend	6.30 pm	Veronica Whalley
14 July	SUNDAY	15 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sea Sunday – 2 nd Collection	8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Vera Molloy
Weekdays: Adoration from 8.00 am; Morning Prayer 8:40 am; Rosary following 9.00 am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-11.30am and 5.45-6.10pm				

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alan Jones, Pam Grace, Fr Fred Robinson, Laura Growney-Stone, Kevin Bradford, James Rourke, Molly Hopkins, Claire Heverin, Paula Tunstall, Jane Haines, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, Frances Dooley, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Kevin Hughes, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge and Angela Willasey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: L Dee, A Williams, D Roberts, M Harris.

Celebrations: All are welcome for the celebrations in honour of Deacon Mike Topping in the Parish Centre after 10.45am Mass.

Catechists Meeting: Wednesday, 10th July at 7pm in the Presbytery.

Year of Faith: Canon Hoban speaks on 'The Challenges and Hopes facing the Church today' on Thursday, 11th July at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Summer Fair: The Summer Fair raised over £3,000. Many thanks from the Parents' Association of St Winefride's school.

St John Plessington Pilgrimage: Mass at St Nicholas Church, Burton, Saturday 13th July at 2pm.

CWL: Committee meeting this Wednesday 10th July at 8pm in the Parish Centre.

SPUC: Meeting on Tuesday 9th July in Parish Centre. Garden Party on Sunday 14th July at 2 Westview, Church Lane. Tickets £3 inc afternoon tea. Tickets from SPUC Group or from Margaret 336 2050 All welcome.

Parish Census: Would anyone who has moved into the Parish since March 2012, or where there have been changes within the household, please complete a registration form, available from Derek Pover, in rear porch or online.

Petition for Lourdes: Pamela Kimpton is collecting petitions to take to Lourdes on the Diocesan pilgrimage. Please leave petitions in the Presbytery by 21st July.

SVP - Feed my Lambs: Foodbank boxes are positioned in the back of our porches for parishioners to donate tinned food and other long life food items.

YSVP: We look forward to our young people animating our 10:45 mass on July 14th.

Last Sunday's Offering: Thank you for your generous support.

Family

I was born in Wallasey in April 1962, moving to Neston at the age of six. I attended the little sandstone school house on the far side of the churchyard at St Winefride's, before moving on to the Catholic High School Chester, where I completed my education in the sixth form.

During my time at the CHS I was briefly a Church Student with hopes of a future priesthood, but my life took a different direction and I left for London to 'seek my fortune'. It was there that I found something far more precious; my wife Debbie, without whose love and support I could never have made this vocational journey. We were married in July 1984 and are still in the honeymoon period! With God's Grace we were blessed with three wonderful children: Sarah, Aaron and Hannah.

We returned as a family to Neston some twenty years ago, our children also attending St Winefride's primary school and then at the CHS in Chester, finishing their education at the universities of Hull, Aberystwyth, and Chester. Lately our family has increased with the addition of our son-in-law Ryan, and our 'little angel' granddaughter Evie. Our youngest daughter Hannah is engaged to be married to a fine young man, Matthew.

Becoming a Deacon

I began my journey to become a deacon, just over six years ago, first studying for the CCRS (Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies), and then four years of formation at the Seminary of St Mary's College Oscott. I owe my calling firstly to my hero, my Dad, Tony, who through his humble and devout faith gave me an example to follow that has inspired me my entire life.

I also owe a debt of gratitude for faith inspiration to Fr Briscoe, Msgr John McManus, Fr Denis Marmion, Msgr Chris Lightbound and of course Fr Gerry Courell, at whose invitation from the ambo for someone to consider a formation in the Diaconate I duly followed.

It goes without saying, that the Holy Spirit has been the guiding force throughout my life and vocation, along with God the Father, and Our Lord Jesus Christ, for whom, and in whom, we all owe our being. I also have a deep devotion to Mary our Mother, whose help and intercession I have sought at difficult times.

The Ministry of a Deacon

The origins of the diaconate can be found in the Acts of the Apostles (6: 1-6) at the institution of the "Seven" (men of good reputation!), lapsing somewhat during medieval times, and being restored to a Permanent Diaconate at Vatican II. Three reasons lay behind the restoration of the diaconate as a permanent rank of the hierarchy.

1. A desire to enrich the Church with the functions of the diaconate, which otherwise, in many regions, could only be exercised with great difficulty;
2. The intention of strengthening with the grace of diaconal ordination those who already exercised many of the functions of the Diaconate;
3. A concern to provide regions, where there was a shortage of clergy, with sacred ministers.

The ministry of the deacon is threefold; 'strengthened by sacramental grace the deacon is dedicated to the People of God, in conjunction with the bishop and his body of priests, in the service (*diakonia*) of the liturgy, of the Gospel and of works of charity.'

My Role as a Deacon at St Winefride's

Along with assisting the priest at the altar and reading the Gospel, I will be involved fully in the administration of the parish; catechising and instructing in conjunction with the various parish groups; assisting and celebrating baptisms, funerals and weddings.

I look forward to working closely with my mentor, Fr Ravi, whose encouragement and enthusiasm have been an inspiration and also our retired 'Elders in the Faith' Fr Denis and Msgr Chris, without whose support, encouragement and instruction over the last four years I could not have managed.

Thanks

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank you, the parish, whose support and prayers have carried me along on this journey when the road was not always level and smooth. I look forward to getting to know you all a little better in the coming years, and serving you in my ministry as a deacon.

God Bless you all.