



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

Christmastide

29th December 2013

28 Dec	SATURDAY	<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	6.30 pm	The Parish
29 Dec	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Sp Int: Fisher Family
30 Dec	MONDAY	<i>6th day of Christmas Octave</i>	10.45 am	Doherty & Southwell Families
31 Dec	TUESDAY	<i>7th day of Christmas Octave/St Sylvester Funeral Service New Year's Eve</i>	9.00 am	Health: Aurori Cogan
			10.30 am	William Duffy
			6.00 pm	Lily Jones
1 Jan	WEDNESDAY	<i>Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God</i>		Thanksgiving Prayer
2 Jan	THURSDAY	<i>St Basil – St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	10.00 am	Special Intention
3 Jan	FRIDAY	<i>Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	9.00 am	Int: Sr Dervilla & Fly
4 Jan	SATURDAY		9.00 am	Fr Gary Walsh
4 Jan	Next Weekend SATURDAY	<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	9.00 am	Philip Gibbons
			6.30 pm	Tom Rainford
5 Jan	SUNDAY		8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Selina Ashington
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, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones, William Davies.

RIP: Lily Jones

From Fr Ravi... Thank You!

At the close of 2013, we thank God for the providential care we have experienced both individually and as a community during the past year, and for guiding us through our joys and pains, successes and struggles, light and shadows. May God's enabling presence be our strength and support as we begin a new year, with courage and confidence.

The joy of Christmas was visible in our celebration of the Eucharist, when we came to rejoice at the experience of 'God With Us' - it was lovely to see the excitement when Father Christmas telephoned us! As you enriched us with your presence, we also remember those who helped in many ways by generously committing themselves to various responsibilities for the greater good of the community - altar servers, church and crib decorators, the flower team, church cleaners, musicians and singers, hymn sheet producers, ushers etc. All of us at St Winefride's are grateful for their loving service to our community.

On a personal note, the Pastoral team at St Winefride's - Frs Chris and Denis, Deacon Mike and myself - are deeply touched by your gentle ways of appreciation and love expressed through beautiful cards and gifts. Please do consider this as a personal 'thank you' from each one of us and also be assured that when we sit in prayer in God's presence, you and your families will be very specially remembered: "I thank my God whenever I think of you and every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy" (Phil 1:3-4)

I would like to conclude with the prayer of blessing we will use at the end of mass on the first day of the New Year:

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year.

May God give you integrity in faith, endurance in hope and perseverance in charity with holy patience to the end.

May God order your days and your deeds in his peace, grant your prayers in this and in every place, and lead you happily to eternal life.

Happy New Year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: B & V Casey

New Year's Eve: All are most welcome to join for an hour of prayer of thanksgiving in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm to 7pm on Tuesday 31st December.

Baptism: We invite all parents and godparents, along with those children who were baptised in 2013, for a special mass on Sunday 12th January, 2014 at 10.45am mass, when we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. If you know any of your family or friends whose children were baptised in 2013, please do tell them about this special Mass. Also please inform Fr Ravi if you plan to attend.

Communion to the Sick: There are at least 40 housebound parishioners and Tony Topping organises my visits to them on Fridays, when they have opportunities for communion and, if they so desire, the Sacrament of Reconciliation. From 2014, such visits will be on Wednesdays. If you have someone in your family whom you know is in need of a regular visit, please do let Tony or myself know immediately. I am also grateful to those Eucharistic Ministers who visit them on a weekly basis and I can assure you that your generous commitment is deeply appreciated by everyone.

SVP Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday 30th December.

SVP Sudan Baby Christmas Appeal

Thank you for your magnificent support this year, as Fr. Ravi mentioned recently Christmas is not for one day, but a season, so if you missed someone, or have a birthday coming up soon why not give them a Gift Certificate, details in both Porches, or contact Peter on 3361269.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): This is the final week for registration should anyone wish to join please contact Fr Ravi. The first meeting will be on Thursday 9th January at 6.30pm in the Presbytery to decide on practical details.

Resources for new Evangelisation – Reaching In... Reaching Out:

A new diploma/certificate course is planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world with hope and love". Information is available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

Poor Clare's Community: The community thank everyone for their kindness in 2013. Our sister friends in Hawarden have sent a beautiful Nativity scene as a gift to our parish. This is on the

notice board in the rear church porch. Not to be missed it really is lovely and a sight to see this Christmas.

St Winefride's Parish Website: We celebrate our first year online on New Year's Day and invite you all to share some birthday cake after New Year's Day Mass. It is gratifying to receive positive feedback from the parish and those outside the parish who seem to find the site easy to use and very informative.

If you do have access to the internet and haven't yet visited the site, please do take a look. Our newsletter is online each Saturday along with archived editions; there are photograph galleries; all parish forms are downloadable; our Parish Life section gives information on all our groups and ministries; the History section covers our more 'ancient' and recent past; contact details of parishioners involved in various ministries; links to useful resources; details of sacraments and various rotas for our dedicated volunteers.

We thank all those who have visited our site and supported us - we receive over 100 visits weekly and have had about 7,000 visits this year, of which 65% of visitors are "returners".

We are always open to suggestions, to receiving pictures or reports from any groups or to receive any help by joining our webteam!

Diocesan Directory and Liturgical Calendars 2014:

Now available from Parish Office priced £5 each.

Catholic Voice: The latest copy is available in both porches. Articles by our clergy and parishioners in this issue. A contribution of £1 would be welcome.

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

West Cheshire Foodbank: is looking for two trustees for the roles of finance and food collection. If anyone is interested in volunteering please email ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk for further details or see information in the porches.





CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

ENTRANCE

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
3. And through all his wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.
5. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

OFFERTORY

1. Hark the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
joyful, all ye nations rise
with the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem,
*Hark! The herald Angels sing,
glory to the newborn King.*
2. Christ by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
late in time behold Him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings;
mild He lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

COMMUNION

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet, in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and Peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down his
sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked
down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay
2. The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying
he makes,

I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down
from the sky
And stay by my side,
until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask thee to stay
close by me forever
and love me, I pray,
Bless all the dear children in thy
tender care
And fit us for heaven to live
with thee there.

POST COMMUNION

1. Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child;
holy infant, so tender and mild:
sleep in heavenly peace, (2)
2. Silent night, holy night.
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ, the Saviour is born, (2)
3. Silent night, holy night.
Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace:
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, (2)

RECESSIONAL

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him,
born the King of angels;
*O come, let us adore him, (3)
Christ the Lord.*
2. God of God,
light of light,
lo! he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created;
3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God,
in the highest;
(Only on Christmas Day)
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

Wishing you all the Joy of a truly Blessed Christmas!



CAROLS FOR VIGIL

Good Christians All Rejoice

1. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, (2)
2. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss,
Jesus Christ was born for this;
He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this, (2)
3. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save;
Calls you one and calls you all,
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save, (2)

See Amid the Winter's Snow

1. See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the tender lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.
*Hail, thou ever blessèd morn,
hail, redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*
2. Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep?
3. 'As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels, singing peace on earth,
told us of the Saviour's birth.'
4. Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss,
down to such a world as this!

Go Tell it on the Mountain

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er wan'dring flocks by night,
behold, from out of heaven
there shone a holy light.
2. And lo, when they had heard it,
they all bowed down to pray,
then travelled on together,
to where the babe was laid.
3. When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day:
I asked my Lord to help me
and he showed me the way.
4. He made me a watchman
upon the city wall,
And if I am a Christian
I am the least of all.

In the Bleak Midwinter

1. In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
2. Heaven cannot hold him,
nor the earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed -
Our Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
3. Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
throngèd the air.
But his mother only
in her maiden bliss,
worshipped the beloved with a kiss.
4. What can I give Him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can, I give him - give my heart.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.
2. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man, hears not
the love song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing!
3. For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when the new heaven and earth
shall own
the prince of peace, their king,
and the whole world send back
the song
which now the angels sing.

The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy

1. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy (3)
And they said that his name was Jesus
*He came from the glory
He came from the glorious kingdom(2)
Oh yes, believer! Oh yes, believer!
He came from the glory
He came from the glorious kingdom*

2. The angels sang when the baby was born (3)
and proclaimed him the Saviour, Jesus.
3. The wise men saw where the
baby was born (3)
and they saw that his name was Jesus.

In the Bleak Midwinter

1. In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
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4. What can I give Him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can, I give him - give my heart.

We wish you a Merry Christmas

1. We wish you a Merry Christmas; (3)
and a Happy New Year.
*Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.*
2. O, bring us some figgy pudding;(3)
and a cup of good cheer;
3. We won't go until we've got some; (3) ,
so bring some out here;
4. We wish you a Merry Christmas; (3)
and a Happy New Year.

St Winefride's RC Church, Neston, Christmas 2013



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Advent Week IV – Christmastide

22nd December 2013

21 Dec	SATURDAY	4 th Sunday of Advent Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers	6.30 pm	Int: R. M. Saunders & Family
22 Dec	SUNDAY		8.45 am	TG: Breet Douglas & Family
			10.45 am	Kenneth George Rodrigues
23 Dec	MONDAY	St John of Kanty	9.00 am	Julie & Mary Mulligan
24 Dec	TUESDAY	Evening Mass of the Vigil Midnight Mass	9.00 am 7.00 pm 0.00 am	Emily and Michael Robinson Special Intention Fr Pat O'Brien
25 Dec	WEDNESDAY	Nativity of the Lord	8.45 am 10.45 am	Dave & Agnes Boyd The Parish
26 Dec	THURSDAY	St Stephen	10.00 am	TG: M. Viegas
27 Dec	FRIDAY	St John	9.00 am	TG: Christine McHugh
28 Dec	SATURDAY	Holy Innocents	9.00 am	Int: Michael Everitt
28 Dec	SATURDAY	Next Weekend The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	6.30 pm	The Parish
29 Dec	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Sp Int: Fisher Family
			10.45 am	Doherty & Southwell Families
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:

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RIP: Lily Jones

From Fr Ravi... Christmas is here!

With joy, we celebrate God's loving embrace of humanity - yes, **all** of humanity and the whole of creation! All our parishioners - our friends and families - will be especially remembered in the Masses offered on Christmas Day. May our hearts and homes be filled with happiness and God's blessings in this holy season. May the song of the angels on that beautiful night: 'Glory to God and Peace to God's people' become a reality in all those hearts that long for fulfilment and joy.

As always, our thoughts are also with those who are unable to be with us during this time, maybe due to distance, to illness or to no longer being with us. May God's love heal and strengthen us, as we celebrate the presence of God, who accompanies us on/in our journey, and who remains ever-present in our joys and pains and loves each one of us immensely as we truly are 'the apple of his eye'.

St Winefride's is a home to everyone and with open hearts we welcome all those who wish to experience God's presence and grace. 'To believe, to belong and to become' is the mantra that guides our life together in this parish, as we help each other to pray, to love and to grow. As we wish one another a Merry Christmas, we can be assured that the parish clergy and community is with us every step of the way, to help us all 'taste and see that the Lord is good'.

God bless!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: T Davies, L Wilkinson

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24 th December	Carols: 6:30 pm Vigil : 7:00 pm Mass : midnight
Christmas Day Wednesday 25 th December	Mass: 8:45 am Mass: 10:45 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Some of you may have already availed yourselves of the opportunity for confession during our recent LPA and parish Services of Reconciliation. Priests will be available after morning mass on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th December until 10am.

New Year's Eve: All are most welcome to join for an hour of prayer of thanksgiving in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm to 7pm on Tuesday 31st December.

Baptism: We invite all parents and godparents, along with those children who were baptised in 2013, for a special mass on Sunday 12th January, 2014 at 10.45am mass, when we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. If you know any of your family or friends whose children were baptised in 2013, please do tell them about this special Mass. Also please inform Fr Ravi if you plan to attend.

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RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): This is the final week for registration should anyone wish to join please contact Fr Ravi. The first meeting will be on Thursday 9th January at 6.30pm in the Presbytery to decide on practical details.

Singers: We will be meeting in church today, 22nd December, from 4 - 5pm, for our final rehearsal before Christmas. It's not too late to join us and prepare your vocal chords for some marvellous carol singing.

Altar Servers Party: will be on Friday 27th December from 5:30 - 7pm. All are welcome. Please register your interest.

Catholic Voice: The latest copy is available in both porches. Articles by our clergy and parishioners in this issue. A contribution of £1 would be welcome.

Diocesan Directory and Liturgical Calendars 2014: Now available from Parish Office priced £5 each.

Confirmation: Our confirmation candidates learned much from their tour of the sanctuary – thank you again to our parishioners who volunteer their time in supporting our youngsters. A reminder to all candidates to hand in their forms for their January trip to the presbytery or a confirmation catechist by **Monday 23rd December**. Please also let the catechists know if you can't join us on January 12th: confirmation@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

New Year's Day: Our Parish celebration of the New Year will be followed by coffee, tea and cake organised by the Webteam on the first anniversary of the parish website.

SVP Sudan Baby Appeal: Wondering what to give your favourite aunt or uncle for Christmas, or anybody for that matter? The SVP are again supporting this worthwhile cause and through your past generosity, many babies have been saved. If you know of anybody who would like a special gift celebrating the true meaning of Christmas, buy them a certificate "to feed a baby" Leaflets are in both Porches, or contact Peter on 3361269.

SVP Meeting: Please note there is no meeting on 23rd December. The next meeting will be **Monday 30th December**.

SPUC: Grateful thanks to you all for your wonderful support during the past year. We wish you a joyful, peaceful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!

Resources for new Evangelisation – Reaching In... Reaching Out: A new diploma/certificate course is planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world with hope and love". Information is available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

NDCT Carol Singing: many thanks to all who supported the singing on Wednesday evening for the residents of Hinderton Mount and Bridge Court (a fantastic turn out despite the weather), and at Sainsbury's on Saturday. It was such a lovely way to join together celebrating our unity.

West Cheshire Foodbank: is looking for two trustees for the roles of finance and food collection. If anyone is interested in volunteering please email ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk for further details or see information in the porches.

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



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15th December 2013

Advent Week III

14 Dec	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Bill Owen
15 Dec	SUNDAY	3 rd Sunday of Advent	8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Irene O'Sullivan
16 Dec	MONDAY	St Winefride's School Carol Service	9.00 am 7.00 pm	Raybone & Woodhead families
17 Dec	TUESDAY		9.00 am	Int: G Moreton & family
18 Dec	WEDNESDAY	LPA Reconciliation Service	9.00 am 7.30 pm	Ann Turley Our Lady & St John's, Heswall
19 Dec	THURSDAY		9.00 am	Peter Murray & Sheila Harkins
20 Dec	FRIDAY	Advent Mass Parish Reconciliation Service	9.00 am 9.10 am 7.00 pm	Bickerstaff Family School Confessions
21 Dec	SATURDAY	St Peter Canisius Wedding Service	9.00 am 12.30 pm	The Parish Soraya L Menacere & Liam M Gallagher
21 Dec	SATURDAY	Next Weekend 4 th Sunday of Advent	6.30 pm	Int: R. M. Saunders & Family
22 Dec	SUNDAY	Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers	8.45 am 10.45 am	TG: Breet Douglas & Family Kenneth George Rodrigues

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RIP: Fr Patrick O'Brien, Fr Gary Walsh sss

From Fr Ravi - Pope of Mercy

In awarding 'the Person of the Year' to Pope Francis, Nancy Gibbs of TIME magazine says, "Rarely has a new player on the world stage captured so much attention so quickly—young and old, faithful and cynical—as has Pope Francis," and that "he has placed himself at the very centre of the central conversations of our time: about wealth and poverty, fairness and justice, transparency, modernity, globalization, the role of women... the temptations of power".

Our Holy Father is being recognised by people belonging to different persuasions, as 'the new voice of conscience' in today's world and his focus on compassion and mercy, leads humanity to catch a glimpse of divine love, that we especially celebrate in this season of Advent. In as much as the Catholic Church, 'inspires and instructs, helps and heals,' the Gospel gently calls us to be all that we claim to be.

As we celebrate Pope Francis' leadership "for committing the world's largest church to confronting its deepest needs and for balancing judgment with mercy," we could mark this time of grace, by new initiatives of love and care, of forgiveness and understanding, of involvement and participation, of empowerment and inclusion. May the God of love surprise us this Christmas season!

God bless

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Wendy Morgan, Anne-Marie McLean.

Christmas Mass Times: Christmas Eve (Tuesday 24th): 7pm (Vigil), Midnight. Christmas Day (Wednesday 25th): 8.45am, 10.45am.

LPA Reconciliation Service: Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm at Our Lady and St John's Heswall. Priests available for confession.

Parish Reconciliation Service: Friday 20th December at 7pm with priests available for Confession. On Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th a priest will be available for confession after morning mass till 10am.

Altar Servers' Christmas Celebration: Takes place on the eve of Holy Innocents, Friday 27th evening at 5.30pm. Also invited are those who received First communion last June.

RCIA: The RCIA programme will begin from January 2014. Those wishing to be fully received into the Catholic Church or to strengthen their faith are most welcome to register their names with Fr Ravi before Christmas this year.

Diocesan Directory and Liturgical Calendars 2014: Now available from Parish Office priced £5 each.

School Mass: 9.10am Friday 20th December at St Winefride's School will be offered for Mrs Kieran who is leaving at the end of this term. Parishioner's parents and ex-pupils all welcome.

Confirmation: Many thanks to the volunteers who spoke to our confirmation candidates about their roles in our church. The youngsters were very impressed with the interest and enthusiasm displayed. Some of them have already stepped forward to volunteer and we wholeheartedly welcome them in actively supporting our parish community. Our final session this year is on Sunday 15th and our outing will be on January 12th. If you haven't had a letter about the outing, please contact the catechists as soon as possible: confirmation@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

CWL Christmas Party: Thursday 19th December at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. Will all members please bring their food contribution and a gift for the 'Secret Santa'.

CWL: Are collecting toys/gifts for the Catholic Children's Society that will be delivered on Wednesday 18th December. Currently we are struggling for gifts for 10 year old girls and teenage boys. Please note that presents are given to families who cannot afford to buy gifts and so the donation may be the only gift the children receive. If you wish to donate and are unable to get your gift to church by Monday evening, then please call Marie-Lou who will collect if you require. Thank you.

SVP: Members please note there will be no meetings on Monday 16th and 23rd December. The next meeting will be Monday 30th December.

SVP Sudan Baby Appeal: Wondering what to give your favourite Aunt or Uncle for Christmas, or anybody else for that matter? The SVP are again supporting this worthwhile cause, through your past generosity, many babies have been saved. If you know of anybody who would like a special gift celebrating the true meaning of Christmas, buy them a certificate "to feed a baby." Contact Peter on 3361269.

Little Church: We hope our regular Little Church youngsters will join us next week for our Nativity singing.

Singers: There will be carols at all our Christmas Masses this year. If you would like to join our rehearsal, we are meeting in church today (15th) 4.00 - 5.00pm.

Piety Stall: We have a limited stock of Christmas Novelties and decorations to sell in aid of The Children's Society. We also have Children's Society money boxes for your loose change. Donations are always very much appreciated, particularly at this time of year. Additionally we have Catholic missionary diaries and Christmas cards along with the usual selection of books and religious items.

Children's Peace Garden: Many thanks to all who helped create a Christmas feel to our Tree. Please do go and take a look.

Christian Aid: Can anyone spare an hour on Friday December 20th between 9am - 8pm to help with a bag pack at Sainsbury's in Neston for Christian Aid? Please contact Barbara Rivers on 336 2972.

Christian Aid News: Available in porch. A parish representative is needed to ensure parishioners are kept up to date with information about Christian Aid Activities. Please contact Barbara Rivers 336 2972 if you can help in this ecumenical work.

Neston & District Churches Together: Each church in the area is asked to deliver Christmas Services Information Leaflets, our allocation is for the West Vale and Marshlands area. Help still needed to do this important outreach work— please collect leaflets from Sacristy.

Carol Singing: All welcome to sing with others from Neston and District Churches Together in on Wednesday 18th December at Hinderton Mount at 7pm, Bridge Court at 7.45pm and ending in the Boathouse at 8.45/9.00pm. Also Saturday 21st December 10-11am in the market square outside Sainsbury's (or in the foyer if bad weather): Do try and join us. All ages and abilities welcome even if fleeting.

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



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Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253 deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

8th December 2013

Advent Week II

7 Dec	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	John & Lynda Smith
8 Dec	SUNDAY	2 nd Sunday of Advent Bible Sunday	8.45 am	Colin Beardsworth
			10.45 am	The Parish
9 Dec	MONDAY	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM	9.00 am	Hugh Mitchell
10 Dec	TUESDAY	Requiem	10.00 am	Catherine Rogers
11 Dec	WEDNESDAY	St Damasus	9.00 am	Victor Ronald John Rhodes
12 Dec	THURSDAY	Our Lady of Guadalupe	9.00 am	SPUC
13 Dec	FRIDAY	St Lucy	9.00 am	Brian Curtis
14 Dec	SATURDAY	St John of the Cross	9.00 am	Peter Howard
14 Dec	SATURDAY	Next Weekend 3 rd Sunday of Advent	6.30 pm	Bill Owen
15 Dec	SUNDAY		8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Irene O'Sullivan

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, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones, William Davies

RIP: Fr Patrick O'Brien, Fr Gary Walsh sss, Catherine Rogers, Alan Glen, Brian Curtis

From Fr Ravi:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Patrick J O'Brien, Parish Priest of Holy Family, Pensby, who died suddenly on the evening of Tuesday 3rd December at Arrowe Park hospital. On behalf of all at St Winefride's Neston, we convey our heartfelt condolences to all in the parish and assure them of our prayerful remembrances. Fr Pat, as leader of our Local Pastoral Area, supported us in all our activities and we still remember the beautiful mass he celebrated on the Feast of St. John Plessington at St Nicholas' Anglican Church in Burton. Fr Pat was born in 1951, ordained in 1976 and was appointed to Holy Family in Pensby in 2007. The funeral arrangements are as follows: Reception of the body and Vigil Mass at Holy family Pensby, Sunday 15th December at 6pm. Funeral Mass at St Joseph's North Road, Birkenhead, Monday 16th December at 11am. We trust that Fr Pat is in God's loving presence as we pray for his family and the Parish of Holy Family. May he Rest in Peace.

We also celebrate **Nelson Mandela's** service to humanity. His life and his firm 'no' to bitterness and hatred reminds us that each of us has the capacity and responsibility to make a difference - big or small - wherever we are and that the responsibility of fixing the world cannot be left to our heroes alone.

God bless.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

RCIA: The RCIA programme will begin from January 2014. Those wishing to be fully received into the Catholic Church or to strengthen their faith are most welcome to register their names with Fr Ravi before Christmas this year.

Services of Reconciliation: Our Lady and St John, Heswall, **18th December at 7:30 pm.** Priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation to help us prepare for Christmas. In addition to this, we will be holding a service of reconciliation in our Church on **Friday 20th December at 7pm,** with Priests again available to hear confessions.

Parents/Carers of First Holy Communion Candidates: Stay awake – be ready. As we all wait to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas why not use the time to prepare your children to receive Jesus for the first time on 14th June 2014? Our Parents' Meeting is on Monday 13th January at 7.00 pm, when the Catechists will look forward to meeting you all.

Children's Peace Garden: Calling all children. Please help decorate our Peace Garden Tree for Christmas after 10:45 mass today - decorations provided.

Confirmation: A reminder that our next sessions are on December 8th and 15th with a trip planned for January 12th. Please ensure you get a letter which needs to be returned and signed by December 15th if you wish to go to Laser Quest!

Parish Christmas Dinner: The fellowship gathering held on Thursday 5th December at Kri Kri in Neston was another opportunity for us to grow as one community, getting to know each other better and celebrating our togetherness in the parish. We appreciate all who braved the wind and rain to join us. Special thanks go to Tony Wright and Kieron Grace for their lead role in organising the event. We regret that we could not take in all who wanted to come but we shall surely address this in the future. We very much hope that these gatherings will become a regular feature in our St Winefride's calendar.

SVP Sudan Baby Appeal: Wondering what to give your favourite Aunt or Uncle for Christmas, or anybody else for that matter? The SVP are again supporting this worthwhile cause, through your past generosity, many babies have been saved. If you know of anybody who would like a special gift celebrating the true meaning of Christmas, buy them a certificate "to feed a baby." Contact Peter on 3361269.

YSVP: Thanks for supporting our Advent Calendar raffle. £41 raised – winner: Louise Wilkinson.

CWL Committee Meeting: Thursday 12th December at 7.30 pm. in the Church Hall.

CWL: Would like to thank parishioners who supported the hamper raffle. Also a big thank you to friends of the CWL who helped at the Christmas fair, especially the Youth SVP who manned two stalls and the door. Over £1200 was raised and will be given to charities in the New Year. Thank you.

SPUC: Next Thursday is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn and after Mass we will be having the Stations of the Cross for Life.

SPUC Christmas Cards: Available in the Church Hall after all masses.

SPUC: next Tuesday 10th December 7.30pm in the Church meeting all. All Welcome.

Piety Stall: Please note that all cards on sale in church are now located in the back porch in a new display unit, which makes selection much easier. We have our full range of Christmas stock on sale in the church hall. Please take some time to browse and don't forget our glass display cabinet. All our profits go to The Diocesan Children's Society.

Christian Aid: Can anyone spare an hour on Friday December 20th between 9am - 8pm to help with a bag pack at Sainsbury's in Neston for Christian Aid? Please contact Barbara Rivers on 336 2972.

Churches Together: Each church in the area is asked to deliver Christmas Services Information Leaflets, our allocation is for the West Vale area. Help still needed to do this important outreach work – please collect leaflets from Sacristy.

West Cheshire Foodbank: Many thanks to those who supported the recent Foodbank Information Evening. Please keep an eye on the West Cheshire Foodbank website and blog for progress in setting up the Neston Distribution Centre. Many thanks to the SVP for their continued help and support. www.westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk

Resources for new Evangelisation – Reaching In... Reaching Out: A new diploma/certificate course is being planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world with hope and love". Information is available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

Carol Concert: The Neston NE Singers and St. Winefride's School children will be singing carols on Friday 13th December at 7.00 pm in Church followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. All welcome.

Burton and Neston History Society: Would like to hear from Nestonians who have artefacts or records from WWI that give insights into Neston Life at the time of WWI, with a view to holding an exhibition at the library next year. Information on St Winefride's parish or school life particularly wanted. Contact Ed Hilditch on 336 4510 for more information.

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



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Advent Week I

1st December 2013

30 Nov	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Catherine Walsh
1 Dec	SUNDAY	<i>1st Sunday of Advent 2nd Collection: Peter's Pence</i>	8.45 am	Alex & Dale Connelly
			10.45 am	The Parish
2 Dec	MONDAY		9.00 am	Mary & Julie Mulligan
3 Dec	TUESDAY	<i>St Francis Xavier</i>	9.00 am	Peter Creamer
4 Dec	WEDNESDAY	<i>St John of Damascus</i>	9.00 am	Sp Intention
5 Dec	THURSDAY	<i>Requiem</i>	10.00 am	Alan Glen
6 Dec	FRIDAY	<i>St Nicholas</i>	9.00 am	Gerry Robinson
7 Dec	SATURDAY	<i>St Ambrose</i>	9.00 am 12 noon	Terry Hughes Isabella Theresa Ellen Dykes
		<i>Baptism</i>		
7 Dec	SATURDAY	<i>Next Weekend 2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	6.30 pm	John & Lynda Smith
8 Dec	SUNDAY	<i>Bible Sunday</i>	8.45 am	Colin Beardsworth
			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, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones, William Davies

RIP: Alan Glen, Brian Curtis

From Fr Ravi...

The Joy of the Gospel

Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation - *Evangelii Gaudium* - has caught the imagination of the world. The 224 page document is indeed a song, easy to read and understand and is considered to be the 'I have a Dream' speech of our beloved Holy Father.

The Catholic Church is called upon to be more missionary, more merciful and with the courage to experience conversion. The following quotes may help our advent meditation and even inspire us to read the full text.

"I dream of a 'missionary option,' that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today's world, rather than for her self-preservation."

"The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak"

"How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure but it is news when the Stock market loses two points"

The whole world - including the media - is in awe of Pope Francis. Maybe, we could attempt to go further, in realising his vision for the Church, by living the Gospel of God's all embracing love to humanity.

God bless.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Liz Dolly, Peter Higgins

RCIA: The RCIA programme will begin from January 2014. Those wishing to be fully received into the Catholic Church or to strengthen their faith are most welcome to register their names with Fr Ravi before Christmas this year.

LPA Service of Reconciliation: Our Lady and St John, Heswall, 18th December at 7:30 pm. Priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) to help us prepare for Christmas.

Parents/Carers of First Holy Communion Candidates: Stay awake – be ready! As we all wait to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas why not use the time to prepare your children to receive Jesus for the first time on 14th June 2014? Our Parents' Meeting is on Monday 13th January at 7.00 pm, when the Catechists will look forward to meeting you all.

Confirmation Candidates: Our next sessions are on December 8th and 15th at 9:45am. Parents/carers please check emails regularly for further information. We will be welcoming volunteers from various parish groups on 8th and all are invited to help the children with Peace Garden Tree decoration after 10:45 mass that day.

Bible Study Group: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 4th December at 2 Alan's Meadow commencing at 7:30 pm. Please read chapters 45 - 47 in preparation.

Prayer Group: Meets every Friday evening at 2 Alan's Meadow at 7:30 pm. and finishing at 9pm. An informal gathering where we read and meditate on the Sunday mass readings using the principles of Lectio Divina under the guidance of Fr Denis. It offers a wonderful opportunity to widen our understanding of biblical texts in a sociable and friendly atmosphere. Advent is a good time to join us and anyone wishing to do so will be made most welcome. If you require any further information or help with transport please contact Fr Denis or Geoff Davies (336 4046).

Children's Peace Garden: If anyone would like to keep their crosses that have been placed in the Peace Garden, please do feel free to take them. Our decorating session of our Peace Garden tree will be on December 8th after 10:45 mass: decorations provided - see you there!

Piety Stall: Please note that all the cards on sale in church are now located in the back porch in a new display unit which makes selection much easier. We have our full range of Christmas stock on sale in the church hall. Please take some time to browse and don't forget our glass display cabinet. All our profits go to The Diocesan Children's Society.

SPUC Christmas Cards: On sale in hall, after all masses, cards priced from only £2.40 for 10 cards.

The Catholic Women's League: are collecting new toys and gifts for Catholic Children's Society. Your gift may be the only gift someone receives this year. Donations gratefully received. There will be a box in the new church porch for donations. Any queries please call Marie-Lou on 07725 313879. Thank you.

SVP Sudan Baby Appeal: Wondering what to give your favourite Aunt or Uncle for Christmas, or anybody else for that matter? The SVP are again supporting this worthwhile cause, through your past generosity, many babies have been saved. If you know of anybody who would like a special gift celebrating the true meaning of Christmas, buy them a certificate "to feed a baby." Contact Peter on 3361269.

Diocesan Gift Aid Service: Thanks to everybody for the great response to the Gift Aid Appeal. If anybody took away Gift Aid or Standing Order forms, please return to Mike Russell, pass to Mike Jevons or hand in at the Presbytery. For further information please contact Mike Jevons on 336 5026. Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are also available on our website in the download section.

Christmas Services Information Leaflets: Help needed to distribute in West Vale Area 1st-7th December on behalf of Churches Together. Contact Barbara 336 2972 or collect leaflets from Sacristy

Carol Concert: The Neston NE Singers and St. Winefride's School children will be singing carols on Friday 13th December at 7.00 pm in Church.

Advent Reflection: 'Living out God's Call to Holiness' Sunday 8th December 4.30-6.30pm at Wistaston Hall, 89 Broughton Lane Crewe CW2 8JS. For further information contact Maura Garside 0161 282 8859 mauragarside@hotmail.com

Resources for new Evangelisation – Reaching In... Reaching Out: A new diploma/certificate course is being planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world with hope and love". Information available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

Heating: As winter begins to makes it felt, our heating system is on full alert! To keep our church cosy please could all radiators be left as they are. The heating is automated and they will switch on and off automatically. Many thanks.

Thank yous: To our excellent Christmas decorators who have yet again are doing such a marvellous job in making our church feel so special at this time of year. Also to our newsletter editors on the first anniversary of the current format – many have found it informative and reflective. If anyone would like to help with the newsletter or the website they are most welcome.

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



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Ordinary Time Week XXXIV

24th November 2013

23 rd Nov	SATURDAY	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King – Day of special prayer for Young People. Closing of the Year of Faith – Bishop Mark's Pastoral Letter</i>	6.30 pm	Dave and Agnes Boyd
24 th Nov	SUNDAY		8.45 am	John and Lynda Smith
			10.45 am	The Parish
25 th Nov	MONDAY	<i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i>	9.00 am	Heinz Pizarek
26 th Nov	TUESDAY		9.00 am	Int: Phil and Cerry Topping
27 th Nov	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	Margaret Ann Davies
28 th Nov	THURSDAY		9.00 am	November List
29 th Nov	FRIDAY	<i>Funeral Service – Blacon Crematorium</i>	9.00 am 2.00pm	Health: Rose Hart Patricia Heywood
30 th Nov	SATURDAY	<i>St Andrew Ordinary Time ends</i>	9.00 am	Gemma Standing
30 th Nov	<i>Next weekend</i>		6.30 pm	Catherine Walsh
1 st Dec	SUNDAY	<i>1st Sunday of Advent 2nd Collection: Peter's Pence</i>	8.45 am	Alex and Dale Connelly
			10.45 am	The Parish
<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 5.45-6.10 pm</p>				

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, James Mulligan Jr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones.

RIP: Patricia Heywood, Edna Bernadette Ellwood

Church Cleaners: Louise Wood, Fran Byrne

Diocesan Gift Aid Service: Thanks to everybody for the great response to the Gift Aid Appeal. If anybody took away Gift Aid or Standing Order forms, please return to Mike Russell, pass to Mike Jevons or hand in at the Presbytery. For further information please contact Mike Jevons on 336 5026.

Parish Christmas Dinner: Thursday 5th December at 6.30pm at Kri Kri, Neston. Contact Tony Wright on 3366291, Kieron Grace on 3367492 or Fr Ravi.

Christmas Singing: To make our Christmas services more meaningful, we need more singers. Please come and join us in church on Friday 29th November at 7.30pm.

Prayer Group: Meet Fridays at 2 Allan's Meadow at 7.30-9pm. It where we read and meditate on the Sunday mass readings using the principles of Lectio Divina. This is a good time to join and anyone wishing to do so will be made most welcome. Contact Fr Denis or Geoff Davies (336 4046).

Confirmation: Our next sessions at 9.45 am (9.30 for snacks) on 24th November, 8th December and 15th December. Parents please check your emails for information.

CWL Christmas Fair: Saturday 30th November 10.30am-1.00pm at Neston Town Hall. Gifts especially cakes and volunteers appreciated, contact Maria 336 4622. Raffle tickets for the Christmas Hampers will be on sale at all Masses.

Piety Stall: Christmas stock is on sale in the church hall after each weekend Mass. We also have a new selection of CTS booklets covering a range of topical subjects. All profits to The Diocesan Children's Society.

YSVP: Cake sale for Children in Need raised £58, many thanks for all your support. Raffle Tickets on sale after 10.45 Mass in Church Hall, for hand stitched Advent Calendar.

SPUC: Christmas cards on sale after all Masses, only £2.40 for 10, with the traditional Christmas message.

PASTORAL LETTER

At the Close of the Year of Faith Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

St Luke tells us in the Gospel: *"The people stayed before the cross watching Jesus"* (Lk 23:35). St Luke is careful to describe for us the reaction of people around the Cross on the first Good Friday: leaders jeer, soldiers mock, a dying man derides Our Lord. We notice in the Gospel that this is something more than ignorance or doubt; there is a real antagonism: *"He saved others,"* they say *"let him save himself"* (Lk 23:35). This was the scene on Calvary two thousand years ago and it is a drama which continues today wherever the claims of Christ are now rejected and derided. It is the hour for our faith to be proved amid the continuing uproar around the Cross of the Lord.

I write to you at the end of the *Year of Faith* called by Pope Benedict and continued by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. During this Year we have had several reminders of how Christians in many parts of the world face increasing threats of violence and intimidation in order to stand by Christ's Cross (*'Persecuted & Forgotten'* www.acnuk.org/persecution.) We are aware that during these same months, Christians have suffered violent deaths rather than renounce the name and the love of Christ. All this gives to our celebration of the *Year of Faith* a new perspective. It also gives perspective to the antagonism we can experience to the claims of Christ and to the witness of Christians in the life of our own society. This situation may at times tempt us to avoid speaking the name of Christ if it makes our contemporaries uneasy, to remove His Cross from view or to understate His claim of Kingship. On Calvary, there was one voice which made a profession of faith. St Luke tells us of a dying criminal who cut through all the fear and intimidation around him to say: *"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom"* (Lk 23:41). This man receives the promise: *"Today you will be with me in paradise"* (Lk 23:42). This is the faith which leads to the eternal promise St Paul describes in the Mass today: *"(The Father) has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins"* (Col 1:13).

Children's Peace Garden: Christmas decorating will be after 10.45am mass on December 8th. Decorations will be provided for our Peace Tree Garden. Please come along to help!

Winter Wonderland: St. Winefride's Primary School Christmas Market, Friday 29th November 3.30pm to 6.00pm. Father Christmas will be arriving at 3:45pm.

Foodbank: Information evening regarding the setting up of a distribution centre for the Neston foodbank on 29th November at the United Reformed Church at 7.30pm, all invited.

The celebration of this *Year of Faith* has surely invited us all to raise our own voices calmly and clearly in a renewed profession of our faith.

The first message of Pope Francis was that we can work as much as we want and construct many things, *"but if we do not confess Jesus Christ, things go wrong"*. Pope Francis insists: *"We may become a charitable Non-Governmental Organisation but not the Church, the Bride of the Lord ... When we do not confess Jesus Christ, we confess the worldliness of the devil, a demonic worldliness"* (*Pro Ecclesia* Mass, 14th March 2013). You might have noticed a few words inscribed beneath the coat of arms of our Diocese. Every Bishop is asked to choose three or four words from Sacred Scripture to sum-up his hope and purpose. My motto for the years I will serve as bishop is simply this: *"Nihil sine Christo"* - *"nothing without Christ"*. This is a three-word summary of the words of Our Lord found in St John's Gospel where He tells us: *"Without me, you can do nothing"* (Jn 15: 5). It is surely the lesson we must constantly re-learn in our own lives. It is the lesson which leads us back to the means of grace entrusted to the Church, above all to Christ Himself truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

I have no doubt that the future of our Diocese will be decided by the courage and constancy of such faith. In my first letter to the Diocese three years ago I echoed the prayer of the first apostles who said to the Lord: *"Increase our faith!"* (Lk17:5). At the end of this *Year of Faith* I ask you to renew with me this same prayer in the Mass today where *"the sacrifice of Christ offered once for all on the cross remains ever present"* (CCC 1364). Before Christ our Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, let us say: *"Lord, increase our faith!"* Increase our faith so that we may go from Mass every Sunday to give our own courageous and constant witness to Christ the King.

Wishing you the joy of the approaching Season of Advent and a truly blessed celebration of Christmas,

+ Mark Davies
 Bishop of Shrewsbury

Christmas Service Information Leaflets: Help needed to distribute in West Vale Area 1st-7th December on behalf of Churches Together. Contact Barbara 336 2972 or collect leaflets from Sacristy.

Advent Reflection: 'Living out God's Call to Holiness' Sunday 8th December 4.30-6.30pm at Wistaston Hall, 89 Broughton Lane, Crewe CW2 8JS. For further information, contact Maura Garside 0161 282 8859 mauragarside@hotmail.com

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



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Ordinary Time Week XXXIII

17th November 2013

16 Nov	SATURDAY	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	The Parish
17 Nov	SUNDAY	Day of Special Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependents	8.45 am	Peter Anderson
			10.45 am	Irene O'Sullivan
18 Nov	MONDAY	Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss Peter & Paul	9.00 am	Catherine O'Brien
19 Nov	TUESDAY		9.00 am	Mulligan Mary & Julie
20 Nov	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	All Souls – Eileen Miller
21 Nov	THURSDAY	The Presentation of the BVM – Requiem Parish Bereavement Mass	10.00 am 7.30 pm	Edna Bernadette Ellwood CWL & Bereavement Group
22 Nov	FRIDAY	St Cecilia	9.00 am	Edward Lawson Webb & Family
23 Nov	SATURDAY	St Clement I, St Columban Baptism	9.00 am 12 noon	November List Annabel Rose Cooke
23 Nov	SATURDAY	Next Weekend Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King	6.30 pm	Dave & Agnes Boyd
24 Nov	SUNDAY	Day of Special Prayer for Young People	8.45 am 10.45 am	John & Lynda Smith 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 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, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones.

RIP: Edna Bernadette Ellwood

From Fr Ravi...

God loves a cheerful giver

Our parish community here at St Winefride's has always been known for its generosity whether it be supporting our parish or in contributing to second collections, supporting retired priests or reaching out to those in need.

This weekend we welcome Mike Russell, Diocesan Gift Aid Coordinator, who will be thanking our parish community for our past generosity and also suggest ways and means of making our regular offerings effective and efficient.

On behalf of the parish I would like to thank Mike Jevons who has been doing our parish accounts for many years, Brian Byrne who has overseen the weekly collection and all those who collect and count our offerings so diligently.

May our Blessings increase even as we share them with others, especially the less fortunate among us.

God Bless.

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

Church Cleaners: Brian & Veronica Casey.

Annual Bereavement Mass: for the Parish and CWL members on Thursday 21st November at 7.30 pm. Refreshments afterwards in the Hall.

Parish Christmas Dinner: All are welcome. Thursday, 5th December, 2013 at 6.30pm. at the Kri Kri Greek Restaurant, Neston. Starter & main course with a glass of wine - £10 only! If you wish to join us please contact Tony Wright (336 6291, tonywright22@gmail.com), Kieron Grace (336 7492, kierongrace@btinternet.com) or Fr Ravi as soon as possible.

November Lists: In keeping with the beautiful tradition of remembering our loved ones, you are invited to place the names of your deceased family and friends in the basket on the altar. We as a parish, shall remember them with gratitude and pray for them. There will be a mass offered every week for those persons mentioned in the November List.

Confirmation Candidates: Thanks to all those who contributed so imaginatively with their "precious items" last week. Our next meetings are on the following Sundays: 24th November, 8th December and a change to 15th December. Please check emails for further information. We look forward to seeing you soon.

CWL Christmas Fair: Saturday 30th November 10.30am - 1.00pm, Neston Town Hall. Gifts especially cakes and volunteers appreciated. Contact Maria 336 4622. **Raffle Tickets** for the Christmas Hampers will be on sale after all Masses on weekends 16/17 and 23/24 November.

Keep Christ in Christmas: Sandymount Retreat House, Crosby, Saturday, 30th November. A one day retreat led by Philip McParland offering some suggestions on how we can keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas preparations 10.00am to 4.00pm. Offering: £12. Please bring a packed lunch. For more information or to book a place, phone 0151 924 4850.

Piety Stall: We now have our full range of Christmas stock on sale. A good selection of advent calendars, cards, books, gifts and candles are available in the church hall after each weekend Mass. We also have a **new** selection of CTS booklets covering a range of topical subjects. Please take time to browse and don't forget our glass display cabinet. We are here to serve the Parish and all profits go to support The Diocesan Children's Society.

Winter Wonderland: St. Winefride's Primary School will be turning their hall into a winter wonderland on Friday 29th November from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. Come along and enjoy the festive market, take your chances on the Tombola, start your Christmas shopping at a selection of beautiful stalls and get into the festive spirit with mulled wine and a mince pie. Father Christmas will be arriving at 3:45pm.

**Retiring Collection this weekend:
 CAFOD's Philippines Typhoon Haiyan Appeal**

We have all seen the devastating images of suffering and grief following the typhoon in the Philippines and we are still waiting to see the full impact on communities and individuals. This is reported to be the worst storm ever experienced, killing at least 10,000 people in the city of Tacloban alone and devastating the lives of many others with the widespread destruction of homes, schools and roads. The typhoon hit some of the areas that were affected by an earthquake in October, adding further damage and hampering aid efforts.

CAFOD has been very grateful to receive generous support from parishes, schools and individuals following the recent Harvest Fast Day which ensured that communities around the world can address the scandal of extreme poverty and injustice in their lives. Sadly we need to appeal once again to our Catholic community as we respond in its name to this new emergency. We are now launching the **Philippines Typhoon Haiyan Appeal** which was fully supported by the bishops of England and Wales in their plenary meeting on 11 November.

How CAFOD is responding on behalf of the Catholic community: We are working with *Catholic Relief Services* and with *Caritas Philippines* to provide the most urgently needed aid: food, emergency shelter and essential household goods (such as pots, pans, blankets and cooking equipment) for people who have lost everything. With water supplies disrupted in many areas, we shall also provide clean water and sanitation to prevent the spread of disease

In the longer term, donations from the Catholic community will help people to rebuild their homes and to make a living again. Because of the scale of the flooding and because roads have been blocked, some parts of the country remain difficult to reach and we are supporting our Church partners to rapidly scale up their response in the worst hit areas.

Today there will be a special collection after Mass for CAFOD's emergency response to the extensive damage and suffering caused by Philippines Typhoon Haiyan. CAFOD is working with local Church partners to provide emergency shelter, food and water. You can also donate online at cafod.org.uk/typhoon, or by calling CAFOD on **0500 85 88 85**.

CAFOD is appealing as part of a national response by the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC). In the unlikely event of income exceeding need for this appeal, additional monies will be allocated to other urgent emergencies.



St Winefride's RC Church
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Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253 deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Ordinary Time Week XXXII

10th November 2013

9 Nov	SATURDAY		6.30 pm	Terry Hughes
10 Nov	SUNDAY	32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Sunday	8.45 am	The Parish
			10.45 am	Helen & Dick Spencer
		Baptism	12 noon	Sienna Lilly Power
11 Nov	MONDAY	St Martin of Tours	9.00 am	Mulligan Mary & Julie
12 Nov	TUESDAY	St Josaphat	9.00 am	Roebuck Family
13 Nov	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	John F Mahony
14 Nov	THURSDAY		9.00 am	Peter Durrant
15 Nov	FRIDAY	St Albert the Great	9.00 am	November List
16 Nov	SATURDAY	St Edmond of Abingdon, St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude.	9.00 am	Josephine McDonnell
		Baptism	12 noon	Martha Lang
16 Nov	Next Weekend SATURDAY	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	The Parish
17 Nov	SUNDAY	Day of special prayer for prisoners and their dependants	8.45 am	Peter Anderson
			10.45 am	Irene O'Sullivan
<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 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, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julie Jones.

RIP: Irene O'Sullivan, Terry Hughes

Extraordinary Synod October 2014 - Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelisation:

This Sunday across the dioceses of England and Wales a Questionnaire is being circulated that will allow many to actively participate in helping the preparations for the Extraordinary Synod of Bishops in October next year to consider questions surrounding the proclamation of the Gospel in the context of "Pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization".

Do take the time to look at the questionnaire which is available via the Diocesan Website, this weekend's Universe, or by going online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FamilySynod2014>. I have asked that there should be some paper copies of the questionnaire at the back of church for those who do not have computer access. If you are able to make this personal contribution to the preparations for the Synod please complete the questionnaire and return it to Canon Jonathan Mitchell either by using the Survey monkey online version of the questionnaire, emailing an e-version of the questionnaire taken from the Diocesan Website to Frjonmitchell@cantab.net, or posting a paper version to St John Vianney Presbytery, 142 Witton Street, Northwich Cheshire CW9 5NP

The closing date for submissions is the 13th of December. Canon Mitchell will then collate all the responses on behalf of our Shrewsbury Diocese.

+ Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Mark's Pastoral Visitation:

The celebration of Bishop's visitation was a grace-filled moment for our parish. As we thank each other for the joy of belonging to St Winefride's, we should certainly mention our Altar Servers and their parents, First Communion and Confirmation candidates, Readers, Musicians, choir, Flowergirls, booklet/newsletter editors, Sacristans, Church cleaners, Catechists, Gardeners, our hall-arrangers, coffee/tea personnel, not forgetting our Clergy and so many others who made it so special for our community. May we all continue the great tradition of generously supporting the life and mission of our Parish.



Church Cleaners: Wendy Morgan, Anne-Marie McLean.

Church Cleaning Volunteers: The church is cleaned by volunteers and the current rota requires the teams to be on duty once in every six weeks. If you can join us please contact Louise Wilkinson on 336 1096.

November Lists: In keeping with the beautiful tradition of remembering our loved ones, you are invited to place the names of your deceased family and friends in the basket on the altar. We as a parish, shall remember them with gratitude and pray for them. There will be a mass offered every week for those persons mentioned in the November List.

Confirmation Candidates: The next confirmation meeting for our dynamic youngsters, will be on Sunday 10th November at 9:45am. Please bring your "precious item" and booklet.

RCIA: The RCIA programme (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has helped a number of our community members in the past and 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. Catechists/volunteers willing to share their faith with those participating in the programme are most welcome to give their names to Fr Ravi.

Singing Practices: Will continue at 10am on Sunday 11th November – please do come along to boost our singing. New singers are most welcome.

Resources for New Evangelisation - Reaching In... Reaching Out: A diploma/certificate course is being planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world

with hope and love". Information available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

Symposium II - The Human Person and the Law: Organised by the Department for New Evangelisation, Bishop Mark invites you to two talks in Stockport on Saturday 23rd November and Shrewsbury on Sunday 24th November. Information available in both porches.

Gluten free communion hosts: Should you require communion of this sort, please let Fr Ravi know prior to the start of mass.

Little Church: Require helpers to prepare and deliver "Little Church" as 3 of the long serving helpers are unable to continue. If you can help with this important work, please contact Dorothy Barber 336 5532.

CWL Christmas fair: Saturday 30th November, 10.30am - 1.00pm in Neston Town Hall. Gifts, especially cakes and volunteers appreciated. Contact Maria 336 4622

CWL meeting: Thursday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Church Hall (Please note meeting a week early)

Raffle tickets: On sale at all Masses 16/17 and 23/24 November.

SPUC: Meeting Tuesday 12th November 7.30pm in Church Hall. All welcome.

Christmas Market: St Winefride's Primary School Christmas fair will take place on Friday 29th November from 3pm – 6pm.

Christmas Cards: SPUC and Piety Stall now on sale after all Masses. Cards at reasonable prices and all with traditional Christmas messages.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: New rotas now in the sacristy/online.

Visit to Childwall Synagogue: Following on from the fascinating talk by Rabbi Wollenburg, we are planning a visit to the synagogue on Saturday 16th November, arriving by 10am. If you are interested, please let Fr Denis know by Monday 11th Nov (336 2877).

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

OTHER

1st Ness Guides: Invite you to an evening of Music at Neston British Legion on Friday 15th November at 7.30pm. Local group Bag O'Minstrels and Hip and Harmony community choir will be raising the roof! Tickets £5, including light supper, available on door or from Eva Kieran 336 7704.



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Ordinary Time Week XXXI

3rd November 2013

2 Nov	SATURDAY	<i>Patronal Feast of St Winefride Visitation of Bishop Mark Davies 170 Years of our Parish</i>	6.15 pm 6.30 pm	Blessing of Cemetery Catherine O'Brien
3 Nov	SUNDAY		8.45 am 10.45 am	The Parish Selina Ashington
4 Nov	MONDAY	<i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	10.00 am	Doreen F O'Mahony <i>with St Winefride's Primary School</i>
5 Nov	TUESDAY	<i>Requiem</i>	9.00 am 10.00 am	Fred Barber Irene O'Sullivan
6 Nov	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	May Walsh
7 Nov	THURSDAY	<i>St Willibrord</i>	9.00 am	Int: Gaynor & Eddie Nolan
8 Nov	FRIDAY		9.00 am	Robert Pisarek
9 Nov	SATURDAY	<i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	9.00 am	Josephine McDonnell
9 Nov	SATURDAY	<i>Next Weekend 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Sunday</i>	6.30 pm	Terry Hughes
10 Nov	SUNDAY		8.45 am 10.45 am	The Parish Helen & Dick Spencer

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 Haines, Karl Smith, Vincent Marmion, Marie Claire, Margaret Maw, Stacey Leadbetter, Louisa Johnson, James Mulligan Jr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julia Jones.

RIP: Irene O'Sullivan, Terry Hughes

From Fr Ravi:

A Time of Grace...

St Winefride's Neston is delighted to welcome the Rt Rev Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury, who is in our Parish this weekend for his pastoral visitation. It is a moment of grace and blessing for our entire Parish community, as Bishop Mark listens to our faith experiences, helps us in our faith formation and guides us in our faith action. That this visitation happens in the Year of Faith is significant indeed. In keeping with the Bishop's visit, we have planned for a celebration of our Past, our Present and our Future.

On Saturday 2nd Nov, Bishop Mark will bless the Cemetery, praying for those of our loved ones buried here or elsewhere, that they may enjoy God's peace and rest. It is a sign of our gratitude to those who have been part of our history for 170 years, because what we are today is due to their labour of love in this parish family.

On Sunday, 3rd November, Bishop Mark will preside at our two Eucharistic celebrations and will also be welcoming those candidates preparing for First Communion and Confirmation. He will experience St Winefrides' warmth and love when he meets with us and our children in the Parish Centre immediately after each celebration.

On Monday, 4th November at 10am, I will be presiding at the Eucharist with all the children from St Winefride's Primary school, praying for God's special blessings on our children as they seek to cherish the gift of faith, lived and celebrated in our parish community and continue the glorious tradition of St Winefride's by being, 'firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in love'!

St Winefride, Pray for Us!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: L Wilkinson, T Davies

November Lists: In keeping with the beautiful tradition of remembering our loved ones you are invited to place the names of your deceased family and friends in the basket on the altar. We as a parish, shall remember them with gratitude and pray for them.

First Communion and Candidates: The candidates for first communion and confirmation are especially blessed this year by being welcomed by Bishop Mark during the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday.

The next confirmation meeting for our dynamic youngsters, will be on Sunday 10th November at 9:45am. Please bring your "precious item" and booklet.

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.

Singing Practices: Will continue at 10am on Sunday 10th November – please do come along to boost our singing. New singers would be most welcome!

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: new rotas now in the sacristy/online.

Little Church: There is a need for helpers to prepare and deliver "Little Church" this time 3 of my long serving helpers are unable to continue with this important work. Can you help please? Please contact Dorothy Barber 336 5532.

Resources for New Evangelisation - Reaching In...

Reaching Out: A diploma/certificate course is being planned by our diocese to help people to "reach into the deep roots of the faith and reach out to the world with hope and love". Information is available in both porches about this pastoral programme. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr Ravi know.

Symposium II - The Human Person and the Law:

Organised by the Department for New Evangelisation, Bishop Mark invites you to two talks in Stockport on Saturday 23rd November/Shrewsbury, on Sunday 24th November. Information available in both porches.

CWL Committee Meeting: Thursday 7th November at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall.

CWL Coffee Morning: Friday 8th November hosted by Irene at 4 Leighton Court from 10 am – 12 noon. Bring and Buy, entrance free but please bring a bottle for the Tombola Stall at the Christmas Fair, on Saturday 30th November

Christmas Cards: SPUC and Piety Stall now on sale after all Masses. Cards at reasonable prices and all with traditional Christmas messages.

Foodbank: The amount donated in October amounted to a staggering 250 kilograms, in part aided by the splendid efforts by the Children off St. Winefride's Primary School Harvest Festival. Many thanks to the kind benefactor of the box of toothpaste. Toiletries such as soap and toothpaste are much in demand. There will be an information evening for the Neston foodbank on 29th November at the United Reformed Church at 7.30pm to which all are invited.

Operation Christmas Child: Thank you to everyone who helped in whatever way be it to fill the shoeboxes: knitting, buying articles for the boxes, covering and packing the boxes and the many minor things that go to make it a successful project. We have 103 boxes to send.

The Poor Clare Community in Hawarden: send their heartfelt thanks your most generous response to last week's second collection. It means as a parish we can deliver fresh food from Neston Market for the next 11 months. Thank you again. To volunteer to help please call Joe 336 1261.

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

OTHER

1st Ness Guides invite you to an evening of Music at Neston British Legion on Friday 15th November at 7.30pm. Local group Bag O'Minstrels and Hip and Harmony community choir will be raising the roof! Tickets £5, including light supper, available on door or from Eva Kieran 336 7704.



**Welcome
Bishop
Mark!**

**From all of us
at
St Winefride's.**



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Ordinary Time Week XXX

27th October 2013

26 Oct	SATURDAY	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Poor Clares' Hawarden	6.30 pm	Stanley and Agnes Jones
27 Oct	SUNDAY		8.45 am	
			10.45 am	Kevin Morris
28 Oct	MONDAY	<i>Ss Simon and Jude</i>	9.00 am	Mary and Julie Mullighan
29 Oct	TUESDAY		9.00 am	Health: Julia Jones
30 Oct	WEDNESDAY		9.00 am	
31 Oct	THURSDAY	<i>All Saints Vigil Mass</i>	9.00 am 7.30 pm	
1 Nov	FRIDAY	<i>All Saints</i>	9.00 am 7.30 pm	Josephine McDonnell
2 Nov	SATURDAY	<i>Commemoration of the Faithful Departed</i>	9.00 am	May Walsh
2 Nov	Next weekend SATURDAY		6.15 pm	Blessing of Cemetery by Bishop Mark
			6.30 pm	Catherine (Katie) O'Brien
3 Nov	SUNDAY	31 st Sunday of Ordinary Time Patronal Feast of St. Winefride	8.45 am	
			10.45 am	Selina Ashington
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 5.45-6.10 pm				

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, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler, Julia Jones.

From Deacon Mike:

One of the many wonderful privileges afforded to me as Deacon here at St Winefride's, is the opportunity to come into church in the evening to pray. One hundred and seventy years of heartfelt prayer and joyful hymn singing passing through the rafters and stonework, along with one hundred and seventy years of Christ's presence have, I believe, left an indelible imprint upon the fabric of this beautiful building. Sitting alone in near darkness before my loving God, with just the gentle candle light from the sanctuary and Lady Chapel lamps for illumination is the perfect setting for meditative and reflective prayer. I am often reminded of the passage in 1 Kings 19: 11-14 when Elijah seeks God at Horeb. Standing in the mouth of a cave, Elijah experiences a hurricane, an earthquake, and a great inferno, in which God was not present. It was in the gentle breeze that followed that Elijah encountered God. Modern life with all its demands upon our attention and time can often be obstructive to prayerful encounters with Jesus, but if you are passing, or have a few moments to spare, why not come into church and set aside the demands of the day, sit before your loving God and enjoy the peace only he can give.

As we prepare for the visitation of Bishop Mark next weekend, we can reflect on our 170 years as a parish: our past, our present and our future. Bishop Mark will be blessing the churchyard on Saturday 2nd November at 6:15 pm, prior to our evening mass, as we remember those who have gone before us. We will celebrate our Sunday Eucharist together on the Feast of St Winefride as one community who are "Firm in Faith, Joyful in Hope and Active in Charity". We look to the future of the parish with our First Communion children and our young people preparing for Confirmation. They will join us at 10:45 mass with their families to commit themselves in preparation for these important sacraments. On Monday 4th November we will again look to the future with a school mass at 10:00 am here in church. We very much look forward to welcoming Bishop Mark to our parish and sharing our celebrations with him on this special weekend for St Winefride's.

God Bless!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Back Fr Ravi! We hope that you have had a relaxing and happy holiday with your family in India. Our expert interim "Clergy Parish Management Team" can now "pass on the baton" and we all look forward to the next months with our newly energised parish priest. From Fr Denis, Fr Chris, Deacon Mike and all at St Winefride's.

Thank you: After a very lively, energetic and entertaining talk to complement our Year of Faith Vatican II series, we would like to thank both Rabbi Wollenburg for speaking so inspiringly and Fr Denis for organising such an interesting evening. The attendance was truly impressive with 67 parishioners and visitors, and the talk certainly enhanced our understanding of Judaism and "The Life of a Rabbi" in modern times. Many thanks to all those who came and those who organised the hall and refreshments. Rabbi Wollenburg has invited any interested parishioners to visit the Synagogue (Shul) in Childwall (on a Saturday morning for about 10am). If you would like to visit the Shul, please inform Fr Denis.

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

Bible Study Group: Next meeting will be on Wednesday 30th October at 2 Allan's Meadow starting at 7.30pm. Please read chapters 39 - 40 in preparation.

Altar Servers: Next practice session will be on Monday 28th October at 6:30pm. If you intend to serve on 2nd/3rd November for the Bishop's Visitation please do try and come to the rehearsal.

Confirmation and First Communion Candidates: A reminder that Bishop Mark will be welcoming you all at 10.45 Mass on Sunday 3rd November. We look forward to seeing you and your families on the day. Please could Confirmation candidates be at church for 10.15 am.

SPUC: National coffee morning this year is held on Saturday 2nd November 9.30am – 11.30am. Tea, coffee, tea cakes and crumpets available. Raffle and bring and buy stall. All welcome.

Christmas Cards: SPUC and Piety Stall now on sale after all Masses. Cards at reasonable prices and all with traditional Christmas messages.

New Rota: Would Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please collect the new rota now available in the sacristy on the right hand side.

Website: Pictures from Thursday's talk are online (in the newsletter section) and pictures of all the

food for the foodbank donated by St Winefride's school are in our gallery (under Events) as well as a report by Dorothy Barber about the recent sponsored walk in the SVP section of Parish Life.

Children's Peace Garden: Thank you to Jeff Rowland for making the November crosses for the Children's Peace Garden. These will be available after all masses this weekend and children can write names on the crosses of those whom they would like to remember and can place them in the garden. They will remain there during November. Thanks also to Joe Tunstall for painting our Children's Peace Garden log!

Poor Clare Colettine Community: 2nd collection for Poor Clares' of Hawarden at all masses this weekend. If you unable to make a donation after Mass, please do so at any time during the week. Representatives from this group will make an appeal at all masses.

World Mission Sunday: Thank you for your generous contribution of £499.63 to last week's World Mission Sunday collection Your prayers and kindness will help missionaries across the world continue their work at the service of the poor and vulnerable. Please pray for all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that they may remain strong in their witness to Christ's love for all people.

Foodbank: There will be an information evening for the Neston foodbank on 29th November at the United Reformed Church at 7.30pm to which all are invited.

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

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Justice and Peace Commission: September E-bulletin available online on Parish Life page. Many changes are being implemented - to find out more please access the e-bulletin or visit the Justice and Peace website - www.jpshrewsbury.wordpress.com

St Anthony of Padua: The relics of St Anthony are being brought to the UK and Ireland to mark the 750th anniversary of their discovery by St Bonaventure. They will be displayed in the church of St Francis, Grosvenor Street, Chester on Thursday 31st October. Veneration is at 1.00pm - 6.30pm and 8.00pm - 9.00pm. Mass at noon and 7.00pm. As the car park at St Francis is very small, visitors coming are advised to use one of the Chester city centre car parks.



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Ordinary Time Week XXIX

20th October 2013

19 Oct	SATURDAY	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Mission Sunday	6.30 pm	The Parish
20 Oct	SUNDAY		8.45 am	Peter Anderson
			10.45 am	Dickie Breen
21 Oct	MONDAY		9.00 am	
22 Oct	TUESDAY		9.00 am	
23 Oct	WEDNESDAY	St. John Capistrano	9.00 am	Mary and Julie Mulligan
24 Oct	THURSDAY	St. Anthony Claret	9.00 am	Josephine McDonnell
25 Oct	FRIDAY		9.00 am	
26 Oct	SATURDAY	Ss. Chad and Cedd	9.00 am	May Walsh
26 Oct	SATURDAY	Next weekend 30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Poor Clare's Hawarden	6.30 pm	Stanley and Agnes Jones
			8.45 am	
27 Oct	SUNDAY		10.45 am	Kevin Morris
<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 5.45-6.10 pm</p>				

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, James Mulligan Jnr., Francesca Grace Peet, Diane O'Brien, Gerry Cummins, Fr Joe Carney, Jeannie Cartledge, Angela Willasey, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler.

RIP: Glenys O'Reilly, Frances Dooley

From Fr Chris

In last week's message, Fr Denis nourished us with some spiritual reflections. As we prepare to welcome back Fr Ravi, I shall tell you a story.

Two years ago a Bishop told me that whenever he had to appoint a new man to a vacant Wirral parish, he knew that within six months the cleric would be back to tell him that he either 'loved' or 'hated' his appointment. I was a bit surprised at first: how could anyone dislike the Wirral? On reflection, I realised that we can be a bit insular, standoffish and starry-eyed about our good fortune. Yes, Wirral is a bit of a 'global village', where everybody has been to the same schools, enjoys all the local gossip, and looks down on everyone who lives 'over the water'.

Despite these impressions of Wirral, I always wanted to return to my birthplace and to settle within striking distance of my last parish (St Mary of the Angels). I count my blessings every day: wonderful views over the River Dee to Wales, Ness Gardens, memories of St John Plessington at Puddington and Burton, a thriving and friendly parish under the amiable leadership of Fr Gerry and Fr Ravi, and the companionship of the dynamic Fr Denis. Since I am Fr Ravi's second Curate, I have no uplifting message to give you – except to say that you are a wonderful set of parishioners.

God Bless!

FROM BISHOP MARK

On 21st October, 130 people from our Diocese will set off under my leadership to the Holy Land. Over the coming week we will walk in the footsteps of Christ our Saviour.

As we gather to pray and celebrate Mass at the various sites associated with our Lord's life, death and Resurrection, we pray for a renewal of faith throughout our Diocese.

I will be praying, beginning in Nazareth, especially for all the vocations so needful for our Diocese in the years ahead of us.

I invite the whole Diocese to join us in prayer during these days of pilgrimage and especially on Sunday 27th October when we will be celebrating the Day of Resurrection with Mass in the Holy Sepulchre Basilica in Jerusalem.

We keep also in our prayers the Christian communities in the Holy Land who are suffering so much at this time and pray for a peaceful and just resolution of the problems that beset this troubled land.

Our Lady Queen of Peace: Pray for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Liz Dolley and Peter Higgins.

World Mission Sunday: Today the Pope asks all Catholics to join together to pray and care for the whole family of the Church. 40% of the Church needs help to survive and grow to self sufficiency. Your donations support the work of missionaries as they build schools, provide healthcare and share faith, often in dangerous circumstances. Please give what you can and use the Gift Aid envelopes provided.

Rabbi Wollenburg Talk: We are delighted to welcome Rabbi Wollenburg who will visit our parish on Thursday 24th October at 7.30pm. He has chosen the theme, "One day in the life of a Rabbi" and will be open to questions afterwards. Please come and support what promises to be an interesting evening.

Operation Christmas Child: Shoeboxes, gift items and donations for postage needed. Please see porch for details. Help is also required to prepare boxes on Saturday 26th October at 10am in Church Hall.

Confirmation: Next session Sunday October 27th at 9:45 am in the presbytery. We look forward to seeing our energetic confirmation candidates as we prepare for the Bishop's visit with Deacon Mike.

Altar Servers: Next practice session Monday 28th October at 6:30pm. If you intend to serve on 2nd/3rd November for the Bishop's Visitation please do try and come to the rehearsal.

Music Ministry: Practice at 10am each Sunday. All are welcome!

SPUC: National coffee morning this year is held on Saturday 2nd November 9.30am – 11.30am. Tea, coffee, tea cakes and crumpets available. Raffle and bring and buy stall. All welcome.

SPUC: Many thanks to all those who supported out 'Celtic Notes' concert last week. A great night was had by all and we raised £263 for our pro-life work.

SPUC Christmas Cards: Now on sale after all Masses. Cards at reasonable prices and all with traditional Christmas messages.

Chester and Ellesmere Port Foodbank: would like to thank the pupils, staff and parents of St. Winefride's Primary School, for an amazing 192 kilos of food which was collected at the Harvest Festival Mass.

Foodbank: Thanks to all who helped with the foodbank information stall at Neston Market on Friday. There will be an information evening for the Neston foodbank on 29th November at the United Reformed Church at 7.30pm to which all are invited.

Children's Garden of Peace: In the coming weeks crosses will be available for placing in the Children's Garden of Peace in memory of anyone who has passed away. The crosses will remain in the garden throughout November.

One World Week: "The Week" is an opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to come together to learn about global justice and take action for justice locally and globally. The One World Week service is at Willaston Church on Sunday 20th October at 6:30pm.

Poor Clare's: There will be a 2nd collection for Poor Clare's of Hawarden next Sunday (27th October). Volunteers from St Winefride's buy fruit and vegetables from Neston Market and deliver to the Convent. Representatives from this group will make an appeal at all Masses.

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

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Justice and Peace Commission: September E-bulletin available online on Parish Life page. Many changes are being implemented - to find out more please access the e-bulletin or visit the Justice and Peace website at www.jpshrewsbury.wordpress.com

St Anthony of Padua: The relics of St Anthony are being brought to the UK and Ireland to mark the 750th anniversary of their discovery by St Bonaventure. They will be displayed in the church of St Francis, Grosvenor Street, Chester on Thursday 31st October. Veneration is at 1.00pm - 6.30pm and 8.00pm - 9.00pm. Mass at noon and 7.00pm.



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Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253 deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

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Ordinary Time Week XXVIII

13th October 2013

12 Oct	SATURDAY	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Family Fast Day	6.30 pm	Josephine McDonnell
13 Oct	SUNDAY		8.45 am	TG Mary Percy
			10.45 am	TG Betty Davies
14 Oct	MONDAY	St. Callistus	9.00 am	Mary and Julie Mulligan
15 Oct	TUESDAY	St. Teresa of Avila	9.00 am	Margaret Webb and Family
16 Oct	WEDNESDAY	St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Harvest Mass:	9.00 am 9.10 am	In Church School
17 Oct	THURSDAY	St. Ignatius of Antioch	9.00 am	May Walsh
18 Oct	FRIDAY	St. Luke Evangelist and physician	9.00 am	Winnie Litten
19 Oct	SATURDAY	St. Peter of Alcantara	9.00 am	Josephine McDonnell
19 Oct	Next weekend SATURDAY		6.30 pm	The Parish
20 Oct	SUNDAY	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 nd Collection: Mission Sunday	8.45 am	Peter Anderson
			10.45 am	Dickie Breen
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 5.45-6.10 pm				

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, Karen Dawson, Fiona Hardman, Silvia Saddler.

RIP: Celia Ashington

From Fr Denis

On Tuesday we celebrate the feast day of St. Teresa of Avila. St. Teresa reformed the Carmelite Order in Spain in the middle of the 16th century and worked closely with St. John of the Cross. In all, she founded 17 new convents throughout Spain. Teresa was known for her warm personality, charm and common sense - one of her sayings being "God preserve us from stupid nuns". She is one of the 33 "Doctors of the Church" and can serve as a guide for all of us, especially in prayer. A famous story concerning Teresa describes her journey to Burgos. When crossing a ford, the Saint recalls, "The water had risen so high that it had submerged the pontoons ... there was water everywhere and on both sides it was very deep". Eventually they made it through. That night she turned to Jesus in prayer and complained about her perilous journey to Him. He said, "That is how I treat my friends". Teresa retorted, "Yes, My Lord, and that is why you have so few of them". A supporter of St. Teresa was St. Peter of Alcantara, whose feast day we celebrate on Saturday and is one of the patrons of Shrewsbury Cathedral.

In the 20th century Edith Stein, a Jewess, read Teresa's autobiography in a day and said, "This is the Truth". Edith became a Catholic, and then entered Carmel. She died in a concentration camp in World War 2 and was canonised by Pope John Paul II. Let us remember to pray for our Carmelite Sisters in Birkenhead and elsewhere.

God Bless!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: Louise Wood and Fran Byrne.

Bible Study: The next meeting of the Bible Study Group is on Wednesday 16th October at 7.30 pm. Please read chapters 37 - 39.

Rabbi Wollenburg: Following on Fr Denis' enlightening Year of Faith talk, on Christians and Jews, we are delighted to welcome Rabbi Wollenburg from Liverpool who will visit our parish on Thursday 24th October at 7.30pm. He has chosen the theme, "One day in the life of a Rabbi" and be open to questions afterwards. Please come along as this visit will offer us an interesting insight into the life of a Rabbi.

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.

CWL: Meeting on Thursday 17th October at 7.30 pm in the church hall. We will be having a speaker from 'Wirral Mind'. Can members please bring their gifts for the Christmas Hamper raffle.

Operation Christmas Child: Shoeboxes, gift items and donations for postage needed. Please see porch for details. Help is also required to prepare boxes on Saturday 19th October and 26th October at 10am in Hall.

Confirmation: We welcomed 16 of our confirmation candidates to their first session in the presbytery last Sunday. For us catechists, it was very encouraging to see how enthusiastic our young people are and to see many of them so eager to play a part in our parish life. We welcome them wholeheartedly as they start their catechesis and feel sure we will all draw great inspiration from them. The next session will be on Sunday October 27th at 9:45 am. Further details on the website (under Parish Life/Catechists).

SPUC: Jordan Henshaw (YSVP President) and two members of our group took part in the Pro Life Walk of witness through Liverpool last weekend. All sponsor money will be gratefully received. See photographs on the notice board in the New Porch or on the Parish website.

SPUC Christmas Cards: Now on sale after all Masses. Lovely cards at reasonable prices and all with traditional Christmas messages.

SVP: The District SVP wish to thank all parishioners for their wonderful support in raising a magnificent £775.00 towards the running costs of the holiday home in Talacre, through sponsoring the many walkers or buying the Theatre Tickets, a big 'Thank You.'

St Winefride's SVP: Wish to thank you for the generous response to last weekends appeal to support the work of the SVP in the Parish.

YSVP: is proud to announce that following the enrolment of new members over recent weeks, we now have members who attend the following schools: Chester Catholic High, Neston High, Wirral Grammar (Girls and Boys), St Anselm's and Upton Hall. This is the first time in our 16 year history that all of these schools have been represented at the same time. St Winefride's YSVP group - working together for the parish and for the Lord.

Music Ministry: Please come along at 10am each Sunday to practice new hymns and Liturgy. All are welcome! If you sing or play an instrument and can join us, please contact Maria on 336 4622.

Children's Garden of Peace: In the coming weeks crosses will be available for placing in the Children's Garden of Peace in memory of anyone who has passed away. The crosses will remain in the garden throughout November.

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

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.C.T.S (ADULT CATHOLICS TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY): Annual retreat is taking place this October and all aged 18-35 are welcome. Canon Brendan Hoban will lead us prayerfully through the weekend focusing on 'God's forgiveness'. The retreat is at Sandymount Retreat Centre, Blundellsands. The cost is by anonymous donation (suggested contribution £95). If you would like to join us or wish to know more about it please contact Siobhan on 0161 4772783 / 07761138947, or email at siobhanbc@talktalk.net

RCIA: Catechists meeting on Saturday 19th October 2013 at Saint Columba's in Chester. Please see poster in porch with all the details. It would greatly help us if you can book in advance. However, you are also welcome to turn up on the day. If you have any queries, please contact Pauline McCulloch on 0151 6529855.

St Anthony of Padua: The relics of St Anthony are being brought to the UK and Ireland to mark the 750th anniversary of their discovery by St Bonaventure. They will be displayed in the church of St Francis, Grosvenor Street, Chester on Thursday 31st October. Veneration is at 1.00 pm - 6.30 pm and 8.00 pm - 9.00 pm. Mass at noon and 7.00 pm.



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Ordinary Time Week XXVII

6th October 2013

5 Oct	SATURDAY	<i>Baptism</i> <i>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>2nd Collection: SVP</i>	12:00 noon 6.30 pm	Jack Ian William Stanley & Agnes Jones
6 Oct	SUNDAY		8.45 am 10.45 am	The Parish Cropper Family
7 Oct	MONDAY	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	9.00 am	May Walsh
8 Oct	TUESDAY		9.00 am	SP Int. D Strawson
9 Oct	WEDNESDAY	<i>St Denis and Companions, St John Leonardi, Blessed John Henry Newman</i>	9.00 am	Richard Powell
10 Oct	THURSDAY	<i>St Paulinus of York</i> <i>Requiem</i>	9.00 am 10.30 am	Alban and Ada Knox Celia Agnes Ashington
11 Oct	FRIDAY		9.00 am	Bill and Eileen Scarratt
12 Oct	SATURDAY	<i>St Wilfrid</i>	9.00 am	TG M Henesy
12 Oct	Next Weekend SATURDAY	<i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>2nd Collection: Family Fast Day</i>	6.30 pm	Josephine McDonnell
13 Oct	SUNDAY		8.45 am 10.45 am	TG: Mary Percy TG: Betty Davies
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, Celia Ashington

From Deacon Mike...

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary mainly because the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The practice of dedicating the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary developed towards the end of the last century. Pope Leo XIII (papacy: 1878-1903) strongly promoted the increase of devotion to the Blessed Mother by encouraging the constant use of the Rosary. Many other popes have contributed to help increase devotion to the Rosary by their writings.

Pope Francis attributes his own devotion to the Rosary from the example of John Paul II: "If I remember well it was 1985. One evening I went to recite the Holy Rosary that was being led by the Holy Father. He was in front of everybody, on his knees. The group was numerous; I saw the Holy Father from the back and, little by little, I got lost in prayer. I was not alone: I was praying in the middle of the people of God to which I and all those there belonged, led by our Pastor.

In the middle of the prayer I became distracted, looking at the figure of the Pope: his pity, his devotion was a witness. And the time drifted away, and I began to imagine the young priest, the seminarian, the poet, the worker, the child from Wadowice... in the same position in which knelt at that moment, reciting *Ave Maria* after *Ave Maria*. His witness struck me. I felt that this man, chosen to lead the Church, was following a path up to his Mother in the sky, a path set out on from his childhood. And I became aware of the density of the words of the Mother of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego: "Don't be afraid, am I not perhaps your mother?" I understood the presence of Mary in the life of the Pope. That testimony did not get forgotten in an instant. From that time on I recite the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary every day."

You are invited to join the dedicated parishioners praying the Rosary, one of our best known devotions, during this month of October. Even if you can only join for a "decade" you are most welcome. The Rosary is said directly after daily weekday mass at the back of the church. You are all most welcome!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Cleaners: B & V Casey.

Bible Study: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 9th October at 2 Allan's Meadow at 7:30pm. Please read sections 32, 35-36 of the Judaism study book.

SVP: This weekend a representative from our SVP group will talk at each mass about our work in the Parish. There is a retiring collection for the work of the SVP after mass.

Confirmation: The first meetings for candidates will be on Sunday 6th October at 9:45 am with a second on Sunday 27th 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: A reminder that there will be music practices at 10am each Sunday to help us learn some new hymns, practice the mass settings – 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.

CWL: Committee meeting on Thursday 10 October at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall.

SPUC: Meeting on Tuesday 8th October at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. All Welcome.

SPUC Concert Celtic Notes: Friday 11th October at 7:30 pm in St Winefride's School Hall. Singing both Folk and Irish songs coupled with humour, Celtic Notes will provide a very entertaining evening. Tickets only £6 including a light supper. Bring your own drink and glasses. Tickets on sale after mass or from Margaret 336 2050. Transport available if required.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal: Many thanks to those who helped cover shoe boxes last Saturday. More help needed on Friday 11th October from 6-7 pm and 19th and 26th October at 10am for wrapping and filling boxes. Lists of items for boxes in the porches or online at: <http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk/what-to-pack>

Piety Stall: In addition to our usual items, Christmas Stock is now on sale. We have a good selection of cards, advent calendars, diaries, candles, books and gifts in the Parish Hall after each Sunday Mass. Cards also available from the vending unit at the back of church. The display case in the hall has rosaries, crucifixes, and gift items. All profits and donations go to The Shrewsbury Diocese Children's Society.

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

Rotas: Updated rotas are now online including newsletter, Ministry of the Word, Flowers and Piety Stall.

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

ECUMENCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christian Aid Rep: We are still need a/some volunteer/s 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

Christian Aid - Quiz Aid: On Friday, 11th October 7.30pm at Parkgate & Neston URC Hall, Moorside Lane - Fun Quiz evening with Fish n' Chip Supper (or Chicken Salad). Tickets are £7.50 which include supper and soft drinks. Bring your own alcoholic drink if you wish. Tickets from Lynne Vaughan 336 8920. Please let her know by Tuesday 8th October if you wish to come.

Foodbank: Working in conjunction with the N&D Churches Together, agencies in Neston are looking to set up a foodbank distribution centre in our town. An information stall at Neston Market is planned for Friday 18th October. If anyone is able to help on the stall do get in touch, and please do come and see us on the day: ndct@stwinefridesneston.org.uk or Helen Jones (07856908297).

The amount donated to the foodbank through the SVP in September amounted to 160kg a big thank you to all who have generously donated items.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Mental Health Day: Thurs 10th October. A Healing Mass, at 7.30pm at St Catherine's Church, Birkenhead Road, Hoylake, NH47 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