



ST AGNES', WEST KIRBY

## St Agnes Church

16 Darmond's Green, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 5DU

Parish Priest: Father David Roberts

Retired Deacons: Rev Basil Stephens Rev Peter Jackson

Parish Sister: Sister Monica Howes SND

Parish safeguarding representative: Maria Burchall telephone 0151 625 9759  
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Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent

(Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18)

ST AGNES		Intentions
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> December: 5.30pm	Mass	Special Intention
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December: 10.30am	Mass	Edith Fintan RIP
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December: 9.15am	Requiem Mass for Stephen Jubb	~
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December: 9.15am	Mass	Special Intention
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December: 9.15am	Mass	Special Intention
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: 5.30pm	Mass	Florence Makanjuola RIP
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December: 10.30am	Mass	Clare Johnson RIP
ST CATHERINE'S		Intentions
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	Daniel and Agnes Collins
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	~
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December: 9.15am	Mass	Terry Fallan RIP
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	John Hill RIP

**MASS READINGS** can be found at [universalis.com/mass.htm](http://universalis.com/mass.htm).

**PLEASE PRAY** for all who have died recently and their families especially Edith Fintan, Clare Johnson and Stephen Jubb.

**PLEASE PAUSE FOR PRAYER** for Stephen Jubb whose funeral will take place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am. May he rest in peace.

**PLEASE** remember in your prayers all those who are sick.

**ONLINE MASS** via Zoom is on **Sunday** at **9am**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84015861524>



### GUIDANCE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MASS

Thank you for continuing to think of your fellow parishioners.

- please wear a face mask - now a legal requirement in all churches and places of worships.
  - please sanitise your hands on arrival and when leaving church.
  - please do not come to church if you are ill or showing symptoms.
- NHS Test and Trace contact sheet / QR code will still be available for you to use, however, this is not compulsory. Information will be kept by the Parish for 21 days and destroyed after this time.
  - please leave church promptly once Mass has finished.

 FRESH AIR

 TESTING

 FACE COVERINGS

 APP

 HANDWASHING

**FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:** The Third Sunday of Advent is known as "Gaudete Sunday," from one of the Latin words for "rejoice" (gaudere). The title comes from the first word in today's reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, "Rejoice in the Lord always." Unfortunately, our translation is much less satisfactory, "I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord." Joy is an emotion evoked by good fortune, success or well being. According to the Bible, God is the origin and object of true joy. Today's Old Testament readings from Zephaniah 3 and Isaiah 12 (the Psalm) proclaim that the real reason for joy is their experience of God's presence in the midst of God's people. Today's New Testament readings connect joy with the two comings (or advents) of Jesus. In Luke, John the Baptist points toward Jesus' coming on the public stage as the "more powerful" (3:16) one who will bring baptism with the Holy Spirit and inaugurate a new phase in the full coming of God's kingdom. In Philippians Paul urges joy at the first coming of Jesus and points forward with joy to his Second Coming ("the Lord is very near"). To be productive, joy needs direction and follow-through, if it is not to pass as fast as it came. Thus, John the Baptist urges various groups to make concrete their joy at the coming of God's kingdom by sharing their possessions with others and treating people fairly and honestly. Likewise, Paul exhorts the Philippians to thank and pray to God and so find peace and confidence in God as they await the fullness of God's kingdom.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

This year there will not be a booking system for Christmas Masses.

Please arrive in plenty of time in order to be seated.

The Covid guidance for Christmas currently remains the same as weekday and Sunday Masses.

Christmas Eve: <b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	5pm Family Mass	St Catherine's
	8pm	St Agnes*
Christmas Day: <b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9am	St Catherine's
	10.30am	St Agnes **
Boxing Day: <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9am	St Catherine's
	10.30am	St Agnes

\*There will be Christmas carols prior to the 8pm Mass at St Agnes (order of service leaflets with words to carols will be provided). Please be seated by 7.40pm.

\*\*Please note there will not be a 5.30pm evening Mass at St Agnes on Christmas Day.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** to help us prepare for Christmas Fr David will be available at the back of Church to hear private confessions after each weekday Mass.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER WEST KIRBY** will be carol singing in the covered area at the Concourse (near Toast and opposite the Merseyrail ticket counter) on Saturday 18th December from 11am-12noon. St Bridget's Happiness band will be playing and they hope for a fun, festive atmosphere, reminding people of the miracle of Christmas. Following this, you are invited to West Kirby Methodist Church (across the road, 200 yards into Westbourne Road CH484DQ) for tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mince pies and the West Kirby bell ringers will entertain with Christmas songs.

**PRAY AS YOU GO DURING ADVENT:** Why not 'Pray as you go' during Advent to help you prepare for Christmas? Full details can be found here: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/article/advent-2021-stepping-beyond>  
Pray as you go is a daily prayer session (about 10 minutes in length) and can be downloaded from your usual app store.

**SVP CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** Thank you for your overwhelming generosity at last weekend's collection and for all the toys and gifts, which have been donated for families. The monies raised will ensure that no family will go cold this Christmas and that children will have shoes that fit them rather than second hand shoes.

**SVP WIRRAL** is running a community café drop in service on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1pm to 3pm and on Fridays at 2pm-5pm. Tea, coffee, toast and biscuits, befriending, advice, Clothes Bank and Wifi. All are welcome. Please call in to St Vincent's Centre, 15-19 Grange Road West, CH41 4BY. Telephone: 0151 673 1313 / 07971 922 207 or email [kevin@svp.org.uk](mailto:kevin@svp.org.uk).

**WEST KIRBY MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY** (formerly WKLOS of which four of the St Agnes Choir are members) are performing their Christmas Concert at Heswall Hall this year " Sing a song of Christmas" on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th December at 7.30pm. For booking and further details please visit [wkmtc.co.uk](http://wkmtc.co.uk).

**CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2021:** The smallest contribution makes a big difference. Your donations will go to those in the most vulnerable situations across the Diocese, ensuring they have a Christmas meal and gifts to celebrate the Nativity of Christ and create happy memories in a time of crisis. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please place it in an envelope marked 'Caritas at Christmas' and post it through the presbytery door. For further information on the work they do and how to donate online please visit: <https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/>

**THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY** is thrilled to announce that they have launched a new on line newspaper with the full support of their first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order **your Digital** copy by going to [www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk](http://www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk) or call us on 0743661 7650 and ask for Michelle. Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months.



**Do you have any items for the newsletter?**

**Would you like to receive the newsletter electronically each week?** Please email Phoebe in the Parish Office. ([stagneswestkirby@gmail.com](mailto:stagneswestkirby@gmail.com)).

## CAFOD CHILDREN'S LITURGY

### Third week of Advent

*"I baptise you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am... He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*  
Luke 3:16

#### Create your own bauble

The gospel this week reminds us that someone very special is coming. How does that make you feel? Write or draw on your bauble at least one thing that brings you joy, and one thing that you do to share joy with others.

#### Share the joy

The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means joy.

Make some lovely Brazilian biscuits and share them with your friends, family or neighbours to help spread a little joy this Advent.

For a video recipe showing how to make the biscuits go to [cafod.org.uk/kidzzone](http://cafod.org.uk/kidzzone) and click on "Global recipes".

#### Prayer

Light two purple candles and the pink candle on your Advent wreath this week.  
Say this prayer together as a family:

God of joy,  
be with all the people in the world who are sad,  
bringing your presence and light.

Hear our prayers of joy:

(share your family's intentions)

Help us to bring joy to others.  
Amen.

