



ST AGNES, WEST KIRBY

## St Agnes Church

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

Parish Priest: Father David Roberts

Parish Sister: Sister Monica Howes SND

Retired Deacons: Rev Basil Stephens Rev Peter Jackson

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**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

WEEK COMMENCING 21st August 2022		Church	Intentions
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> August: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	John O'Connell (anniversary)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August: 12noon	Mass	St Catherine's	Private Intention
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Catherine's	~
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> August: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Edna and Jack Atherton
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> August: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Edwards Family
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> August: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Richard and Moya Gladding
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August: 12noon	Mass	St Catherine's	HFC Intention
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Catherine's	~
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September: 9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September: 12noon	Funeral Service for Johanna Ryan	St Catherine's	~
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Richard Littler (RIP)
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Teresa Monaghan
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Helen Rafferty

**PLEASE PRAY** for all who have died recently and their families especially Tony Breen, Richard Littler and Joan Jones.

**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>

**WE WELCOME** Peigi Hodson to our Parish Community following her Baptism on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August.



**ADORATION** is every Wednesday 7pm-8pm at St Catherine's.

**FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTIONS: 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** One of the questions put to religious teachers in Jesus's time concerned the number of persons (many or few?) who will be saved, that is, those who will share in the great banquet of God's kingdom. In today's gospel Jesus is asked the question, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' Jesus does not answer that question. Instead, he issues a series of sayings and parables that emphasised the difficulty involved in entering God's Kingdom and he stresses the need for constant fidelity and vigilance throughout our lives. Thus, Jesus reminds us that even though God wants all of us to be saved, we all need to work at it. Entry into God's Kingdom is not automatically granted, and so we cannot presume on God's mercy and do nothing by way of response to God's invitation. Will only a few persons be saved? The answer to that question remains hidden with God. The two great attributes of God in the Bible are justice and mercy. Which will prevail at the last judgement depends on God. Today's excerpt from Luke 13 affirms that God wants all persons to enjoy eternal life with him. And it reminds us that entry into God's Kingdom is not automatic. Rather, it requires faith in God, firmness of purpose and sharpness of focus and appropriate actions and constant vigilance. While the invitation to God's banquet is extended to all, we have to act upon it. How many will be saved in the end is a decision that rests with God.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:** Banquet scenes are frequent in the Bible. Jesus used meals shared with all kinds of persons as occasions to impart his wise teachings. Banquets are especially prominent in Luke's gospel. The two teachings in today's reading belong to the category of wisdom teachings about God's Kingdom. Jesus's first wise teaching looks like shrewd and even calculating behaviour at a wedding banquet. If you are only a distant relative or friend of the bride or groom, you should not sit yourself at the head of the table. The chances are that someone will come by and inform you that you belong at the back of the hall. How embarrassing it will be for you. A wiser strategy would be to seat yourself first at the back. Then if by chance you are summoned to the head table, all the other guests will see you and conclude that you must be very important indeed. On the surface this advice may seem to be at best practical wisdom. On the theological level, however, it is Jesus's reminder that the banquet in God's Kingdom is not for the rich and powerful only. Rather, it is especially for the humble, that is those who recognise that in comparison with God we are all poor and insignificant. Jesus promises that such persons will be exalted. Jesus's second teaching is about who should be invited to your house for dinner. On the surface, it may not seem very wise at all. He tells his host to invite marginal persons to his house. According to most practical human wisdom, it would be wiser to invite to your house those who might be able to benefit you in the future. By suggesting that the leading pharisee should invite those who could not benefit him at all (at least in this life), Jesus challenges the Pharisee (and us) to examine why we do what we do and what we really believe about life after death. Do we do good deeds to get a good reputation or to benefit materially? Or do we believe enough in the resurrection and the divine judgement to leave the rewards for our good deeds to the justice and mercy of God?

**CHESTER ACROSS PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES BY JUMBULANCE:** Volunteers urgently required for the pilgrimage departing on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September and returning on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. UK passport required and covid vaccinated. Further details from Tony Murphy 07881 656974 or email [tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk). [www.across.org.uk](http://www.across.org.uk)

**SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY:** The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Sunday 11th September 2022 at 2pm at St Columba, Plas Newton Lane, Chester, CH2 1PL. Please register your attendance and make any apologies or items for the agenda to [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk) or text/call 07451 249267. Please note that all items for inclusion on the Agenda need to be received no later than seven days before the meeting. The agenda and draft minutes of the previous AGM will be available at <https://teamshrewsbury.wordpress.com/agm-and-committee-meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>

**RECRUITING LOURDES HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE OF LOURDES:** The relics will be coming to the Cathedral on Tuesday 13th September and move to St Werburgh', Chester on 14th September. Lourdes Hospitality members have been approached to carry the reliquary and statue and then stand on guard throughout the visit. For further details please contact the Hospitality President, Siobhan Cartwright: [siobhanbc@gmail.com](mailto:siobhanbc@gmail.com) or phone on 07761138947.

**BIKES FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES:** The Iona Community in Chester is involved in a project to provide bikes for adults (almost all women) and children from Ukraine. They currently have a 'waiting list' for 55 adult and 11 children's bikes. If you have a bike that you no longer need, please let us know. Any bikes donated will be refurbished in Chester to ensure that they are in good condition when passed on. If you don't have a bike but would like to donate towards the costs of checking the bikes are road ready, that is also great. For more information please contact: John and Margaret Smith on 0151 678 6201 or [smithjmdj@btinternet.com](mailto:smithjmdj@btinternet.com). Thank you.

**SVP:** An SVP member has taken all the rosary intentions to Lourdes. New intentions can be put in the basket again.

**CHURCH CLEANERS:** the new rota is now available and can be collected from the Sacristy.



**WIRRAL FOODBANK** require the following items: tinned meat, biscuits, squash, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, tinned fish and jam. Thank you for your continued support.



**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)).