



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 20th February 2022

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gospel: Luke 6:27-38)

Sunday 27th February 2022

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gospel: Luke 6:39-45)

WEEK COMMENCING 20 th FEBRUARY 2022		Church	Intentions
Saturday 19 th February: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Paul Claffey and family
Sunday 20 th February: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Madge McGrath (RIP)
Sunday 20 th February: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Marie McManus (RIP)
Monday 21 st February: 9.15am	Requiem Mass for Maura Grealis	St Catherine's	~
Tuesday 22 nd February: 9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	John Kentleton (RIP)
Wednesday 23 rd February: 9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Tony Hearty (RIP)
Thursday 24 th February: 9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Fr Anthony Reynolds (RIP)
Friday 25 th February: 9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Bernadette Allmand (RIP)
Saturday 26 th February: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Kath Lewis
Sunday 27 th February: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Lucy McNally (RIP)
Sunday 27 th February: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Edward McConnell (RIP)
Monday 28 th February: 10am	Requiem Mass for John Kentleton	St Catherine's	~
Tuesday 1 st March: 9.15am	Service of Word and Communion	St Catherine's	~
Wednesday 2 nd March: 9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Thursday 3 rd March: 9.15am	Service of Word and Communion	St Catherine's	~
Friday 4 th March: 9.15am	Service of Word and Communion	St Agnes	~
Saturday 5 th March: 5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Clare Johnson (RIP)
Sunday 6 th March: 9am	Mass and online via Zoom	St Catherine's	Sheila O'Connor (RIP)
Sunday 6 th March: 10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Paul Symes (Thanksgiving)

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



PLEASE PRAY for all who have died recently and their families especially Bernadette Allmand (Sarah Winston's mother), Margaret Anne Bowden and Anthony Hearty.

The Requiem Mass for Bernadette Allmand will take place on Friday 25th February 12 noon at Bishop Eton, Our Lady of the Annunciation, Woolton Road, Liverpool, L16 8NQ.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick.



WE WELCOME Olivia Dawn Gibson and Freya Mary Florence Wilks to our parish community following their Baptisms here last Sunday.



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).

FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTIONS: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Love of enemies is among Jesus's most distinctive, characteristic and difficult teachings. Most of us have a hard enough time loving our family and friends, or even loving ourselves. But to do good to those who hate us, bless those who curse us and pray for those who mistreat us seems to go beyond our ordinary human powers. And that is the point of today's selection from Luke's sermon on the Plain. Jesus offers two reasons why we should love our enemies: It may be wise to do so on the human level and in doing so we imitate the example of God. Our baser human instincts may tell us that enemies are to be confronted, defeated and destroyed. And so in our world there is a seemingly endless cycle of violence and retaliation. A hits B, B hits back at A, A hits B again and so on. In the end either A or B, or most likely A and B, are left exhausted and destroyed. We see this cycle played out between small children and great nations and everything in between. But what happens when someone interrupts this cycle of violence and retaliation and makes an attempt at reconciliation? That dynamic is illustrated today's first reading when David passes up an opportunity to kill his enemy, King Saul. Jesus also pushes us to go beyond reciprocity and self-interest to imitating our heavenly Father. In loving our enemies we follow the example of God who is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Jesus then challenges us to be merciful just as God our Father is merciful. The challenge to imitate God's example is, of course, beyond our unaided human powers. However, Paul's letter (our second reading) tells us that through his resurrection Jesus has poured forth his Spirit upon the world offering us the possibility of going beyond our human powers and sharing in his divine life (grace). As baptized Christians, we hope for and already share in the life-giving Spirit that flows from Christ's resurrection.

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time: There is an old maxim in philosophy that "actions flow from being" (*agere sequitur esse* in Latin). The idea is that who you are or become will shape what kinds of actions you do. If you are wise and righteous, you will generally act accordingly. If you are foolish and wicked, the chances are that you will do many foolish and wicked deeds. In our final selection from the Sermon on the Plain according to Luke, Jesus insists that the wisdom that he teaches must be put into practice. In other words, if we take Jesus as our teacher and guide, we must act in ways that are consistent with who we have become as disciples of Jesus. Jesus first identifies himself as a wise teacher (and not a blind guide) and promises that his followers when fully trained will be like him. Next he warns against so focusing on the faults of others that we neglect to look at ourselves. The word that Jesus uses for such persons is "hypocrite," a word derived from the ancient practice of actors wearing masks on stage. Such persons are "phonies." Then he uses the analogy of the tree: "There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit." The key to understanding and acting upon the ethical teachings of Jesus and the other biblical writers is the old maxim, *agere sequitur esse*.

THE APPEAL FOR FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND has now reached a total of £1,203.09 including Gift Aid. Thank you to all who supported us to achieve this splendid result. FHL Prayer cards are still available at the back of church.

NEW SELECTION OF MASS CARDS available. Please put all payments (£1) into the box by the Sacred Heart statue at the back of church.

LEADERSHIP MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENGLAND AND WALES offers the opportunity to refresh, enrich, deepen and bring love, joy and sparkle back into relationships over the course of a weekend. The experience is presented by laity couples and a priest. Dates available 4-6th March, 14th & 21st May, 11-12th June. Visit WWME.org.uk for more details and booking.

FLOWER ROTA: Volunteers needed please! Flower arranging skills not needed but a bonus if you do. Please contact Martina Parry on 07779948162 or Veronica Ramsey on 07977190833 if you can help. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING: We are in need of two volunteers to join the dedicated team who clean, dust and polish St. Agnes' church week after week and keep it so well cared for. This would involve approximately one hour every four weeks. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jo Forsey on 07936435073.

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