



# NEWS FROM THE PARISHES OF ST AGNES, WEST KIRBY AND ST CATHERINE'S, HOYLAKE

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

WEEK COMMENCING 5 <sup>th</sup> November			Church	Intentions
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Sheila Desmond (RIP)
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Parishioners
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Tony Welsh (anniversary)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Bob Little (RIP)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	12noon	Mass	St Catherine's	Private Intention
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	7pm	Mass	St Agnes	Loved ones / November List
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	7pm	Mass	St Catherine's	Loved ones / November List
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Peace on Earth
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Betty Blackburn
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Will Reynolds

**ADORATION** is every Wednesday at 7pm and Thursday at 10am at St Catherine's.

**SCRIPTURE GROUP** is every Thursday at 7.30pm in the St Agnes' Parish Rooms.

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently and their families especially Jessica Baker, Paul Jones, Joseph Kelly and Robert Little.

**PLEASE** remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Pierre Adam, Agnes Fitzgerald, Steve Jones' Family, Ronald Lewis and Eve Snape.

**PLEASE** remember in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur this month and their families.

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

**FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:** In chapter 23 Matthew takes Mark's (the first Gospel) brief denunciation of the scribes (Mark 12:38-40) and turns it into a major attack against the scribes and the Pharisees. The fact that it is addressed to the disciples is an important clue about the ultimate purpose of this speech. While obviously intended as a critique of the scribes and pharisees, it is primarily intended as instruction for the followers of Jesus. The leaders' authority as legitimate teachers is duly noted (23: 1-3) but they are condemned for the kind of failings that Jesus has denounced throughout this gospel: failure to act justly; a lack of compassion in laying heavy burdens on others; false piety and arrogant pride. In contrast to the arrogance and status-seeking of the religious leaders, Jesus presents an alternative vision for the community. No one should be called 'rabbi' or 'Father' or 'instructor' - in each instance such titles of honour and status within the community are nullified by the realisation that only God and God's Messiah (Jesus) hold such authority. Everyone else in the community is on the same basis - fellow students, brothers and sisters, fellow servants. This extraordinary portrayal of an egalitarian community is an important ingredient in Matthew's ecclesiology (i.e., understanding of church), one that echoes the spirit of the community discourse in chapter 18 where authority resided in the entire community and where leadership was to be characterised by humility, respect for others, attention to the weaker members, compassion for the stray and active forgiveness.

St Agnes 0151 625 6367 [st-agnes-west-kirby.org.uk](http://st-agnes-west-kirby.org.uk) | St Catherine's 0151 632 4388 [stcatherineshoylake.org](http://stcatherineshoylake.org)

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**THIS WEEKEND** we welcome the Sisters of the Holy Family to both parishes.

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2023:** Thank you very much for your donations to World Mission Sunday. Your prayers and support of World Mission Sunday will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. To support the mission, please go to [mission.org.uk](https://mission.org.uk).

**TEA AND COFFEE:** Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at St Catherine's after the 9am Mass.

**NOVEMBER** is the month when we remember our deceased loved ones in a special way through the November List. If you wish to have the names of your deceased loved ones included in the November List please place their names in an envelope and put it through the presbytery door at St Agnes or St Catherine's. Each envelope will be opened and all intentions will be placed in a basket at the foot of the altar and any offerings will be put aside for banking. The Remembrance Masses will also be said for the November List.

**MASS OF REMEMBRANCE:** Fr David will be offering Mass to remember loved ones who have died in the past year on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm at St Agnes and on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm at St Catherine's. Names of loved ones will be read out at Mass and a candle will be lit for each person. Please place names of loved ones in an envelope and put it through the respective presbytery door.

**DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES:** the Diocese is looking to recruit a **Director of Property** due to retirement (closing date 10 November 2023) and a **Parish Secretary** at the parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & St Paul, Birkenhead (closing date 1 December 2023). For further details please visit <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/>

**ANNUAL SHOEBOX APPEAL:** Information is on the leaflet available at the back of each church. Any shoe box would be suitable covered in Christmas / gift paper. Please add a label saying who the box is for (i.e. boy or girl and age splits or home). Please ring Marianne on 625 5158 for more information. The appeal ends on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

**ST AGNES SVP CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS:** there will be a collection of gifts (new/unwanted) for the SVP on 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> November and a monetary collection for the SVP on 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> December after each of the weekend Masses at St Agnes.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** in support of our fellow-Christians in the Holy Land and Asylum Link will be on sale after 5.30pm Mass on Saturdays at St Agnes and available to buy from the table in the porch at St Catherine's. Alternatively you may like to order them from Marianne on 0151 625 5158.

**NESTON PLAYERS'** forthcoming production of Robert Bolt's play "A Man For All Seasons" opens on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November and runs until Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Performances are nightly at 7:30pm. Tickets can be booked online at: [www.nestonplayers.co.uk](http://www.nestonplayers.co.uk).

**THE HIDING PLACE**, the true story of Corrie ten Boom and her family, is on for one night only at St Michael & All Angels Church in Newton at 7pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The production is brought to you by Churches Together West Kirby. Tickets can be booked online [The Hiding Place - West Kirby \(jumblebee.co.uk\)](http://The Hiding Place - West Kirby (jumblebee.co.uk)), available at St Agnes this weekend or ring Basil Stephens on 0151 625 9963.



**WIRRAL FOODBANK** items: **tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, sugar, UHT milk, fruit squash, tinned custard, tinned fish, jam and pasta.** Collection boxes can be found at the back of each church. Many thanks again for your continued support to Wirral Foodbank. Their Harvest Appeal raised approximately 4.5 tons of food from churches and schools on Wirral, which is an amazing total. They are very appreciative of the support given to them by the churches on Wirral.

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