



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



Sunday 1st December 2024 – 1st Sunday of Advent (Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36)

WEEK COMMENCING 1 st December			Church	Intentions
Saturday 30 th November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Andrew Forsey
Sunday 1 st December	9.00am	Mass	St Catherine's	David Smith (anniversary)
Sunday 1 st December	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Monday 2 nd December	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Tuesday 3 rd December	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Louise McKinney
Wednesday 4 th December	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	June O'Donnell
Thursday 5 th December	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Special Intention
Friday 6 th December	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Saturday 7 th December	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Daniel Constantine (RIP)
Sunday 8 th December	9.00am	Mass	St Catherine's	Blackburn Family
Sunday 8 th December	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently and their families especially Daniel Constantine, Jim Fagan, Margaret Gillan, Des Kennedy and Joan Minshall.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Bob Cuthbertson and Pauline Hall.

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

PLEASE PAUSE FOR PRAYER on Tuesday 10th December for Joan Minshall when her Requiem Mass will take place at St Agnes at 10am. Please remember her family and friends.

ROSARY at St Agnes at 7pm will be on Monday 9th December.

ADORATION is on Wednesdays at 7pm at St Catherine's. **SCRIPTURE GROUP** is every Thursday at 7.30pm in St Agnes' parish rooms.

FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: The word Advent means "coming, arriving, becoming present." During the Advent season we tend to focus on Jesus' first coming, at his birth in the land of Israel some two thousand years ago. However, the readings for the First Sunday of Advent also point us toward Jesus' Second Coming and the fullness of God's kingdom that this event will mark. They lead us to reflect on what is the goal and the horizon of Christian hope: eternal life with God through Jesus Christ. The reading from Jeremiah 33 looks forward to an ideal descendent of King David, one who will bring justice and security to God's people. We Christians believe that Jeremiah's hopes have been fulfilled in part through Jesus' first coming. The passage from Luke 21 lists some future signs and portents that will accompany Jesus' Second Coming (known as the "birth pangs" or "woes" of the Messiah) and urges an attitude of constant vigilance in the face of them. However, Luke insists that Jesus' Second Coming should be welcomed and celebrated rather than feared "because your redemption is drawing near." What we hope for most ardently, then, we will enjoy most fully. In the meantime, between the two comings of Jesus, Paul exhorts us to try to abound in love and holiness and act in ways appropriate to our identity as Christians. As we begin Advent we could ask ourselves this simple question: What do I hope for this Advent?

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2024

Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24 th December	5pm	St Catherine's
Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24 th December	8pm	St Agnes
Christmas Day: Wednesday 25 th December	9am	St Catherine's
Christmas Day: Wednesday 25 th December	10.30am	St Agnes

NEW LECTIONARY: We will begin using the new lectionary this weekend – the 1st Sunday of Advent. Thank you very much to our generous benefactors for their financial gifts towards the lectionaries in both parishes. Whilst the content remains the same, the new publication uses different scripture translations. Readers may wish to familiarise themselves with the new readings (a free online resource is universalis.com).

ST AGNES SVP MONETARY COLLECTION is taking place this weekend on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December. Please place any contributions in the offertory basket or through the presbytery door at St Agnes.

CAROLS AROUND THE CRIB AT ST CATHERINE'S: Please join us at St Catherine's (top car park) on Sunday 1st December at 5pm. Festive refreshments too! Any donations made will support the Caritas at Christmas Appeal.

CHRISTMAS POST: There will be a "Parish Post" service available which will deliver cards, free of charge, within Hoylake and Meols. Please post your cards in the "PARISH POST" box at the back of St Catherine's from 1st -14th December.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025: You are invited to the official launch of the 2025, Jubilee Year, Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes on 7th December 2024. Following Mass at 12.15pm in the Cathedral, you are welcome to join Canon Christopher Matthews, Lourdes Pilgrimage Director and the Pilgrimage Management Team in the Cathedral Parish Room for coffee and cake, and to find out more details about the 2025 pilgrimage.

SILVERSTONE RUN FEST IN SUPPORT OF CAFOD: "What a race to remember! A heartfelt thank you to all the parishioners who generously supported the fundraising and bake sale on Sunday 17th November at St Agnes - your kindness truly kept me going to the finish line. Storm Bert was at its full force, with winds blowing up to 82mph and occasional bursts of hailstones. www.justgiving.com/page/adeline-runs-for-cafod-2024 Thank you again for your support and prayers, Adeline".

ADVENT REFLECTIONS: Cafod's advent daily email reflections will begin on 1st December. CAFOD will share daily Bible reflections, stories of our global family, prayers and practical ideas for action, as we create a space to prepare for the coming of Christ. Sign up here: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar/> The Oblates Online Advent Retreat: 1 hour each Monday 8-9pm. To register, email communications@oblates.ie. Sacred Space Advent Retreat 2024 is also available online: <https://sacredspace.com/events/retreat/advent-2024/> Advent retreat (age 15 to young adults) at Castlerigg Manor: The retreats at Castlerigg give teens and young adults a great way to make friends, deepen their faith, and have some fun. Further details: director@castleriggmanor.co.uk and castleriggmanor.com.

SAVE THE DATE: There will be a Taize Service at St Catherine's on Thursday 12th December at 7pm.



FOODBANK ITEMS: cereal, tinned vegetables, custard, pasta sauce and tinned fruit. The collection boxes can be found at the back of each church. Thank you.



Do you have any items for the newsletter? Would you like to receive the newsletter electronically each week? Please email St Catherine's (stcathhoylake@gmail.com) or St Agnes (stagneswestkirby@gmail.com).

Parish safeguarding representatives: St Agnes: Maria Burchall 07837590284 maria.burchall@gmail.com

St Catherine's: Simon and Kim O'Connell 07711 163922 simonoconnell@outlook.com

St Agnes 0151 625 6367 st-agnes-west-kirby.org.uk | St Catherine's 0151 632 4388 stcatherineshoylake.org