



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent (John 3:14-21)

WEEK COMMENCING 10 <sup>th</sup> March			Church	Intentions
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Tom Constantine
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Eithne McCormack (RIP)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Teresa Little (anniversary)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	12.00pm	Mass	St Catherine's	Elizabeth O'Malley
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45am	Service of Thanksgiving for Louise McKinney	St Agnes	~
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Betty Roberts
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Sheila Lightbound (RIP)
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Paula Hudson (anniversary)
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Moya Gladding (anniversary)

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently and their families especially Alan Edwards, Ann Malloy, Louise McKinney, Gerry Snape and Ann Willis.

**PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially** Eve Snape, Pam and Anton Wills-Eve.

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

**FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:** Each of the four Gospel writers (Evangelists), start their stories in different places. Matthew and Luke start with the conception of Jesus. Mark starts his story with Jesus being baptized by John in the River Jordan. John starts his story with the glorious life he had with his heavenly Father before the world began. John thought that if people did not understand that, how could they understand the breathtaking extent to which God so loved the world. We say that God is love, but the way we know that love is through God's giving His only Son and sending him into the world. This is the central assertion of today's Gospel is, "God, loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16). It is important for our understanding of him (and God) that he came from heaven in the first place. Because he was with God, he understood God; because he became flesh, he understands us. He is the bond of unity between God and human beings. The other Gospel writers have rightly emphasized how amazed people were at what Jesus said and did, how he taught with authority and acted with extraordinary power. John wanted to share with his readers the secret of that as Jesus himself explained it. All that he taught was what he heard when he was with God. All that he did was patterned on what he saw when he was with God. According to 3:16, Jesus' death on the cross was a sign of God's love for humankind, since through faith in Jesus it is possible for everyone to enjoy eternal life. While the word "kosmos" (world) is often used negatively in John's Gospel, here it is at least neutral and even positive – it is the object of God's love. In Judaism the language of divine judgement refers to the last judgement, but here judgement occurs in the present with reference to faith in Jesus as the point of decision (krisis). Using the imagery of light and darkness, John insists that God's judgment has already taken place through Jesus the Son of God. Today, John puts his whole Gospel in a nutshell: Jesus knows and testifies that God so loved the world as to desire its salvation even unto the pouring forth of God's very self in the incarnation. Jesus' witness is an invitation to accept this unreserved divine love, to respond in love, and so create a shared life with God.

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

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

**ST CATHERINE'S TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS:** this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Please join us in the lounge.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday during Lent at 7pm at St. Catherine's.

**ECUMENICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** At 10.30am, our Tuesday morning Stations of the Cross in Lent give us all the opportunity of sharing good company with our friends from St Andrew's in West Kirby. Dates: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at St Andrew's and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March at St Agnes. There is tea and coffee at 10.30am before Stations begins at 11am.

**LENT LUNCHESES** take place at St John's, Meols on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**ST AGNES FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** We will be welcoming back our children to their First Holy Communion sessions this month. We begin with the Parents meeting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. The children are welcome to attend as well. Please note this is only for children currently enrolled in the programme.

**CEILIDH FOR THE CLIMATE:** We are delighted to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ceilidh for the Climate on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at St Agnes Hall, West Kirby. Tickets will be £5 each, available after 9am Sunday Mass at St Catherine's from Tony Murphy (07881 656974) and 10.30am Sunday Masses at St Agnes, and also at the door on the night. Under-18s free. All are very welcome. Doors open at 7pm, music and dancing will start at 7.30pm.

**A SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION** will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm at St Agnes.

**ROSARY** for the Feast of the Annunciation will be on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 10am at St Agnes. (Feast Day is 25<sup>th</sup> March.)

**HOLY THURSDAY:** We do need volunteers from both parishes to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday night. Please contact either Parish Office if you can volunteer ([stagneswestkirby@gmail.com](mailto:stagneswestkirby@gmail.com) or [stcathhoylake@gmail.com](mailto:stcathhoylake@gmail.com)).

**A THANK YOU** from Kieran O'Hagan: "To all parishioners who contributed to my book, a big thanks. This is just to let you know it has been published. A short film on it can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMuQOCGpQUs> The book is freely available on my website <http://www.kieranohagan.com/>"

**BIBLE SOCIETY** Word in Action Spring Edition magazines are available at the back of St Catherine's. Please do help yourself to a copy.

**ST AGNES' CRIB OFFERINGS:** Thank you for your offerings during the Christmas season. £169 is now with Caritas who help those in the most vulnerable situations in our Diocese.



**HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOODBANK WITH FOOD THIS LENT:** chocolate, tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned rice pudding, tinned spaghetti, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and pasta sauce. 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](mailto:stcathhoylake@gmail.com)) or St Agnes ([stagneswestkirby@gmail.com](mailto:stagneswestkirby@gmail.com)).

**Parish safeguarding representatives:** St Agnes: Maria Burchall 07837590284 [maria.burchall@gmail.com](mailto:maria.burchall@gmail.com)

St Catherine's: Simon and Kim O'Connell 07711 163922 [simonoconnell@outlook.com](mailto:simonoconnell@outlook.com)

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