



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** (Gospel: Luke 18:9-14)

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** (Gospel: Luke 19:1-10)

WEEK COMMENCING 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2022			Church	Intentions
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Nasir Ahmed
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	9.00am	Mass (and online via Zoom)	St Catherine's	Denys Clarke (Anniversary)
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Win and Tom Topping
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	Requiem Mass for Helena Brear	St Catherine's	~
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Private Intention (LW)
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Peter Louis Smith KSG
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	7.00pm	Adoration	St Catherine's	~
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Catherine's	~
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Tom Constantine
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am	Mass (and online via Zoom)	St Catherine's	Mrs Bridie McNicholas (RIP)
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	John Pinder (Anniversary)
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Peter Louis Smith KSG
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	7.00pm	Vigil Mass: All Saints	St Agnes	November List
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	12.00pm	Mass: All Saints	St Catherine's	Shrewsbury Secular Clergy Fund
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	9.15am	Mass: All Souls	St Agnes	Special Intention
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	7.00pm	Adoration	St Catherine's	~
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	November List
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Private Intention (TM)
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Special Intention
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am	Mass (and online via Zoom)	St Catherine's	John Gilmour (RIP)
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	St Agnes Parishioners

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently and their families including Helena Brear, Fr Michael Cupit and John McNulty.

**PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially** Margaret Holmes and Ronald Lewis.

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

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY** is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today. It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk).

**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. Two Masses will be said for all those on the November List on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 7pm (Vigil Mass) at St Agnes and on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 9.15am at St Catherine's.

**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)**

**FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTIONS: Thirtieth Sunday – C:** Today we consider the second part of Jesus's second instruction about prayer in Luke 18. The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector reminds us that God hears the prayers of some surprising persons, and that we all must approach God in prayer and humility. In the Gospels the Pharisees often appear as negative characters. They are the most persistent opponents of Jesus, and he often criticises their attitudes and behaviour. In English today the word 'Pharisee' can refer to a hypocrite, someone who pretends to be devout and observant but is not so in reality. At Jesus's time and place, however, people would have heard the word 'Pharisee' differently. Many of them were in fact devout and observant. They were the progressives of the day. Of all the Jewish groups of Jesus's time, Jesus was perhaps closest to them, shared an agenda with them and sometimes agreed with them. In Jesus's time and place the tax collector in the parable would have been regarded as the opposite of the Pharisee. They were suspected of dishonesty by overcharging the people and keeping excess profits for themselves. They were also suspected of being instruments of and collaborators with the Roman occupiers. These two men went up to the temple area to pray. The Pharisee's prayer was not heard because he exalted himself, by contrast, the tax collector, whatever his failings may have been, knows who God is and who he is before God. Thus he prays sincerely, "Oh God, be merciful to me a sinner." Whose prayer does God hear? If our own prayer celebrates the justice and mercy of God, if it acknowledges our dependence on God, our sinfulness and need for God's mercy, then God will hear our prayer because it is genuine prayer made in a spirit of humility proper to us as God's creatures.

**Thirty-First Sunday – C:** 'Today' is a recurrent and important word in Luke's Gospel. In the story of Jesus's encounter with Zacchaeus the tax collector, 'today' occurs twice. Jesus tells Zacchaeus, "Hurry, because I must stay at your house today" and "Today salvation has come to this house." Zacchaeus's neighbours in Jericho are not so kind. Indeed they find Jesus's behaviour regarding Zacchaeus scandalous and say, "He has gone to stay at a sinner's house." The problem came with Luke's description of Zacchaeus as, "one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man." That description may seem innocent to us. But to people in Jesus's time it was disturbing. Tax collectors in ancient Israel collected taxes for the Roman occupiers. They bid for the contract and got to keep for themselves whatever went above their bid. For us Zacchaeus is a very attractive character. His enthusiasm to see Jesus is such that he climbs a tree in order to catch sight of him. He claims that he will be generous to the poor and honest in his business dealings. He is proud to welcome Jesus into his home. Zacchaeus is enthusiastic, generous and hospitable – a marvellous combination of human virtues. But beyond and behind all this is Zacchaeus's realisation and recognition that with the arrival of Jesus in Jericho the day of salvation is present in the 'today' of Jesus. It is the presence of Jesus that brings forth the responses of enthusiasm, generosity and hospitality from Zacchaeus the tax collector. It would be a valuable exercise for us to reflect on what makes Zacchaeus an attractive character and worthy of imitation.

**WIRRAL AGE UK TECHY TEA:** our next session will take place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 9.45am-11.45am at St Catherine's Presbytery. Would you like some help with your electronic devices (tablet / smart phone / laptop)? Bring it along and learn something new with help from the Wirral AGE UK IT team! This session will be via 15 minute appointments. Please find an appointment sheet in the porch at St Catherine's or email ([stcathhoylake@gmail.com](mailto:stcathhoylake@gmail.com)) / call St Catherine's Parish Office to arrange a convenient time.

**UPTON HALL SCHOOL MASS:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 11.00 am, Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. There will be Mass to celebrate Catholic Education and pray for members of our present school community. Everyone associated with Upton Hall School and Holt Hill Convent is warmly invited.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND (CTBI)** is holding a conference and networking event at Liverpool Hope University on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 11am - 4pm called 'Life Beyond Borders'. This conference explores what borders look like from a theological, historical and cultural perspective. Registration for this free event is via Eventbrite. For further information please go to: [Life Beyond Borders Conference and Networking Event Tickets, Tue 8 Nov 2022 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

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**MISSION IN THE ECONOMY (MITE)**, an ecumenical Christian provider of workplace chaplaincy across the Merseyside region, is seeking to appoint a Lead Chaplain to launch, manage and develop a multi-faith chaplaincy at CSL Seqirus. This post is open to both lay and ordained people. For further information or an application pack contact: Emily Hawkins admin@mite.org.uk or 0743 6361376, MitE Chaplaincy, Liverpool Parish Church, Old Churchyard, Chapel Street, Liverpool L2 8BT.

**ST AGNES PARISH FINANCES:** Are you interested in helping to administer St Agnes parish finances? We need someone to fill this role. It involves paying any invoices (this could take 30-45 minutes per week), and recording parish income and expenditure (an extra 2-2.5 hours per month). The figures are recorded online, so you will need access to a computer. Full training will be given and help is always on hand. Further details are available from Fr David.

**SHOEBOX APPEAL:** Despite all the difficulties caused by Covid, Teams 4 U managed to distribute nearly 50,000 boxes last year. This year the team will be working alongside the Red Cross to distribute "Love in a box" to needy children and their families in Eastern Europe. Boxes will be available at the back of Church or from Marianne on 625 5158 who will give you more details. If you would like to help at the warehouse, the address is 120/121 Woodside Business Park, just down the road from Hamilton Square station. It will be open 10am – 2pm for 3 weeks starting 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE COLLECTION** for White Father John Slinger (ordained at St Agnes' 50 years ago) who will be here in November and will say 10.30 Mass at St Agnes' on 27 November. Envelopes are available at the back of church. Please make any cheques to "St Agnes West Kirby".

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL:** Four members of the St Agnes Music Group (Fran Allen, Beki Allen, Michael Kennedy and John Phipps) are performing in a musical production of the timeless Dickens' classic: A Christmas Carol in mid-November. The show is being staged by the West Kirby Musical Theatre Company (WKMTC) at the Gladstone Theatre, Port Sunlight from Wednesday 9 to Saturday 12 November 2022. Tickets can be booked online at [www.gladstonetheatre.org.uk](http://www.gladstonetheatre.org.uk) or by telephoning: 0151 643 8757. Come and support your fellow parishioners in this joyous and uplifting show!

**SVP** request for help: chests of drawers and small wardrobes. (The SVP is unable to accept any large items.)

**SR MONICA** would be glad to receive any second hand astro turf, or plastic stud, football boots. Without these the asylum seekers cannot play in any matches. If you do have any boots, please pass these to Sr Monica at St Agnes or leave them at back of St Catherine's for collection. Thank you.

**THE BLUEBIRD CHOIR** would like to thank everyone who supported their Afternoon Tea last Saturday in aid of the NW Air Ambulance. A total £667.50 was raised for this worthy cause.



**WIRRAL FOODBANK REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR:** this runs throughout November and any donations will be taken to the Foodbank by the second week of December. Please see the poster at the back of church and there are copies of the calendar available to take home if you wish. 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 St Catherine's ([stcathhoylake@gmail.com](mailto:stcathhoylake@gmail.com)) or St Agnes ([stagneswestkirby@gmail.com](mailto:stagneswestkirby@gmail.com)).