



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



Sunday 26th March 2023 – Fifth Sunday in Lent (Gospel: John 11:1-45)

WEEK COMMENCING 26 th March 2023			Church	Intentions
Saturday 25 th March	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Jo Kellam
Sunday 26 th March	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Daniela Brandao
Sunday 26 th March	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	First Holy Communion candidates
Monday 27 th March	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Tuesday 28 th March	12noon	Mass	St Catherine's	Jim Forsey
Wednesday 29 th March	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Agnes	~
Wednesday 29 th March	7.00pm	Adoration	St Catherine's	~
Thursday 30 th March	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Julie Atherton
Thursday 30 th March	2.00pm	Funeral Service for Paula Hudson	St Catherine's	~
Friday 31 st March	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Philip Pye
Saturday 1 st April	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Grillo Luiginoz
Sunday 2 nd April	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Billy Agnew
Sunday 2 nd April	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Elizabeth Keenan

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently and their families especially Rose Bradbury, Eileen Browne, Paula Hudson, Josephine Kellam, Ann Madeley, Isobel Morrissey, Francis O'Connell, James Whittam and Victor Young.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Ronald Lewis.

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

ROSARY AND SERVICE OF WORD AND COMMUNION: Saturday 26th March at 10am at St Agnes.

FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: The account of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead is the longest single episode in John's Gospel. It is also the seventh and last of the signs (miracles) that Jesus performs during his public career. It illustrates Jesus' power to give life: "I am the resurrection and the life" (11:25). The irony is that Jesus' ability to give life results in a plot among his opponents to end his life. It was the Jewish custom at that time to bury a person quickly, on the day of death. So when Jesus finally arrives, Lazarus has already been in the tomb for four days. Jesus assures Martha that Lazarus will rise again. Martha assumes that Jesus is talking about the general resurrection on the last day. However, Jesus proclaims himself to be the resurrection and the life and defines belief in him as the criterion for enjoying eternal life now and in the age to come. The large stone is removed. Jesus prays aloud to his heavenly Father, then restores Lazarus to life. The resuscitation of Lazarus is a sign pointing to the resurrection of Jesus and his power to give eternal life to others. However, it is only a sign since it is assumed that Lazarus will again undergo physical death whereas Jesus will not. The reaction among the Jews to this sign is once more divided, with some coming to believe in him and others reporting him to the Pharisees as posing a threat.

LENTEN TAIZE around the cross will take place on Thursday 30th March 7pm-8.30pm at St Catherine's.

AN EASTER PRESENTATION by Meols Community Choir will take place on Sunday 2nd April at 6pm at St John's, Meols.

TAIZE at St John's, Meols will take place on Easter Sunday at 6pm. All very welcome.

SCRIPTURE GROUP is every Thursday at 7.30pm at St. Agnes in the upper small room. All very welcome.

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

LENT 2023

TUESDAYS 11am	Stations of the Cross: 28 th March St Andrew's and 4 th April St Agnes.
TUESDAYS 6pm	Sacred Heart Church, Moreton: there will be a time for private prayer and conversation with the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass at 7pm. Prayer will centre on the Eucharist and Justice.
FRIDAYS 11.30am	St Hildeburgh's, Hoylake: Lent Lunches (a short service followed by a light lunch).
FRIDAYS 7pm	St Catherine's: Stations of the Cross.

A MESSAGE FROM FR DAVID - CELEBRATING EASTER

The season of Lent leads us to the three Easter Liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Vigil. Think of them as three parts of one great act of prayer and please try to commit yourself to taking part in all three. One of our most precious commodities is time. The Easter Liturgies are longer than Sunday Mass but in this Holy Week of the year, let us give of our time generously to God: to hear again the great stories of God's providence; to pray earnestly for the peace of our world and the needs of the church; to beg God's inspiration and direction of our life and parishes.

HOLY WEEK 2023

Holy Thursday 6th April	7pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Agnes
Good Friday 7th April	11am: Children's Stations of the Cross 3pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion	St Catherine's St Catherine's St Agnes
Easter Vigil 8th April	8pm: Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter	St Agnes
Easter Sunday 9th April	9am: Mass 10.30am: Mass	St Catherine's St Agnes

CAFOD SYRIA/TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL UPDATE: CAFOD is very grateful for your wonderful support. Starting immediately after the first earthquake struck on 6th February, the generous support received at previous Fast Days meant CAFOD was able to release £100,000 in initial support to our partners in Syria, as well as support to our sister Caritas agencies in Turkey. Your donations help local experts in Syria and Turkey to keep providing: food, water, shelter, heating material, blankets and mattresses, hygiene kits, counselling and support to our local experts' staff who have been also directly impacted by the earthquake.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES for the new tax year are now available for collection at the back of church. If you would like a box of envelopes, or are interested in setting up a standing order and/or gift aiding your contributions, please let us know. You can write your name and contact details on the form at the back of church (at St Agnes), or speak to one of the stewards (at St Catherine's). Thank you for your support.

FLOWERS AT ST AGNES: We urgently need help with Flower Arranging. Experience very helpful, but not necessary. Chris Owen has now retired and we would like to thank her very much for all her hard work and beautiful arrangements over many years. Please contact Martina Parry on 0151 625 9032 / 07779948162 or Veronica Ramsey 0151 625 8658 / 07977190833.

ST AGNES CLEANERS ROTA is now available in sacristy for collection. We are in need of two more volunteers. If you have any spare time and could help, please contact Jo Forsey on 07936 435073.



LENT WIRRAL FOODBANK APPEAL: Another big thank you for your continued response to the Foodbank Appeal at St Catherine's. This Sunday it is 'toiletries' week. Any donations of deodorant, shower gel and shampoo would be very gratefully received. (The trolley has kindly been loaned to us by Sainsbury's in Hoylake.)

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