



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



Sunday 10th November 2024 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mark 12: 38-44) Remembrance Sunday

WEEK COMMENCING 10 th November			Church	Intentions
Saturday 9 th November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners
Sunday 10 th November	9.00am	Mass	St Catherine's	Special Intention (LW)
Sunday 10 th November	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Liz Kay
Monday 11 th November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Nora Lough
Tuesday 12 th November	9.15am	Service of Word & Communion	St Catherine's	~
Wednesday 13 th November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Mary, Michael & Celia Gallagher
Thursday 14 th November	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	Betty Blackburn (anniversary)
Friday 15 th November	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Daniel Constantine (RIP)
Saturday 16 th November	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Oliver McEvoy (RIP)
Sunday 17 th November	9.00am	Mass	St Catherine's	Parishioners
Sunday 17 th November	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Will Reynolds & Tony Welsh

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently and their families especially Terence Brown, Daniel Constantine, Nora Donougher, Irene Lewis and Catherine Morgan.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Pauline Hall and Joan Minshall.

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

ROSARY at St Agnes at 7pm will be on 11th November and 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: In the ancient world, widowhood was a frightening prospect. The Hebrew and Greek terms for "widow" come from roots that suggest helplessness, emptiness or being forsaken. Jesus warns the crowd against the pretence of scribal practice, their social and religious posturing. They like: "to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets." These are hard words, but they get harder. Scribal affluence is a product of swallowing the property of widows. The point is clear: scribal piety has been debunked as a thin veil for economic opportunism and exploitation. Jesus charges them with full responsibility for these abuses and announces that their sentence will be more severe. Next, we find Jesus sitting, facing the treasury and watching people donating money. He sees a poor widow throwing in a couple of coins. The contrast is stark, not only between the rich, who give out of their surplus, and the widow, but also between the widow and the scribes. This passage has been primarily interpreted as Jesus praising the widow for putting in all she had. This remains a valid interpretation. However recently scholars have suggested that Jesus' statement may be an indictment of the temple establishment, which took advantage of the little people. A widow is being impoverished by her obligations to the temple cultus. Jesus condemns the value system that motivates her action, and he condemns the people who conditioned her to do it. The temple has robbed this woman of her very means of livelihood. Like the scribal class, it no longer protects widows but exploits them. However, some scholars see this interpretation as being more appropriate to Luke's parallel (21:1-4).



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Catherine Hulmes and Jolyon Matthews-Wright who were married on Saturday 26th October at St Catherine's and to Samantha Bentley and Paul Fegan who celebrated their wedding on Thursday 31st October at St Catherine's.

THIS SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER *CAKE SALE*: The Youth of St Catherine's and St Agnes will be selling cakes in aid of The Heart Foundation and Climbers Against Cancer at St Catherine's Parish Centre after Sunday 9am Mass. All welcome.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE: Join the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales on Wednesday 13th November as they pause in front of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for the dignity of human life. Unite in compassionate action in light of the bill passing through parliament that seeks to legalise assisted suicide. St Agnes will have an hour of Adoration at 5pm and St Catherine's at 7pm on Wednesday.

ST AGNES SVP CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS: there will be a collection of gifts (new/unwanted) on 16th/17th November and a monetary collection on 30th November/1st December for the SVP after the St Agnes' weekend Masses.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE: Fr David will be offering Mass to remember loved ones who have died in the past year on Wednesday 20th November at 7pm at St Agnes and on Thursday 21st November at 7pm at St Catherine's. Please place names of loved ones in an envelope and put it through the respective presbytery door.

SAVE THE DATE: Carols around the Crib at St Catherine's on Sunday 1st December at 5pm.

DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS JOB VACANCY: Details can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2130729>. For further information please contact Liam Dowds, Emmaus Advising Consultant on 01737 652 043 or email at ldowds@emmausleadership.me

TALK BY CARDINAL MICHAEL FITZGERALD at St Werburgh's Chester on Wednesday 13th November at 7.30pm. Cardinal Fitzgerald has spent all his working life as a missionary on the interface between Islam and Christianity, heading important Vatican departments in this field and working in key Middle East postings, including Egypt and Jerusalem. He will talk about Muslim-Christian Relations today. All very welcome. 7.30pm. 8.15pm Q&As, 9.00pm close.

COP 29 FAITH & CLIMATE: taking actions locally, to support COP and its objectives on **Friday 15th November 6.00pm - 8.00pm Birkenhead Town Hall**. All welcome at this event to discuss how faith communities can act locally to support the goals of COP. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and make a positive impact on our planet!

SHOEBOXES: Please return to church by Sunday 17th November or take your box to the warehouse at Woodside Business Park no 82 from Monday 11th November to Friday 22nd November each day. Thank you, Marianne Ryan (0151 625 5158).

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND Christmas cards will be on sale from Saturday 9th November at the back of each church or from Peter Ryan on 0151 625 5158.



FOODBANK REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR: each day in November there is a different item to donate. Please take a copy of the advent calendar (next to the collection box) at the back of each church.



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