



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

Parish Priest: Fr David Roberts



Sunday 8th September 2024 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mark 7: 31-37)

WEEK COMMENCING 8 th September			Church	Intentions
Saturday 7 th September	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Parishioners
Sunday 8 th September	9.00am	Mass (+ online)	St Catherine's	Richard Oddy (RIP)
Sunday 8 th September	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	Mary & Tom Constantine
Monday 9 th September	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Sr Breda FCJ (RIP)
Tuesday 10 th September	12.00pm	Mass	St Catherine's	Richard Oddy (RIP)
Wednesday 11 th September	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Mary & Vincent Curtis
Thursday 12 th September	9.15am	Mass	St Catherine's	World Peace
Friday 13 th September	9.15am	Mass	St Agnes	Staff & pupils of St Michael's
Saturday 14 th September	5.30pm	Mass	St Agnes	Andrew Forsey
Sunday 15 th September	9.00am	Mass (+online)	St Catherine's	Mary Helsby
Sunday 15 th September	10.30am	Mass	St Agnes	James Crowley (RIP)

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently and their families especially Janet Dickinson, John Leonard, Helen Lloyd, Marie Mathison, Anthony McDevitt and Richard Oddy.

PLEASE remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Pauline Hall and Jack Younger.

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

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. **SCRIPTURE GROUP** is every Thursday at 7.30pm in St Agnes' parish rooms.

ROSARY at St Agnes at 7pm will be on Monday 9th September, Monday 30th September, Monday 21st October, Monday 11th November and Monday 9th December.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER: At the request of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, on Sunday 15th September there will be silent Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour at 11.45am following the 10.30am Mass in St Agnes and at 3pm at St Catherine's. This is "to unite the faithful in focusing on the Eucharist in anticipation of the Jubilee Year".

ST AGNES AND ST CATHERINE'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMMES for children who are in our parishes and are in Year 3 and above will begin in October with a Parents' Meeting. Registration forms can be found at the back of each church. Please complete a form and put it in the box in church. Closing date for registration is Sunday 29th September.

ST CATHERINE'S 'LITTLE CATERPILLARS' PARENTS AND TOTS PLAYGROUP is back! Every Friday afternoon 1.30pm-3pm in term time. Children age 0-4 and their parents/carers are very welcome. £1 per family. A hot drink for the adults and a drink and snack for the children. Entrance is through the OLOP Annexe Preschool and School site to the right of church.

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

FR DAVID'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: The readings today speak of a God who is partial to the voiceless and afflicted. Jesus' healing of a deaf and mute man takes place in Gentile territory, in the Decapolis – the constellation of largely Gentile cities east of the Sea of Galilee. The people there present as a candidate for healing a deaf man who speaks with difficulty. Whereas in most healing stories Jesus cures immediately by word alone, here he engages in a complex ritual that borders on magic. Jesus first places his fingers in the man's ears. Next he spits and touches his tongue. (In some circles saliva was thought to have healing power.) Then he utters the Aramaic word Ephphatha, which means "Be opened." The result is the man hears and even speaks plainly. While the gestures recall descriptions of magical cures in the Hellenistic world, there is no working of magic here. The healing comes about through the summoning of divine power (looking up to heaven and groaning) and then by an authoritative word of command. When Jesus orders the witnesses to be silent about the miracle, it has the opposite effect. The reason for the command to be silent seems to be that only with Jesus' death and resurrection does his true identity become clear. The crowd's joy ("he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak") evokes the hopes of Jews returning from exile in Babylon (6th Century B.C.) in our first reading from Isaiah 35. In this experience the man represents all believers. Apart from the grace of God we are "deaf" to the Word of life spoken to us by the Creator. By opening our ears, Jesus gives us the capacity to hear his life-giving Word, which he then speaks to us in the Scriptures proclaimed by the church.

ST ANSELM'S COLLEGE is holding an Open Evening on Thursday 12th September 5pm-8pm. No appointment necessary. Headteacher's talk at 6pm and 7pm. This is open to pupils in Years 4, 5 & 6. The Entrance Examination for Year 6 pupils will be held on Friday 20th September at the College.

PAUSE FOR HOPE 2024 is an ecumenical service for all those suffering from cancer, those caring for family or friends with cancer, and those affected in any way by cancer. This year the service takes place on Sunday 15th September at 3pm in Saint Columba's church, Chester. It is an opportunity to come together to pray and to support one other.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY 2023-2024 Impact Report is now available on their website and hard copies are at the back of church www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/about/impact-reports/The report showcases the various developments and initiatives undertaken over the past year, reflecting the positive impact their work continues to have across our communities.

SEASON OF CREATION 1 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER 2024: The Season of Creation is a global ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. During this season we are encouraged to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

'ART FOR THE SOUL' art group provides a peaceful space where you can relax, reflect and create something just for yourself. Beginners to experienced, all welcome to join. Thursdays 2pm-3.30pm in the church hall at St Hildeburgh's, Hoylake. For more information please see the Facebook page @artforthesoulhoylake or email alicejprice@hotmail.com.

ST CATHERINE'S CAR PARK: the top level of the car park (by the presbytery and side of church) is going to be used by a TV Production Company from now until Friday 18th October (weekdays only 8am-6pm). This area will be coned off for their use. The crew is working on a new series of CBBC's Andy and The Band which will be filmed at Kingsmead School. The Production Company has kindly made a donation to St Catherine's.



FOODBANK HARVEST ITEMS: tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned meat, jam, washing up liquid, deodorant and cereal. Collection boxes can be found 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

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