



Wreccsam Clarion



Issue no 5
March 2023
Season of Lent

The newsletter of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wrexham –
serving the parishes of North and Mid Wales

To make clearly known
To declare
To clarify
To call to prayer



Bishop's Column

At the beginning of Lent we are reminded of the forced employment and oppression of the people of Israel by the Egyptians. In the fifth chapter of the Book of Exodus we learn of the demand, not only to continue the building work, but now without the provision of the materials to do so (5:1-6:1), all of which leads to the flight from Egypt as the climax of the Passover story. It is a statement of the obvious that the last six months have been pretty turbulent in the terms of work, employment, strikes, wage increases, slavery, bonuses, fair and just wages and a whole host of other issues, but the one that caught my attention in recent days was the published results of a pilot scheme run by a number of employers to reduce the working week from five to four days for each of their staff. Sixty-one companies and nearly 3,000 staff were involved in this six month pilot scheme. Broadly the results were favourable, there was an improvement in staff well-being, and better work-life balance. The scheme was also of benefit to the companies: less sick leave; increased productivity and revenue growth; lower staff turnover in the pilot period. For more detail and analysis see:

<https://autonomy.work/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/The-results-are-in-The-UKs-four-day-week-pilot.pdf>

Is any of this a surprise? It could be argued that Catholic Social Teaching on the dignity of human labour has been teaching the underlying principles that this research has re-stated through empirical method. We have an understanding that might be called a 'vocation of work' which arises from God's address to our first parents to

'cultivate and keep' our common home (Gen.2:5) which as Pope Francis says, although evil has corrupted the world and human action, "*it is through free, creative, participatory and mutually supportive labour that human beings express and enhance the dignity of their lives*" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, N.192). More recently, "*Underlying every form of work is a concept of the relationship which we can and must have with what is other than ourselves*" (*Encyclical Letter Laudato Si'*, N.125).

Quoting himself in 2020: "*there is no poverty worse than that which takes away work and the dignity of work*". In a genuinely developed society, work is an essential dimension of social life, for it is not only a means of earning one's daily bread, but also of personal growth, the building of healthy relationships, self-expression and the exchange of gifts. Work gives us a sense of shared responsibility for the development of the world, and ultimately, for our life as a people. (*Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti*, N.162)

If this has been an interesting taster to the Church's understanding of the world of work you may be inspired by a series of articles entitled Good Work by David McLoughlin on the God Who Speaks website:

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/good-work/> inspired by what the Bible has to say about and how we show dignity in the workplace.

May your Lent be blessed, mercy filled and rewarding, + Peter

Platinum Jubilee Celebrated



Jubilee of Sister Eileen John of the Cross at the Carmelite Monastery, Dolgellau

The Carmelite Community of the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Peace joyously celebrated the 70th anniversary of religious Profession of Sister Eileen John of the Cross. The Bishop Peter Brignall presided over the Eucharist concelebrating with priests of the diocese. Sister's close relatives from England and Ireland and friends of the monastery also attended and joined in the celebrations.

Sister had originally entered the *Congregation of the Retreat, Bruges*, and later answered the Lord's call to the contemplative cloistered life of Carmel. She entered in Birmingham and later joined our Carmel here in Dolgellau when her Carmel closed. Sister is such a gift to our Community, and held the Office of Prioress, always generously sharing her many talents, in particular in writing, gardening, sewing, and archive work along with her versatility in being available for any Community needs. Jubilate Deo!

**The April Edition will be due in Holy Week, for Easter Sunday.
Please send contributions in before Thursday 30th March.**

The First Lateran Council

As we are invited to assist in the preparation of the Synod 2023-24, we hear much about Church Councils. This month of March 2023, we observe the nine-hundredth anniversary of the first Lateran Council held in March 1123.

The papacy had fallen into serious decline in the tenth and eleventh centuries, having become the plaything of powerful Italian or German families. In the eleventh century, a number of reform-minded popes led a struggle to rid the papacy of vice and corruption. In the Concordat or Worms (1122), Pope Callistus II secured an agreement with the German Emperor to end the latter's right to appoint bishops. The Pope wanted a General Council to ratify this agreement. Hence, he called this Ninth Ecumenical Council at the Lateran Palace in Rome, which had been given to the papacy by Constantine in the fourth century.

No note or minutes of this council have survived, but historians know of it from post-conciliar documents of various kinds. The Council fathers made no doctrinal decrees but approved some twenty-two (largely disciplinary) 'canons'*. In attendance were three hundred bishops and more than six hundred abbots. The canons were drawn up on 27th March and the final session was on 6th April only twenty-one days after it was convened. It was the first General Council to be held in the west.

For a longer account and details of the Canons approved by the Council:

<https://www.papalencyclicals.net/councils/ecum09.htm>

*"Canon" – an explanation

The Greek *kanōn* means a norm or a measuring rod, thus a tool to help monitor our Christian life; a tool by which to measure a standard. Examples of the use of the word canon in church talk are:

-The canon of Sacred Scripture is the collection of sacred writings, the books of the Bible which the Church recognises as being authentic and authoritative.

-The Canon of the Mass, which is that fundamental part of the Mass in the Roman Missal from the *Preface*, after the *Prayer over the Offerings* to the *Doxology*, We also call this the *Eucharistic Prayer*. Since the revision of the Roman Missal of Pope Paul VI (1969), the first Eucharistic Prayer is referred to as the Roman Canon, there being now a number of other Eucharistic Prayers.

-Canon Law is the code of ecclesiastical laws which govern the Catholic Church. In the Latin or Western Church, the governing code is the 1983 Code of Canon Law which is itself a revision of the 1917 Code of Canon Law.

-Canon 503 of Canon Law also tells us that a 'canon' is a member of a Chapter of Canons (of the cathedral) whose function is to 'celebrate the more solemn liturgical functions in the cathedral' and 'to fulfil those roles entrusted to it by law or by the diocesan Bishop.' (It is a member of the Chapter whom we address as "Canon", along with those appointed "honorary Canons")

Fairer Trade

With tremendous sadness it has been announced that **Traidcraft**, has gone into administration as and from 21st January 2023. The organisation championed the cause of trade justice, locally and across the world in modern times. For forty years, Traidcraft had been a major force for good in the ethical retail sector, working for better standards and protection to be in place to protect the rights and dignity of growers and producers all over the world.

In a statement the Board of Directors of Traidcraft plc offered heartfelt thanks to all who had supported their work and the cause for Fair Trade adding, '*The mission to combat trade injustice and poverty is far from complete. It is important to recognise that Transform Trade (previously Traidcraft Exchange, the charity arm of Traidcraft) will continue its vital work supporting producers and fighting for trade justice and people-centred trade. Our hope and prayer is that others will also emerge to pick up the torch that we have carried for four decades*

The Traidcraft website now provides a page of links for those who wish to order directly from the producers who previously supplied Traidcraft. Churches and individuals who wish to continue to campaign for fairer trade across the world are encouraged to link with Fairtrade Wales.

<https://fairtrade.wales/>

In spite of the above, do get involved in

Fairtrade Fortnight 2023 (27th February – 12th March).

Cytūn has been working with Fairtrade Wales and a number of other organisations which are committed to the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act's commitment to a globally responsible Wales, to seek to amend the Social Partnership and Public Procurement Bill currently before the Senedd.

The aim is to enshrine in law the Welsh Government's commitment to Wales as a Fairtrade Nation. So far, amendments to this effect have been narrowly rejected, but the Welsh Government has committed itself to working with Cytūn to produce Statutory Guidance urging all public bodies who buy ('procure') goods to buy Fairtrade and to buy goods and services whose supply chains support decarbonisation, protect biodiversity and human rights.

Fairtrade Wales has also convened Trade Justice Wales, a short-term project to improve understanding of international trade in the context of the post-Brexit trade deals being negotiated by the UK Government

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ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH
IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM

Praying with St Beuno's Outreach: 'As one friend to another ...'

In this monthly reflection, St Beuno's Outreach invites you to pray with an image and a verse of Scripture or other material.

This month, as we journey further into Lent, each day brings us closer to the cross, providing us with a renewed opportunity to stop and reflect. Perhaps we can resolve to find a little time each day to consider Jesus's last days as he journeys towards the Father, and to ponder what that means to us. We may find ourselves asking Jesus to show us that same Way, as we accompany him towards Holy Week.



Elizabeth Wang, Code: T-01088-OL, Copyright (C) Radiant Light

Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd April, 7pm:

Praying Holy Week with St Beuno's Outreach, by Zoom.

Email stbeunosoutreach@beunos.com for the Zoom link.

You can download the weekly Prego and the special booklet *Praying Holy Week with St Beuno's Outreach 2023: Finding the Way to the Father* at

<https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/>.

Take a moment to pause and reflect on this month's image and text.

The picture is by the Catholic artist Elizabeth Wang, *Even in the darkness of our sufferings Jesus comforts and guides us*

(© www.radiantlight.org.uk T-01088-OL),

The Scripture verses come from the First Reading for Monday of Holy Week.

**'I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;
I have taken you by the hand and formed you;
I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,
to open the eyes of the blind,
to free captives from prison,
and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.'** Isaiah 42: 6-7

You may then like to ponder the Lord's call to you:

How does it feel to know that the Lord has 'taken you by the hand and formed you'?

Am I always aware of being held, or are there times when I feel lost and alone?

Where do I see myself answering the invitation '*to serve the cause of right ... to open the eyes of the blind...to free captives*' in my own life during these weeks of Lent and Holy Week?

At the end of my prayer, what do I want to say to Jesus?

Speak to him as one friend to another.

The God Who Speaks Scripture Resources

Resources for March are now available: <https://preview.mailerlite.com/f0b8e6z9y7/2159690547424401708/y6w0/>
Well worth a view of this website to find more information about a schools' Poetry competition, and many other resources.

Prayer Intentions

The Pope's Prayer Intention - March

For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering

Gospel Year of Matthew



The Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting. "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee. (Matt.21:6-11. ESV-CE)

It is ourselves that we must spread under Christ's feet, not coats or lifeless branches or shoots of trees, matter which wastes away and delights the eye for a few brief hours. But we have clothed ourselves with Christ's grace, with the whole Christ – "for a many of you as were baptised into Christ have put on Christ" (Rom.6:3) - so let us spread ourselves like coats under his feet.

Andrew of Crete, 8th Century.

From: *From the Fathers to the Churches*. ©1983 Williams Collins Sons & Co.

Pope Francis Anniversary

Monday 13th March is the tenth anniversary of the election as Supreme Pontiff of Jorge Mario Bergoglio who took the name Francis for his papacy. His inauguration was six days later on 19th March. For a brief biography and further information go to:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/biography/index.html>

Let us remember him in prayer at this time and give special mention in the Universal Prayer intentions at Mass. We extend to him our best wishes and thanks.

Pope Francis' Message for Lent

On Friday 17th February a Press Conference was held in Rome to present the Holy Father's Lenten Message 'Lenten Penance and the Synod Journey' to the Church.

The Message is available at: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/02/17/230217e.html>

This Month's 'In the Spotlight'

For this month's 'Spotlight' the focus is on the tried and trusted devotion of the Stations of the Cross.

They provide an ideal form of private, or group prayer, often different, and with great opportunities for creating relevance to today's world.

For that reason, at the foot of the page (Page 6) there is a link for a presentation of the Stations on Zoom every Wednesday evening at 7pm for up to about 45 minutes. Each week is different, presented by different voices.

Technology permitting, a recording will be made, so that parishioners around the Diocese may view the recording at a time to suit themselves.

The recording for Ash Wednesday, 22nd February 2023 is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-YFKm46Lt5BBFWko46eoXAGBLsG69yOTsRQ7BOPx4Hk57tRECBL5n7nMQzzDtuXC.xiaB19BP5b-kxfNT>

To receive a weekly recording, please email the Editor at clarion@rcdwxm.org.uk to be added to the circulation list

The Season of Lent - Lenten Alms

Ukraine Response - Ukrainian Welcome Centre

As we look on with concern at one of the greatest humanitarian crises to unfold in Europe since the end of the Second World War, you can pray for Ukraine and her people here. We also pray for all peace-loving Russians.

"God's plan for the world is peace, not disaster. We pray for Ukraine and her people, and for the world's leaders. No one wins in war. Everyone wins in peace.

Archbishop John Wilson, Southwark

Having joined together in solidarity to pray with Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic community on many occasions since the invasion of Ukraine began, here is some useful information.

Obviously spiritual support is vital but if you can provide material support by way of a donation, you can help the humanitarian relief effort through the [Ukrainian Welcome Centre](#) a project of the Eparchy of the Holy Family of London which has been set up to provide a single point of contact for essential information for arrival, settling and long-term living in the UK for those fleeing the war in Ukraine. Registered Charity No.240088

DIOCESAN VACANCY ADVERT

Visitor Centre Manager at St Winefride's Well and Shrine, Holywell

The Diocesan Trustees are seeking a Full-time Manager of the Centre. Applications are invited from those with good customer service and management skills, some retail knowledge or experience and who are interested in the religious and historical features of this delightful heritage site. The successful applicant will promote and develop the retail, heritage and spiritual experience, will be open to flexible working, highly motivated, and self-driven. The Manager will contribute effectively to the operation of the Visitor Centre, by ensuring a valuable experience for all visitors/pilgrims to this ancient religious site. The historic Well, Chapel and grounds also feature a Visitor Centre includes an Interpretative centre, museum, exhibition and a shop/repository. When on duty, the postholder will normally be the first point of contact for visitors to the Well and Shrine.

Summary

The postholder will:

- manage the Visitor Centre,
- motivate and develop staff and in their historical and spiritual knowledge of the Well / Shrine.
- deputise for the Facilities Administration Manager
- create a welcoming atmosphere and personal visitor experience.
- Develop promotional materials, maximise visitor involvement and the making of kind donations when desired.

Essential Personal Attributes

- Ability to communicate well at all levels society and with diverse communities and visitors.
- Ability to work autonomously and deal calmly. with all issues that may arise
- Have experience of Retail and Customer, Stock Control, Purchasing, tills & PDQ, cash handling and associated procedures.
- Ability to guide individuals and groups, enjoying and being motivated by this aspect of the role.
- A Catholic with a good knowledge of the Christian faith and motivated and enthusiastic to increase knowledge of the Cult of St Winefride, the Well and Shrine, and the related historical tradition.

Desirable Attribute: The ability to speak Welsh.

Hours of work include Full time working alternate weekends on a Rota Basis. The successful Candidate will be flexible and adaptable to last minute changes.

Benefits of being a member of the team for Wrexham Diocese:

- Flexible working where possible
- Free parking
- NEST pension scheme
- Real Living Wage employer
- Attractive Salary
- Uniform provided

contact businessmanager@rcdwxm.org.uk, for an application form: Closing Date 11th March 2023

LAUDATO SI' ANIMATORS' COURSE

The Vatican backed "*Laudato Si'*" Movement organises an online "*Laudato Si'*" Animators' Course which is set up to educate and enable people to inspire others, in parishes, schools and in the world at large, to engage in dialogue and action on the current environmental crises. The Course, which starts on the 19th April this year, will educate and empower you to bring the "*Laudato Si'*" Encyclical to life.

The Course requirements include weekly readings including chapters from the LS Encyclical, discussion groups, videos to watch, some webinars and some homework which may include things like writing your reflections.

The Course will explain the causes and consequences of climate change, will show how the "*Laudato Si'*" Encyclical fits into Catholic Social Teaching and will encourage a personal ecological conversion to enable action for the planet.

For more information and to register:

<https://laudatosianimators.org/>

The Directory of 'web links': 'click' here for easy access!

Page 1 Work-Life survey, and Good Work text:

<https://autonomy.work/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/The-results-are-in-The-UKs-four-day-week-pilot.pdf>
<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/good-work/>

Page 2 Lateran Council, and Fairtrade Wales:

<https://www.papalencyclicals.net/councils/ecum09.htm>
<https://fairtrade.wales/>

Page 3 St Beuno's Outreach:

Email stbeunosoutreach@beunos.com
<https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/>

Page 4 Pope Francis biography and Lenten message:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/biography.index.html>
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/02/17/230217e.html>

Page 5 Lenten Alms, Laudato Si course, and Job advert

[Ukrainian Welcome Centre](https://www.ukrainianwelcomecentre.org/)
<https://laudatosianimators.org/>
businessmanager@rcdwxm.org.uk

Page 6 Way of the Cross, and Zoom link for Stations

[The Way of the Cross](https://www.vatican.va), at www.vatican.va
Scriptural way on wikipedia
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7767387912?pwd=dkovd1RvbTNYMTNFQGIReDRIRmJ6dz09> (Zoom link)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-YFKm46Lt5BBFWko46eoXAGBLsG69yOTsRQ7BOPx4Hk57tRECBLSn7nMQzzDtuXC.xiaB19BP5b-kxfNT> (Recording 22/02/23)

Page 7 Marriage Care, World Youth Day

[Find a Preparing Together Course \(In person\) - Marriage Care](#)
catherine.mccormack@strichardgwyn.flintshire.sch.uk
www.lisboa2023.org

Page 8 BBC News (Wales) Jonah Jones

<https://www.churchservices.tv/mold/archive/uploads/QZOpn eIOE6dKBzy>

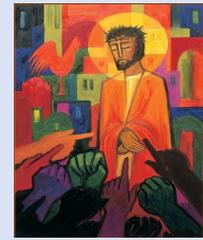


Stations of the Cross

Origins,

Relevance

Scripture



Two very different interpretations of the First Station

Praying the Stations of the Cross

Throughout the world, the representation of the fourteen Stations on the Way of the Cross are a clear sign of a recognisably 'Catholic' church! They will take the form of wooden carvings, sculptures in metal, and simple paintings and artwork. However, they are all instantly recognisable from "Jesus is condemned to death" to "Jesus is laid in the Sepulchre" Indeed, the 'Stations' are as definitive of a Catholic church as the altar, and the tabernacle So why do they seem to have gone out of favour? In fact, it may be appropriate to see the Stations as a form of prayer which is relevant to our own life, and the modern world.

Firstly, they can be prayed in groups, or individually:

Secondly, they do not require an ordained priest or deacon to lead them;

Thirdly, the prayers themselves can be constructed to suit the purpose and attribute of the person(s) praying.

Many people will probably recall the version known as the St Alphonsus Liguori Stations – and its tradition of standing and kneeling, and singing the Stabat Mater between Stations.

However, why not consider remaining seated as you pray, so that you may contemplate the meaning of the words? Why not add in your own prayers?

Look at the 'Children's Corner' in this issue – you may find a new way to pray this wonderful memorial of the tragic Passion and Death of Jesus.

The origins of the Way of the Cross

Today's tourist travels the world and retraces steps of favourite 'stars' and famous people. Some even follow their football or rugby team to wherever they play! It always has been thus! So, as soon as the Christian Church began to grow, people retraced the steps taken by Jesus. Some places were lost in time -others became major places of devotion.

There are traces in documents of some 'pilgrimages' visiting such sites, but it was in the 11th and 12th centuries that popular devotion increased, with the encouragement of such saints as St Bernard of Clairvaux (1153), St Francis (1226)(*who also popularised the 'crib'*) and St Bonaventure(1274). Not everyone could travel to the Holy Land, but perhaps those from the Crusades came back with stories of the places they had seen, and endeavoured to replicate through art, their experience.

In all 'popular' devotion, many different forms developed, so there were many alternative 'First Stations', from 'Jesus takes leave of his Mother' to 'The Washing of the Feet'.

The form we know today seems to have formalised in the 18th century. There is no gospel reference to Jesus falling, nor to meeting Veronica (vera icon= 'true image').

For a fuller (but practical) background, go to, [The Way of the Cross](#), at www.vatican.va for an article by Archbishop Piero Marini, the Vatican's 'Master of Ceremonies'

The Scriptural Way of the Cross

Good Friday 1991, Pope John Paul II inaugurated the "Scriptural" Way of the cross in the Coliseum in Rome. He intended that it should add to the devotion and provide a scriptural background to the Passion narrative. All the Stations are authenticated in the Gospels, and are as follows:

1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
 - 2 Jesus is betrayed and arrested
 - 3 Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin
 - 4 Jesus is denied by Peter
 - 5 Jesus is judged by Pontius Pilate
 - 6 Jesus is scourged at the pillar and crowned with thorns
 - 7 Jesus bears the cross
 - 8 Jesus is helped by Simon the Cyrenian to carry the cross
 - 9 Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
 - 10 Jesus is crucified
 - 11 Jesus promises his Kingdom to the repentant thief
 - 12 Jesus speaks to his mother and the beloved disciple
 - 13 Jesus dies on the cross
 - 14 Jesus is placed in the tomb
- (optional):
(15 Jesus rises from the dead)

In 2000, Pope John Paul II approved the use of the 15th Station, generally, and in 2007, Pope Benedict XVI approved the use of the Scriptural Way of the Cross for general usage.

The text of this devotion can be found in Wikipedia by putting Scriptural Way of the Cross in the browser.

Join in and pray the Stations of the Cross, at 7pm every Wednesday in Lent, via Zoom. Click the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7767387912?pwd=dkovd1RvbTNYMTNFQGIReDRIRmJ6dz09> or use the codes Meeting ID: 776 738 7912. Passcode: 066559 Please either 'mute' yourself or you will be 'muted'!

Around and About in the Diocese

Marriage & Family Life

Marriage Care is pleased to offer a Preparing Together course for those preparing to get married in the Catholic Church this year. The course will take place at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Jubilee Road, Buckley. CH7 2BF on Saturday 22nd April 2023.

This is a full day course with arrivals from 9.30am for a 10am start, and the course will finish at 4pm.

This course is designed to complement the preparation and accompaniment couples receive within their local parish. In addition to the material shared with them about building and sustaining relationships, we'll also explore the importance and significance of the vows they will make in Church, before God, family and friends, in terms of their religious and public commitment to each other. A certificate is available on completion of the course.

Booking is essential and is online at [Find a Preparing Together Course \(In person\) - Marriage Care](#)

A fee is charged and couples from our Diocese benefit from a reduced fee of £110. If couples are in a situation where this fee is unaffordable, they can contact the Marriage Care booking service who will, without judgment, book their place and reduce or waive the fee altogether.

Contact **0800 389 3801 Mon – Thurs (9 am–6 pm)**

Twenty-four Hours for the Lord

'God, be merciful to me a sinner' (Luke 18:13)

In observance of Pope Francis' annual Lenten initiative "24 Hours for the Lord," the parishes of the Diocese will once again host 24 Hours Devotion.

The "24 Hours for the Lord:" Lenten observance will begin with an Opening Mass on

Friday 17th March, at 12 noon in the Church of The Most Holy Family, Llandudno Junction

The observance will conclude with a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter on

Saturday, 18th March 12 noon in St. Mary's Cathedral

After the Opening Mass, Adoration will take place across the Diocese in 3 hour blocks in the specified churches.

(As Clarion goes to print, Churches and times are to be confirmed. Please look at the Diocesan website for details).

You are invited to spend time in Adoration before The Lord in the Blessed Sacrament during the "24 Hours for the Lord", and to use the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) provided by your priests.

Events and Invitations

March

Wed. 1st Solemnity of St. David, Bishop. Patron of Wales & Patron of the Diocese of Wrexham
Fri 3rd CAFOD Lent Family fast Day
Sat. 4th FLAME '23 London
Fri-Sat 17/18th Twenty-four Hours for the Lord
Sun. 19th Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare Sunday*)
Mothering Sunday
Sat 25th Solemnity of the Annunciation
Sun 26th British Summer Time starts
Clocks go forward one hour

APRIL

Sat. 1st Mass in Sign (BSL) for the Deaf, Deafened and Hard of hearing. 12 noon
Bishop's House
Wed. 5th 7.00pm Mass of the Chrism. Cathedral
Thur. 6th The Triduum, *Sacred Three Days* begins.
Mass of the Lord's Supper.
Sun. 9th Easter Sunday of the Resurrection
Tue 21st Wrexham Diocese Trustees Meeting
Sun 30th Fourth Sunday of Easter –
World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Aged between 18 and 35?? This is FOR YOU.....

Register your interest for World Youth Day 2023

Pope Francis will meet young people in Lisbon for the next World Youth Day in August 2023.

We hope a group from the Diocese of Wrexham will travel from July 31st to August 7th to join in this event.

If there are people in your parish who will be aged 18 to 35 by August 2023 and would like to go to Lisbon, please could you invite them to register their interest by emailing Catherine McCormack at

catherine.mccormack@strichardgwyn.flintshire.sch.uk to receive further details. www.lisboa2023.org



WYD
DON BOSCO 23

SAFEGUARDING: DBS- Disclosure and Barring Service

Volunteers who are involved with children and vulnerable adults in your parish (catechists, Ministers of the Eucharist, children's liturgy, home visitors etc) are required to have a current DBS certification. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Chairman, Keith McDonogh, and Bishop Peter have written to parishes. If you have not yet received current certification, please ask your parish safeguarding co-ordinator. Details are available in your parish.

Wrexham Clarion is published by the Diocese of Wrexham, Bishop's House, Sontley Road, Wrexham, LL13 7EW

Telephone 01978 262 726

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Bishop or the Diocese.

For further information and contributions please contact the Editor, Mark J. Philpot at clarion@rcdwxm.org.uk

The newsletter is distributed through parish email lists.

To register for your copy individually, please register on the website at www.rcdwxm.org.uk



THE BACK PAGE
Bishop's Engagements, and a 'gallimaufry of serendipity'

BISHOP PETER'S ENGAGEMENTS

March

01	12noon.	St. David's Feast Day Mass	Cathedral
04		Flame Congress 2023	Wembley
08	12.30pm	Overseas Clergy Meeting	Pwllheli
09	7.00pm.	Confirmation	Llandudno
15		Christ The Word School	
17-18		24 Hours for the Lord	
21	1.30pm.	Board of Trustees' Meeting	Bp's House
24		Lenten Reflection	Carmel, Dolgellau
29	10.00am	Presbyteral Council.	

April

05	7.00pm	Chrism Mass	Cathedral
06	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Cathedral
07	3.00pm	Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	Cathedral
08	8.30pm	Easter Vigil	Cathedral
15-21		CBF Assembly	Argentina
24-27		Bishops' Conference Spring Plenary	Leeds
30	10.30am	Mass	Cathedral

Children's Corner

The Way of the Cross

As we continue our journey through Lent, the suggestions made in the last issue remain valid. This month, we encourage parents also to become more involved, and to join with their children and making their own personal Via Crucis, or Via Dolorosa.

Share also the 'Spotlight' page (P. 6) to understand more about the devotion.

Every Catholic Church has an artistic interpretation of each station, many are drawings or paintings, so why not draw your own?

Think of how people today may suffer as Jesus did...

Each week in Lent ending in Holy Week, create TWO stations, based on your own ideas.....

More important than a picture, however, is to imagine a short prayer, or a situation which explains each station. For example, we don't know if Jesus did 'fall' three times, but WE do fall: perhaps our 'fall' is when we were unkind, or we sinned against a friend, or told a deliberate lie (Station 3):

perhaps our own 'Simon of Cyrene' is when a friend has helped us out of difficulty and has stood by us (Station 5):

perhaps we have seen a friend stripped of dignity by unkind words or bullying at school, or on Twitter and Instagram. Or perhaps another person has forwarded a photo without permission. They have been stripped of their dignity (Station 10):

.... What did we do to help? -or not? (Station 11)

Look at the list and choose three stations each week, for the last five weeks of Lent.

They will then be YOUR **Stations of the Cross**

Who remembers Morfa Nefyn?

The Resurrection of The Saviour Church

"The Resurrection of The Saviour Catholic church, Morfa Nefyn was built in 1967-68 in light of the increasing number of summer visitors to the area. The church is brick built with an external grey concrete and pebbledashed render, rubblestone facing to the porch at the south end and north gable end. Internally, the sanctuary with a raised dais, stone altar and mosaic mural of The Risen Christ by Jonah Jones sits to the east, with a lowered baptistry to the west. A Lady chapel sits at the north end. The church also contains a series of 12 dalles de verre windows by the artist Jonah Jones. In 2016 it was earmarked by the Bishop of Wrexham for closure before planners gave consent for demolition in 2019."

(A report by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales)

The patrimony of the Diocese – The 'Treasures'

Even the 1960s produced 'treasures' which are too good to lose -and Morfa Nefyn contained two examples: The mosaic, and the 12 windows.

The mosaic has been transferred to the 'new' school in Rhyl, Christ the Word school.

The twelve 'dalles de verre' windows (French for 'slabs of glass) have now been installed safely at St David's in Mold. How fitting!!! St David's is also a 1960's building, contemporaneous with the Jonah Jones work. AND it is already noted for its Dom Charles Norris of Buckfast Abbey 'dalles de verre' windows. These two men are regarded as the leading exponents of the use of dalles de verre.

Now, in one church, examples of two of these remarkable artists and craftsmen are exhibited together. This makes St David's UNIQUE in the world.

To mark this, both BBC Wales, and ITV Wales have visited.

Here is the link to watch the BBC report, since it has live interviews, and archive footage of Jonah Jones, the artist.

https://www.churchservices.tv/mold/archive/uploads/QZO_pnelOE6dKBzy Watch this report to see the technique used by Jonah Jones

The BBC 'static' report is shown here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-64639974>

You are assured of a most interesting viewing!

Clarion and the BBC

The Wrecsam Clarion is a mere shadow of what the BBC offers, and yet we can still have the same desire to

inform,
educate, and
entertain!

Therefore we welcome contributions from individuals, and on behalf of parishes.

Why not prepare a "Spotlight" on your parish?

Letters and articles are invited -please supply name and contact and indicate if you prefer your name to be withheld. (*'Anonymous' contributions are not published*)