

## Pastoral Message for the Sixteenth Sunday of the Year - July 2022



### **Peter**

BY THE GRACE OF GOD, AND FAVOUR OF THE APOSTOLIC SEE, BISHOP OF WREXHAM

TO

THE CLERGY AND THE CONSECRATED AND LAY FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM

*Health and Benediction in the Lord.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In September this year relics of S. Bernadette of Lourdes will be in our Diocese; on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> in S. Mary's Cathedral Church and then later on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> at the Shrine and Well of S. Winefride in Holywell.

The apparitions seen by St Bernadette in Lourdes took place over five months, and over the course of time, an intimate relationship of trust, obedience, and love developed between Our Lady and Bernadette.

This very special once in a lifetime event of relics of S. Bernadette coming to Wales, Scotland and England will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, providing people across our community of faith with a valuable opportunity for prayer and healing.

Such is the importance of this tour, and such are the gifts of grace that will flow from these days that I hope all will feel encouraged to visit either the Cathedral or the shrine of S. Winefride where the Relics will be.

To ensure the comfort and safety of pilgrims, stewards will be needed to assist and direct pilgrims, if you are able to offer your time and volunteer for this

service please e-mail Bishop's House from where you details will be passed to Chris Ryan who is generously co-ordinating the arrangements for the Diocese. Any such information given will only be used for the purposes of this event.

Additionally, to allow the venues taking part in the Relic Tour to prepare for large numbers who travel to them, individuals, parishes and groups are strongly encouraged to register their attendance using the booking system. Please be assured that all pilgrims who have been unable to register will not be turned away.

The full timetable and details of liturgies and prayers for the Relics being in the Diocese are being posted and updated regularly on our Diocesan (and Parish's) website.

I end with some words from Cardinal Vincent Nichols:

“The pilgrimage of St Bernadette's relics offers us a welcome opportunity to bear active witness to our Faith, joining with one another across our many communities to encounter God's love and find spiritual, emotional, and psychological healing and renewal.”

With the assurance of my prayers and best wishes for a safe and relaxing summer,

*† Peter*

*Bishop of Wrexham*

*Given at Wrexham on the 15<sup>th</sup> July in the Year of our Lord 2022 and appointed to be read in the Churches and Chapels of the Diocese of Wrexham at all Masses of the Sixteenth Sunday of the Year 2022 and available in print form thereafter and on the Diocesan website.*