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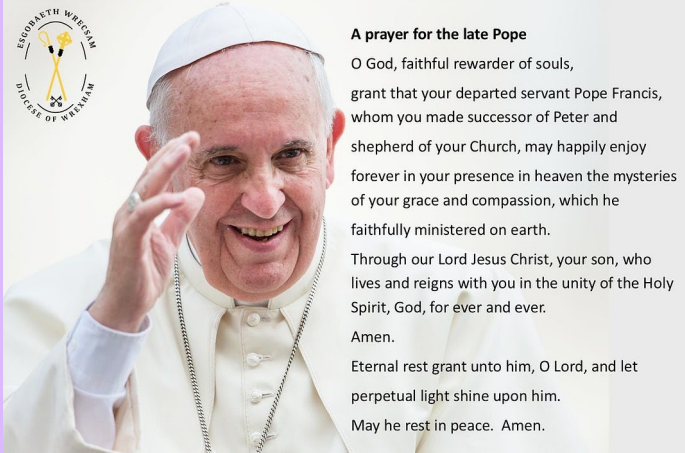
# C Wreccsam Clarion



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



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



### A prayer for the late Pope

O God, faithful rewarder of souls,  
grant that your departed servant Pope Francis,  
whom you made successor of Peter and  
shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy  
forever in your presence in heaven the mysteries  
of your grace and compassion, which he  
faithfully ministered on earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who  
lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.

### His Holiness POPE FRANCIS RIP

It was with great sorrow we learned of the death of Pope Francis on Easter Monday morning and we continue to pray in commendation of him to the merciful judgment of his Lord and God, that, aided by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints but especially his predecessors, and through the merits of the good he has done and the sufferings he has endured, he may be carried in the arms of the Good Shepherd to the glories of the heavenly Kingdom.

In adding our humble prayers for the repose of his soul we give thanks too for the leadership he has given to the Church and the example given to the world through his faith, compassion, mercy and tireless work for peace and reconciliation between nations, peoples and religions.

*Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace. Amen.*

While praying for the repose of his soul we also begin our prayer for the Cardinals that, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they may be guided in their decision making and election of the 266<sup>th</sup> successor of St.Peter .

Please continue to use the memorial prayer cards available in your churches.

A whole file of information, a gallery of photos, tributes etc. can be found on the Bishops' Conference website: [cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk)

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Visit the Diocesan website: [rcdwxm.org.uk](http://rcdwxm.org.uk)

At the time of writing, the interest of the world's media is centred around the death, the Requiem Mass and the interment of Pope Francis. By the time you read this, it is very likely that that interest will have turned through the fascination of the Conclave to speculation as to who his successor will be. It will be putting the personal history of the next Pope under the microscope, and what will be expected of him

What has to be noted is the extent of the media coverage of the life and contribution that Pope Francis made to the world during his pontificate. Now, with the multitude of news sites and legitimate media outlets all reporting the details of his life there is little, if anything, which I can constructively add to what has already been said or written. I think a most eloquent résumé is to be had in the Homily given by Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, Dean of The College of Cardinals at the Requiem Mass:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en/special/sede-vacante/sede-vacante-2025/20250426-messa-esequiale-francesco.html>

One of the questions I have been asked a number of times in the past days has been, "What might we expect from the next Pontiff?"

That is a question I am reluctant to try to answer, in the same way as if I had been asked that twelve years ago I would not have been correct in a fraction of the ways that Pope Francis has brought to the papacy, the Church and the world - so many of which will have long lasting influence if we remain open to his words and the deeds that have accompanied them.

For me there are two particular events that I hope will be lasting memories:

firstly that towards the close of his life, (though at that time none knew of how close that 'close' was to be), he proclaimed "Christ, my hope, has risen!" (*Easter Sequence*) at what was to be his last public appearance and message, on Easter Day. He continued, "The resurrection of Jesus is indeed the basis of our hope. For in the light of this event, hope is no longer an illusion. Thanks to Christ — crucified and risen from the dead — hope does not disappoint!" *'Spes non confundit!'* (cf. *Rom 5:5*).

The rest of the *Urbi et Orbi* message was read by another.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/urbi/documents/20250420-urbi-et-orbi-pasqua.html>

A credal statement if ever there was.

### Reading well

There is a story about the famous broadcaster Eamonn Andrews. His Parish priest had asked him if he would read the Lesson. Eamonn Andrews explained why he was refusing. He said "You are asking me to read something I have not prepared. When I do a television programme, I prepare for the week beforehand. I cannot read without having it explained to me. I want to know what it is about. I want to know what the people are to get out of it. I want to pray about it"

My second enduring memory would be from shortly after the beginning of his ministry as Bishop of Rome and only six months or so after the beginning of mine as Bishop of Wrexham. As I had taken on new responsibilities in these countries to promote evangelisation, encouragement of the reading of the Bible, and in biblical formation, there was Pope Francis saying, 'Everyone should carry a small Bible or pocket edition of the Gospels and should find at least a few minutes every day to read the word of God.'

What greater endorsement of what was to become the *God Who Speaks* project [godwhospeaks.uk](http://godwhospeaks.uk) could one ask for?

And as my Column last month indicated, this is now reaping a harvest within the Catholic Church and beyond. Following the good news story of the increased sales of the Bible last month, I saw this story at the beginning of Holy Week: [The extraordinary resurgence of the Catholic faith in Britain](#) in which the former Editor of 'The Tablet', Catherine Pepinster, wrote in the Daily Telegraph about the increase in many of our parishes of attendance and enquires about the faith.

In the last week I have spoken with a number of our priests who have said that the services of the Holy Triduum and Easter have been better attended than in the years immediately before the Coronavirus pandemic and that they were hopeful for a continued renewal in worship, and witness among the Catholic community.

This has to be nourished on the Scriptures and I invite you again to join me in reading the Gospel of Luke through the days of Eastertide. A reading plan is available on the Diocesan website [www.rcdwxm.org.uk](http://www.rcdwxm.org.uk). The reading of the Bible and evangelisation remained an imperative throughout the Pontificate of Francis. Making it so for ourselves is to take, and value, one element of the legacy which Pope Francis has given to us, to the Church, and to the World.

Please keep the Cardinal Electors in your prayers in these days as they deliberate on, and elect in Conclave, the successor to Pope Francis and the 266<sup>th</sup> successor to Saint Peter. The process, it has been announced, will begin on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Be assured of my continued prayers for you and our Diocese as we too look towards Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide us in the fulfilment of the Father's will, † **Peter**.

### Getting the Point

The sexton was laying a new carpet in the pulpit and left a number of tacks scattered on the floor. "Now see here" said the parson, "What do you suppose would happen if I stepped on one of those in the middle of my sermon?" "Well," responded James. "I reckon that would be one point you wouldn't linger on".

The best way to keep your friends is not to give them away -  
*English Proverb*



### THE ASCENSION

And he [Jesus] led them [his disciples] out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

And they worshipped him and returning to Jerusalem with great joy, were continually in the Temple blessing God.

*Luke 24:50-53 ESV-CE*

### PRAYER INTENTION – May For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised.

**Pope Francis**

### VOCATIONS SUNDAY - 11<sup>th</sup> MAY

It has been the custom on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to take a collection within the Diocese to pay for the training of Deacons and Priests (previously the Church Students' Fund).

These expenses are now consolidated within the Diocesan Levies, but it is a particular assistance to your parish and an expression of your commitment to the formation of the deacons and priests to contribute to a collection taken today. The working title of the Fund is now the Clergy Formation Fund as it helps to pay for all clergy formation not just the initial training.

From his hospital room on the feast of St. Joseph, Pope Francis gave the Church his message for to-day under the theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope: the Gift of Life'. One point he makes in the message is that we all have a responsibility to help in the discerning and support of every vocation through our prayer, education and example:

*'The Church needs pastors, religious, missionaries and spouses capable of saying "yes" to the Lord with trust and hope. A vocation is never a treasure stored away in the heart; rather, it grows and is strengthened within a community that believes, loves and hopes. No one can respond to God's call alone, for all of us need the prayers and support of our brothers and sisters.'*

The whole message can be read at:

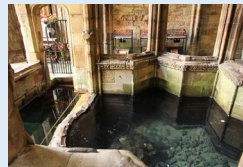
<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/message/s/vocations/documents/20250319-messaggio-62-gm-vocazioni.html>

Jesus does not return to his Father in isolation. It was the incorporeal Logos that descended among men. But to-day it is the Word made flesh, at the same time true God and true man, that enters the Kingdom of heaven. Jesus takes here with him the human nature in which he is clothed. He opens the gates of the Kingdom to humanity. We take possession, in some way by anticipation, of the blessings which are offered to us and possible for us. Our presence is desired and awaited there.

So the Ascension renders the thought of heaven more present and more alive for us. Do we think enough of our permanent dwelling-place? For most Christians heaven is envisaged as a kind of postscript, as an appendix to a book of which life on earth constitutes the actual text. But the contrary is true. Our earthly life is merely the preface to the book. Life in heaven will be the text – a text without end.

A Monk of the Eastern Church *L' An de Grâce du Seigneur* (1972)

### DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS OF ABUSE. 20<sup>th</sup> May



In 2016, Pope Francis announced that the Church would hold a worldwide day of prayer for survivors of clerical abuse. He wrote to lay Catholics urging them to be close to abuse victims, and pray and fast in reparation for the "atrocities" survivors had endured.

The Pope wrote: *"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse... perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons.*

*"Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening... The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain."*

In England and Wales this day is observed on Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter, this year 20<sup>th</sup> May. Resources produced by the Bishops Conference Secretariat are available at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/national-day-of-prayer-for-survivors-of-abuse-2025/>.

In June 2023 Bishop Peter inaugurated St. Winefride's Shrine and Well as a place of prayer and healing for the victims of sexual harassment, abuse and violence, drawing on the story of Winefride, who was a teenage victim of sexual harassment and violence and who found healing and new life in the actions of her uncle, the priest Beuno. The Shrine is offered as a place of healing, hope, peace and forgiveness for all those whose lives are blighted by the outrage of sexual attack of any kind.

The Shrine is open throughout the day (10.00a.m. to 4.00p.m.) and there will be short services at 12 noon and again at 3 o'clock to pray with and for those whose lives have been affected in any way by sexual abuse.

### EPISCOPAL INSTALLATION

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May the Most Rev'd John Sherrington will be installed as the Archbishop of Liverpool in succession to Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, OP who begins his retirement. Until now Bishop John has been Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Westminster



3 April 2025 SimeonMarcel





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.*

During May, as we continue to bask in the light and joy of the Resurrection, we invite you to pray with one of the Stations of the Resurrection (the *Via Lucis*, or the 'Way of Light'). Modelled on the more familiar Stations of the Cross (the *Via Crucis*), the fourteen Easter Stations help us to mediate on the various appearances of Jesus from the Resurrection to the Ascension. You can read more about the *Via Lucis* in [this Vatican document](#) (p.153).

The ninth Resurrection Station reflects on Jesus appearing to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias (John 21: 1-9, 13).

This passage is also set as the Gospel for the Third Sunday of Easter.



[www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org)

The disciples have returned to their old occupation: what else is there to do?

Their hopes and dreams have been shattered; their safety is compromised.

Fishing is something they know, and they can depend on it. But their heart is not in it, and their lack of enthusiasm is reflected by their empty nets.

Then they see a shadowy figure on the water's edge in the dim light of dawn, calling out to them. Perhaps they wonder who this man is, daring to tell them how to fish when they've been doing it for so many years. But they do as he says, trying one last time before going home. Now the net is full to bursting!

What is it that leads to the Beloved Disciple's sudden recognition of Jesus?

Is it the great catch of fish ...

or the general build of the man on the shore ...

*When you are ready, you may like to close your time with the Lord with this prayer:*

**Risen Lord,**

**I thank you for the many gifts you have given me.**

**Help me to be aware of your joyful presence all around me,**

**in the people I meet.**

**Support me when I feel despondent, tired and depressed.**

*Take time to ponder the photograph, and then read the well known text prayerfully, and reverently - preceded and followed by a special Easter response: We adore you O Risen Christ and we praise you because by your Resurrection you have given life to the world.*

**Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, do you have any fish?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish.**

**That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred metres off. Then they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught ... Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord.**

**Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.**

*John 21: 1-9, 13*

.....his voice, his turn of phrase?

And what of Peter's impetuous reaction? What was rushing through his mind at the time?

Jesus offers the disciples bread and fish grilled on the charcoal fire, saying  
'Come and have breakfast!'

And he continues to feed us now, with these words:  
'Take this all of you, and eat of it.'

Do you recognise his presence in the bread and wine, broken and shared at Mass?

Where else might we see the presence of the risen Lord today?

Perhaps in the homeless, the beggar, the lonely, the migrant, the children in the Gaza strip ...?

Speak to the Lord about this and ask for his help.

**Give me the courage to try again,  
as the fishermen did that night on the lake of  
Tiberias.**

**Please, let me share your breakfast.  
Amen.**

*Dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory*

### ***Living in that far-off land***

'James Bond sat in the final departure lounge in Miami Airport, thinking about life and death.' We all know what it's like to be in the final departure lounge, but most of the time we are not thinking about life and death. We are thinking about passports, airport announcements, the smell of kerosene, noisy children, running into a blue sea. Bond in contrast is thinking about the dangers of his mission. He does not know if he will survive. But there are other deeper dangers that threaten our lives. Dangers of a different kind. These are the dangers that are central to every book in the bible. That danger is the fear of a life that has no meaning. It is this that drives us to all kinds of madness and which lands us in the end in that very state we were trying to escape.

The parable of the Prodigal Son seems worlds away from Miami Airport, but it is in fact talking about the same world. There is only one world. The Prodigal is the younger of two sons. He demands his inheritance, everything that he thinks is due to him, but which in law he could only inherit if his father were dead. His father lets him have this inheritance, making no attempt to stop him. Soon the young man gathers what he has and leaves his father and his brother and heads for a far-off land that seems to hold promises of an exciting life. Maybe he went to Florida. There he had a wild time, living recklessly until everything he had had was gone. There was a famine and the young man had to hire himself out as a swineherd to a landowner there. Hunger beset him so much that he wanted to eat the pigfood, but 'no one gave him anything'.

This isn't such a wild story. We see this and worse every night on television. But Luke wants us to see this as a consequence of thinking that our lives are ours to do with as we please. That we are our own private property and our only concern. What makes this story a parable is that the father is not an ordinary dad, but the Lord God. The Prodigal's 'inheritance' was the life he had received from God and if he had understood that he would never have seen his life as something that he 'owned', but as gift to be shared with others with equal generosity. The world where he ends up is a world where everyone thinks as he does, where everyone is a private limited company where no one has anything beyond contractual obligations to others.

The Prodigal turns around and goes back to his Father. Like St Augustine he is 'shaken by love and horror'. (*Conf. Bk 7.10*) He recognises his Father's love and for the first time he sees the world in God's light. And in this light he sees himself in horror as a thankless child of his Lord. His pilgrimage has only just begun. He still thinks he can win his father round with speeches but his Father's love overwhelms him. The Father's love so completely outmatches his own.

(Contributed by 'A parishioner')

### **Judge Not.....**

I was shocked... confused... bewildered  
As I entered Heaven's door:  
Not by the beauty of it,  
Nor the lights, nor its décor.

But.. it was the folks in Heaven  
Who made me splutter and gasp –  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the 'trash'.

Herb, who (I always thought)  
Was rotting away in Hell –  
Was sitting pretty on Cloud Nine  
Looking incredibly well!

I nudged Jesus. "What's the deal?  
I would love to hear Your take.  
How'd all these sinners get up here?  
God must've made a mistake.

"And why's everyone so quiet,  
So sombre - give me a clue."  
"Hush, child," He said, "They're all in shock!  
No-one thought they'd be seeing you"

### **The love of money....**

And yet, its correct use is essential to the work of the parish.....

Years ago, two labourers working in the northwest of England searched for a church on Sunday. Not knowing otherwise they went into a 'high' Anglican church, and afterwards realised that it was not exactly what they were used to. The following week they took great care, and found another church, watching everything carefully and suspiciously until, after Communion, the second collection came round. With great relief, one whispered to the other, "It's OK, Mick, we're all right this time"

### **Since 1968, the Royal Mint in Llantrisant has produced our coinage;**

Sliding down adjoining chutes, the 50p looked at the penny and said "We must keep in touch, and recount our adventures." Some years later, they met again, by chance. The 50p recounted his adventurous life: - as a tip for the waiter, keeping up with the daily newspaper, and visiting many charity shops.

The penny could not match this excitement; it had made bus rides, been thrown on the floor, tossed in the air and smacked at sports events.

"But" it said, "I think I can boast one thing that you have not done. I have never missed Mass on a Sunday!"

## ASSISTED SUICIDE LEGISLATION – UPDATE

In early April the Committee Stage of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill concluded. The important vote for all MPs on the assisted suicide legislation, known as the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill*, is Third Reading (Report Stage) now scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Among some one hundred and fifty amendments to the original Bill which have been made at the Committee stage was one by Sarah Olney MP (Lib Dem) Richmond Park, which will mean that the Senedd will have the final say whether assisted dying becomes legal in Wales. Members of the Senedd have previously voted against assisted dying.

The implementation of the Bill if it is passed into law may be postponed until 2029, two years later than originally planned. There is still time to stop assisted suicide becoming law.

You can [watch](#) an interview with Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to allow people to contact their Member of Parliament and it only takes a few moments to submit a message to ask an MP to stop assisted dying being rushed into law. It can be accessed here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote>. Also, to let you know, Right to Life is distributing postcards to parishes for parishioners to send to their MPs on this subject.

A range of further resources on opposing assisted suicide is available here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/>



### Summer School 2025 'Pilgrims of Hope'

Keynote Speaker **David Wells\***.

30<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025 Liverpool Hope University  
The Summer School conference is a chance to gather together parish musicians and liturgists from all over the country and to worship together.

Full residential or day attendance is available. Bursaries and financial support are available on application from the McElligot Bursary Fund.

All enquiries are confidential

For details: [ssg.org.uk](http://ssg.org.uk) or [summerschool@ssg.org.uk](mailto:summerschool@ssg.org.uk)

The Society of Saint Gregory is a Registered Charity No. 1103280  
*(Editor's note: \*David is an extremely well known, inspiring and entertaining speaker. From teaching in Nottingham, David worked with the Catholic Education Service, and the Diocese of Plymouth as a liturgist, catechist, educationist and always with pastoral understanding of the needs of children and adults!)*

## THE SCHOOL FOR SYNODALITY

This organisation is offering an online bookclub on Wednesday evenings from 21<sup>st</sup> May around the Final Synod Document -

On 26<sup>th</sup> October last year, Pope Francis received the recommendations of the Rome Synod Assembly and declared them to be part of the Magisterium of the Church. The Final Synod Document is a beautiful, if densely written, expression of the three year global process in becoming a missionary, synodal Church. However, it's not necessarily easy for 'people in the pews' to grapple with! The School for Synodality is offering [a series of webinars](#) to explore the Final Synod Document, section by section, with expert guests from around the world, including Archbishop Jason Gordon, Trinidad and Tobago. You can watch live on Wednesday nights 7.30-8.30pm from 21<sup>st</sup> May - 25<sup>th</sup> June or at any time afterwards via YouTube.

It is suitable for small groups or for individual reflection.

Find out more and [register here](#).

### WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2025

For the 59<sup>th</sup> World Communications Day 2025, Pope Francis chose the theme that calls on people to "*share with gentleness the hope that is in your hearts*" (cf. 1Pt 3:15-16), the communication that creates the condition for dialogue.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2024-09/world-communications-day-2025-theme-calls-for-gentleness.html>

The late Pope's message was released on 24<sup>th</sup> January this year and can be read:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/20250124-messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html>

The Bishops' Conference (CBCEW) has decided that there is to be a mandatory collection on that day for the Catholic Communications Network (CCN)

### Prejudice:

Sammy Davis Junior was known as a keen golfer. At one course he was at a course on Long Island. "What is your handicap?" he was asked. "I am a coloured, one eyed-Jew. Isn't that enough?"

If you do not like me because I am ignorant, I can be sent to school and educated. If you do not like me because I am dirty, I can be taught to wash and be clean. If you do not like me because of my anti-social habits, I can be taught how to live in society. But if you do not like me because of the colour of my skin, I can only refer you to the God who made me. (A priest in 1958)

Prejudice is the child of ignorance. (William Hazlitt)

Dogs bark at every one they do not know (Heraclitus)

To be prejudiced is always to be weak. (Samuel Johnson)

Ignorance is less remote from the truth than prejudice (Diderot)

## Answers to the 'Sacred Vessels' Quiz on the Back Page:

1 Chalice	2 Paten	3 Ciborium	4 cruet
5 Monstrance	6 Communion Plate	7 Bells	8 Purificator
9 Pall	10: Terrible	11 Boat	12 Alb
13 A Bishop	14. Chasubles	Green	Ordinary time
Red Martyrs and Holy Spirit	White Feasts, Saints, Mary	Purple	Funeral, Advent, Lent





Parish of  
Connah's Quay

Parish Pilgrimage  
to Pantasaph

Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>  
2025



Parish Priest

Canon Joe Stewart

Over 60 parishioners from local parishes came together for a most wonderful, God-filled day in March.

We began with a concelebrated Mass in the church. We are grateful to Canon Joe and Father Pius.

We enjoyed lunch in the Pilgrim Hall and we are extremely grateful to all who prepared the hall -it looked really festive.

After lunch two services of the Stations of the Cross - one in the church and the other walking up the hill to 'Calvary' were held.

At the end we then regrouped together in the church for our final prayer and hymn.

It was truly a most memorable and thoroughly enjoyable day.



## Around and About in the Diocese

### SILVER JUBILEE OF PRIESTHOOD

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June Father Nicholas Enzma of the Apostles of Jesus and Cathedral Dean is to celebrate his Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Ordination as Priest. We extend to him our heartfelt congratulations, best wishes and the assurance of continued prayer. His Jubilee Mass will be celebrated at 12noon on the Cathedral

### ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE



On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June David Tarbrook of St. Richard Gwyn Parish (Ruabon) is to be ordained to the Order of Deacon having completed his studies and formation. Please keep him in your prayers in these final weeks of his preparation

### THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS (St. MARY'S CATHEDRAL)

Due to the need for extensive and expensive repair works to be carried out in the Cathedral it will be closed to use from mid-June for many months, times and dates are still uncertain due to grant applications, contractors and many other factors. It does mean that some of those Diocesan celebration will take place in other churches of the diocese. However much is received in grants there is a necessary contribution to be paid for by the Diocese, i.e. the entire faithful across N.Wales in support of their 'mother church' It is now twenty years since such major works have been necessary, but now necessary they are. If you wish to make a contribution to those works or know of funders or donors who are able to help preserve this historic and culturally important church please contact the Cathedral Dean, Fr. Nicholas Enzma:

c/o Secretary Wrexham Cathedral

[secretarywrexhamcathedral@rcdwxm.org.uk](mailto:secretarywrexhamcathedral@rcdwxm.org.uk)



### JUBILEE YEAR 2025

An extensive range of articles and resources are available on the Bishops' Conference website:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025/>

### BISHOP'S FUND

Historically on the weekend of the Spring (Whit) Bank Holiday at the end of May – this year 26<sup>th</sup> May, a retiring collection was taken for the Bishop's Fund. Those expenses are now consolidated in the annual Levies.

However you can assist your parish payment of the Levies by contributing this day to a Bishop's Fund collection. The annual cost to the Diocese (i.e. the parishes) of having a bishop is in the order of £25,000 to £35,000 depending on what other income is received.

If it were not for hope, the heart would break

*(English Proverb)*

Hope is a lover's staff; walk hence with that and

manage it against despairing thoughts *(Shakespeare)*

### Events and Invitations

#### MAY

- Thu 8<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of VE Day 1945  
6.30pm Ringing of Cathedral & Church bells  
7.00pm Mass in St. Mary's Cathedral
- Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 62<sup>nd</sup> World Day of Prayer for Vocations –  
Good Shepherd Sunday
- Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Prayer for the Victims of Abuse.
- Thu 29<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.
- Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Beginning of the Novena before Pentecost.
- Sat 31<sup>st</sup> 12noon Mass in Sign (BSL) Bishop's House

#### JUNE

- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> World Communications Day
- Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday
- Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Cathedral Chapter of Canons  
12 noon, Mass with the Chapter
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
Day for Life
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Celebration Mass for new Catholics  
*(Mystagogia Mass)*
- Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ  
*(Corpus Christi)*  
Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Winefride  
Holywell
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup>. Meeting of the Diocesan Charity Trustees.
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus  
World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests  
Mass for the Legal Profession and those of the  
Criminal Justice System
- Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of Ss. Peter & Paul

### INTERNATIONAL MASS

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

Bishop Peter invites all who have come to Wales to make a home, to study or earn a living, to share their culture and our common faith in the celebration of this Mass on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May in St. Mary's Cathedral at 12noon following the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker (1<sup>st</sup> May). Those able to wear their National costumes are especially invited to do so.

Refreshments in the Cathedral Hall after the Mass

### MYSTAGOGIA MASS

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

Bishop Peter invites all new Catholics to celebrate Mass with him on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June (the day of vigil of the Solemnity *Corpus Christi*) at 12 noon in the Cathedral. To this Mass last year's 'neophytes' (new-Catholics) will be especially welcome to celebrate their anniversary of coming to the Faith. For further details please speak with your Parish Priest

**The  
Catholic  
Union**



To keep up to date with the interface between religious life and faith, and public life and politics the weekly briefing from Catholic Union of Great Britain this weekly briefing is an invaluable source of news and items currently in the public forum and about which we need be informed and prepared to act:



## THE BACK PAGE

### Bishop's Engagements, and a 'gallimaufry of serendipity'

#### BISHOP PETER'S ENGAGEMENTS

<b>May</b>			
03	12Noon	International Mass	Cathedral
		Polish Heritage Day	Cathedral
04-08		Bishops' Spring Plenary	Buckfast Abbey
14		Cytûn Board of Trustees' Meeting	
17	9.30am	Safeguarding Training Day	Mold
20		National Day of Prayer for Survivors	of Abuse
	12Noon & 3pm	Prayer Services	St Winefride's Shrine, Holywell
23	6.00pm	Confirmation	Colwyn Bay
27	12Noon	Episcopal Installation	Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool
29	12Noon	Ascension of the Lord	Cathedral

#### Hot News: Sales of the Bible increases:

A lady was posting a Bible to a friend. The Post Office clerk checked the heavy parcel if there was anything breakable. "Nothing", said the lady "except the Ten Commandments".

An American GI in the Second World War learned a valuable lesson in the South Seas. The host wishing to show his common friendship brought a Bible and said "This is my most treasured possession."

Disdainfully the GI replied "Oh, we've outgrown that you know."

The islander, belonging to a tribe which had originally practised cannibalism was as unimpressed by the lack of courtesy as by the lack of faith. Calmly, he remarked "It is a good thing we haven't outgrown it here. If we had you would have been a meal as soon as we saw you"

#### The Sacred Vessels

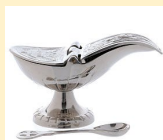
The season of First Holy Communions - How many can you name? -Answers on page 6  
Q 8 refers to the little cloth..... Q13 who wears this colour? .....Q 14 when is each colour used?



1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_



9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_ 11. \_\_\_\_\_ 12. \_\_\_\_\_ 13. \_\_\_\_\_ 14. \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:clarion@rcdwxm.org.uk)

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