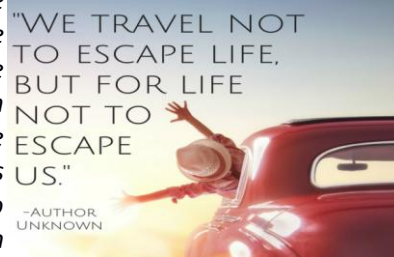


Ponder Over..... *The Power of a Simple Life:*

God wants everyone to live a simple life and he calls ordinary people to be his followers. The majority of the people in this world are just ordinary people. The Bible is full of stories about how God chose ordinary people like a shepherd boy to be king, a farmer to be prophet, another farmer to lead Israel's army against the Midianites, a poor girl to be the mother of Jesus, fishermen to be his disciples, ordinary people like you and me to follow him. The people God chooses are usually plain ordinary people – people with their fair share of marriage and family problems, people whose pasts are anything but perfect, people whose futures were not all that promising. People who have ever had trouble controlling their sexual thoughts and desires would be included. The sick, the lame, the delusional, the depressed and despairing, the underweight and the overweight, the people who think too much of their bodies, and the people who don't think enough of them, they are all certainly called by Jesus. People with problems, people who create problems, people whose problems are unlike anybody else's problems are invited to belong. People who think they're smarter or stronger or better than everybody else, people who think they're dumber or weaker or worse than everybody else, people who hate other people, people who hate themselves, people who worry too much, people who don't worry enough, people who put down other people, people who don't stand up for themselves all are called by Jesus to follow him. Now is the time to stand firm for what we are called for and what we believe. For values that the rest of society need so much. Values of love and forgiveness. Values of truth and honesty. The value of forgiveness and the knowledge of the ever present reality of the world of the divine. We have a rich tradition. A mass of resources available to us to help people find hope and meaning for their lives. Meaning beyond the material things. Meaning that helps us to see the real value of the things that we have. We have so much to offer. So much to give. This world, God's world, changes constantly and the way God leads us to reveal him in the world changes with it. Jesus faced far worse than we face, the Spirit has transformed more stiff necked societies than ours. So, until you and I get the chance to do something big; let's continue living our simple Christian lives. That's far more radical these days than being covered with tattoos and piercings. Far more outrageous than living a wild life or having an affair; living a decent, honest life; loving rather than hating; being generous rather than grasping; are not what we learn from the tv adverts. Let's continue challenging our society by living our simple Christian lives.



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Parish website:

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WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 20th JANUARY 2019

(Readings- Sundays: Cycle C, Weekdays: Cycle 1, Psalter Week 2)

This Sunday – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Day of Special Prayer

for World Peace

Mass 8.30am (Parishioners)

Mass 10.30am (Mary Helsby)

Monday - Mass 9.30am (Michael and Paul Owens)

Tuesday - Mass 9.30am (Mary Ellen Round)

Wednesday- Funeral Mass 11.00am for Margaret Bernadette Manson

Thursday – Mass 9.30am (Fr Russell): St Francis de Sales

Friday – Mass 9.30am (Rosaline Willacey)–The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle – Feast. End of Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Saturday - Mass 12.00 noon (John Morris): Ss Timothy & Titus

Next Sunday – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass 8.30am (Dennis Gillin)

Mass 10.30am (Parishioners)

MORNING PRAYER: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 9.15am

NO EVENING PRAYER THIS SUNDAY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Tuesday 10.00am – 11.00am, Thursday 6.00pm – 8.00pm

CONFESSIONS THIS SATURDAY : 11.00 – 11.45am and on request

Diocese of Shrewsbury, a registered charity (NO 234025)

ST CATHERINE'S NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR all who have died recently especially Margaret Manson, John Morris, Moira Bradshaw, Brian Dunning. Also please pray for those who are ill or housebound including, Jo Power, Ann Brown, Betty Roberts, Norah Stuart, Kathleen Bennett, Joseph Conway, Amy Duke, Sue Green, Geoffrey Roberts, Geoff Milton, Timothy Wild, Francis Hayes, Ann Marie Heald, Katie Hogan, Ellis Longley-Brown, Joan Nulty, Neil Monaghan, Justin Williams, and Jo Clark.
(Please advise Fr. Thomas of any changes to this list in order that it may be kept up to date).

FR THOMAS HOME VISITS, ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, DEATH, etc. – please contact at the presbytery on 632 4388.

COFFEE will be served today by The Cleaners, next Sunday by Ladies Guild

RECENT DEATHS. If anyone has a friend or relative who has died in the last year please give names to Fr Tom.

SICK: A reminder to let you know it is really important that if anyone you know is ill, and particularly those who might be going into one of our hospitals, to please inform Father Thomas as soon as possible.

A SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING will take place in the church hall on Tuesday 29th January at 7.30pm to discuss events for the year. Everyone welcome.

CEILIDH 1ST FEBRUARY 2019 ST AGNES' HALL to fundraise for the West Wirral Lourdes Group and The Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund. This event is particularly good for families. Tickets, which include a light supper, are £7.50 or £25.00 for a family ticket. Bring your own drinks. For tickets contact Jo Fear on 07525 356523 or jo@pandjfear.co.uk

MATCH FUNDING: The West Wirral Lourdes group, which includes members of this parish, are taking a large group of youth to Lourdes this year to help with the sick and elderly on the diocesan pilgrimage. Costs are high and fundraising takes place throughout the year. If anyone works for a company that will match fund please consider helping one of the fundraising events so that the group may benefit.

PEACE SUNDAY 20 JANUARY 2019: The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Their vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Donation envelopes for Pax Christi are available at the back of the Church.

CHURCH HALL KEY HOLDERS – The Yale lock has been changed and a new key for hall key holders is available from Kim 07873 300244 or Simon O'Connell 07711 163922 or 632 3837.

SUNDAY OFFERING 13th January: £449.47

DIOCESAN NEWS

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS TO CELEBRATE MARRIAGE will be celebrated by Bishop Mark at 12 noon in St Columba's Church, Plas Newton, Chester, CH2 1SA on Saturday, 9th February, 2019. All married couples and their families are welcome. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Church Hall. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary (25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th) and wish to attend the Mass, please let your Parish Priest know (by the 27th January) and you will receive a special letter of invitation.

A PARISH YOUTH LEADERS TRAINING DAY ideal for Parish Youth Leaders, Clergy, Staff with a care for Catholicity and Young Adults with an interest in Youth Ministry. Twilight training – Wednesday 30th January at Shrewsbury Cathedral 6pm – 8pm., and Saturday 9th February at St Hugh & St John, Timperely 10am – 2.30pm. To book, please e-mail youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org to book your place.

A VACANCY FOR A MISSION SECRETARY for the department of New Evangelisation has arisen within the Curial Offices in Birkenhead. Salary £18,000 – £20,000 (term time only), 35 hours per week with occasional evening and weekend duties. For more information please see <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies>

CCRS. THE NEXT MODULE – a choice of: Religious Education in the classroom or Introduction to Liturgy, for the Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies begins on Saturday 19th January 2019 at Our Lady's, Ellesmere Port, CH65 8BY 10:00 – 3:30pm with the second on Saturday 19th February 2019. Registration forms and details are on the website at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/ccrs. A non-certificate option is also available (no essays!) Particularly aimed at Teachers, Catechists and those who wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith. ccrs@dioceseofshrewsbury.org