



# Cwrecsam Clarion



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



Issue no 19  
May 2024

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

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Links to websites, articles, documents are all embedded in the text. To go to a website, simply click on the 'address' which is normally underlined, and may be written in blue.

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

In two weeks from this first Sunday in May, we will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the Apostles at the Jewish feast of Pentecost – fifty days after Passover – fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

With the bestowing of the gift of the Holy Spirit from the Father and Son, the Church is born. It is, too, through the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit that the Church in every age adapts the way that the Word of God is proclaimed and her mission is fulfilled. In St. John's Gospel, Jesus, the 'Word of God Made Flesh', teaches not by parables but by comparisons or figures of speech. Over the Sundays of Easter we heard some of them, Jesus the Good Shepherd; Jesus the True Vine. That latter image we heard again only last week (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter). The image of the vine is one that we find in a number of places in the Old Testament and is an image of Israel, God's chosen people; but now Jesus, the obedient Son of the Father, identifies himself as the true vine on which his Father will find the fruit for which he is looking. By that identification Jesus also identifies himself with the true Israel. If Jesus is the true vine, then it is more important to belong to him, the true Israel, than to belong to a particular nation. The image of abiding in Jesus runs throughout John's Gospel.

The comparison of the believer and the branch of the vine clarifies the image. A good branch produces fruit: an active and caring Church. United with Jesus, we are to become the new Israel, the new people of God and bear the fruits that are pleasing to the vine grower. We must abide with Jesus. We must stay attached to Him

as if our life depends on it. Pope Francis says that to remain in Jesus means – 'To do good, to help others, to pray to the Father, to care for the sick, to help the poor, to have the joy of the Holy Spirit.' Not to be forgotten though is that good growth implies pruning and gives a hint of the place of the cross in Christian life.

I draw your attention back to my use of the powerful image of the vine in this present stage of review in the Diocese. The direction and actions we must take as the Church in North Wales must be so that we do in fact produce good fruits, the evidence of our abiding in Jesus. To be able to do this, those issues which were raised at the 'Listening Meetings', and more, must be acted upon. Before anything else there has to be that vision and intent to be missionary: for that to happen we have to have leaders; to have leaders we have to have formation; formation has to built on evangelisation -the knowledge of God through the Scriptures, prayer, and our own celebration of the sacraments. For that we need the resources.

The presentation of the Diocesan finances over the last couple of months shows that the existence of the Church of the Diocese of Wrexham as we know it, and as it is at the moment, is not sustainable. Therefore I ask that in the days before Pentecost parishes observe a novena of prayer - that not only do we bear the good fruit in Christ, but that we face the compassionate pruning of the vinedresser with courage and humility. And, as faithful disciples of Jesus we should take up the cross and, disregarding the cost of it, follow Him.

*May you be blessed in the Risen Lord Jesus and know the peace and joy of the gift of the Holy Spirit,* + Peter

### DIOCESAN FINANCES 2022-2023 Part 3

In part 3 the focus is on giving some explanation of the accounts as presented on the Charity Commission website.

For a non-accountant, to explain a set of annual accounts of a relatively complex organisation such as a diocese is no easy task. Like many threads woven together to form one cord the Diocesan accounts are a consolidation of the accounts submitted by; parishes, the Shrine of St. Winefride; Central Services; and a number of small but otherwise independent or restricted funds. In the year 2022-2023, in bald terms, there was an operating loss of £343,975 since expenditure of £2,587,685 outran income of £2,243,710. The reasons can be attributed to a) a declining income as the congregations across the diocese decline in number and b) that offertory collections (see below) decline or remain stable year on year, while c) expenditure increases as the simple day-to-day costs rise, as every householder knows. Investment income for the year also declined due to world, and national, political and economic circumstances, despite the best endeavours of our investment managers.

A word or two must be said about the primary income to the Diocese, i.e. *the weekly offertory collections*. As reported to the annual autumn Finance Meeting the per

capita weekly contribution ranges from £4.00 to £10.60 with an average of £6.50 across all the parishes in the Diocese. Ten of the twenty-nine parishes of the Diocese have an annual income of less than £30,000 which by a national definition declares them to be 'poor' parishes. This seriously raises the question of their viability, not least because the Diocese does not have the 'cash assist' to subsidise them beyond a certain point. Catholic education, to which of course the Diocese is committed through the work of its sixteen schools, is largely expense free except when it comes to capital works and some repairs and maintenance for which the Diocese has to find 15% of the total cost. The Diocese is shortly to contribute its share to a new build of one of our schools which has been the priority for the last forty years and will replace 150 year old buildings that are no longer fit for purpose.

The complete picture and detail is to be found in the audited accounts as filed and to be seen on the Charity Commission website <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/700426/charity-overview>



## The Great Commission

Afterwards he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

(Mark 16:24-20 ESV-CE)

## The Ascension.

The ascension of Christ is his liberation from all restrictions of time and space. It does not represent his removal from the earth, but his constant presence everywhere on earth.

During his earthly ministry he could only be in one place at a time. If he was in Jerusalem he was not in Capernaum. If he was in Capernaum he was not in Jerusalem. But now he is united with God, he is present wherever God is present; and that is everywhere. Because he is in heaven, he is everywhere on earth; because he is ascended, he is here now. In the person of the Holy Spirit he dwells in his Church, and issues forth from the deepest depths of the souls of his disciples, to bear witness to his sovereignty.

(William Temple (1881-1944). *Fellowship with God* (1920))

## CAFOD emergency appeal to support ‘world’s worst crisis’ in Sudan

Sudan is in the grip of the world’s worst hunger and displacement crisis, according to Britain’s Ambassador to the UN.

Over 8million people have fled their homes to escape violence, with 25 million in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. There is a short window to act as fears grow of an impending - yet preventable – famine.

Jo Kitterick, of CAFOD, said: “Many aid agencies exited Sudan when the current fighting erupted a year ago. Right now Catholic agencies in the Caritas network, supported by the Church of Sudan, are some of the only organisations able to deliver aid to support the Sudanese people. The communities have issued a desperate cry for help and we invite the

Catholic community to respond to their call.”

CAFOD has worked in Sudan for over fifty years. Donations will go towards supporting families in Sudan and surrounding countries, who are already contending with extreme hunger, as communities strive to stop the crisis becoming the worst in living memory

Ambassador Barbara Woodward, told the UN Security Council that, “it is not too late for Sudan to return from the brink,” and urged the warring parties in Sudan to engage in negotiations to bring about peace, and for greater access to humanitarian access to reach those most in need.

Donations can be made: [cafod.org.uk/SudanAppeal](https://cafod.org.uk/SudanAppeal)

## The Season of Mary - An ‘editorial musing’!

Have you ever wondered what goes on in another person’s mind? How about the Editor of the Clarion? What makes him choose the colour of the banner heading? Normally it is a liturgical colour, or the seasons. Surely green for spring in May? Blue and white?...Why? Because it is May -the month of Mary!!

The earliest depictions of Mary are not blue! Her veil and clothing is brown, or beige, or red. It is thought the fresco in the Priscilla catacombs in Rome are the earliest depiction, and Mary is in a deep red. Since this is like a cave painting the colour is ochre. Thereafter, iconic depictions are also largely red, -in an icon of the 6<sup>th</sup> century the angels and saints around her are in white. Blue may have been used from 500 AD, since blue was the colour of an empress in the Byzantine empire.

However, to find Mary consistently depicted in blue, we look to the Mediaeval and Renaissance period. Blue was a pigment made from rock imported from Afghanistan: the rock is lapis lazuli (also known as ‘the stone from heaven’).

It began to be exported to Europe where it was ground down to make an ultramarine powder. The rock was regarded as more expensive than gold.

Blue is royal, blue is sacred, and blue is expensive - consequently, the great artists of the Renaissance were keen to use it, and especially for their most important subjects -ie who can be more significant than Mary? It played naturally against the red in which Jesus was commonly depicted. (“Girl with a Pearl Earring” by Johannes Vermeer is instantly recognisable with the central subject denoted with a blue headscarf.)

Back to the ‘Clarion’ banner heading...

A blue background to denote the month of devotion to Our Lady. White script to depict the purity and innocence of the Virgin. An ultramarine outline to signify the origin of lapis lazuli – the Queen of stones, and the stone from heaven.

And ‘ps’ - blue became less ‘precious’ in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when a chemically synthetic alternative appeared.

A new, inorganic blue which is non-toxic, is stable, retains its vibrant colour and does not fade was discovered in 2009, and came on the market for artists in 2020. The first new colour for 200 years. Called YinMn blue, it is from the symbols for **Y**ttrium, **I**ndium, and **M**anganese. We await the first paintings of Mary using it!

## 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 image of Mary at prayer (also celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe) is by the American artist Jen Norton, whose work celebrates the traditions of the Catholic faith 'with a contemporary, colourful twist'. Jen believes that through art we 'can hear the whisper of a mighty Creator' and hopes that her work will 'cause us to pause and listen'. Her paintings embody 'the quieter side of the heart': wisdom, service, stillness, and generosity. They are often inspired by meaningful relationships and the ordinary moments of family and home, revealing the Jesuit principles of finding God in the everyday and mundane.

### Other resources

Go to [www.stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com](http://www.stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com) for more resources, including the weekly Prego and Prego Plus leaflets

May is the month traditionally dedicated to Mary, Mother of Our Lord and our mother. As we give grateful thanks for Mary's committed 'Yes' to God, we remember that she is the one who 'treasured all these things in her heart' (Luke 2: 19), and that she can be a model for our own prayer life. With Mary we can rejoice, weep and mourn, contemplate, and ask for help with all the things, places and people we carry in our own hearts.

During this month of May, we also celebrate the feasts of our Lord's Ascension into heaven, and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The events described in this text from the Acts of the Apostles follow straight on from the Ascension, when Mary and the others return to the upper room in Jerusalem to wait together in expectant prayer.

Take a moment to read this passage slowly and reverently, and ponder the image of Mary at prayer.

**After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.** Acts 1: 12–14

You may like to use the God-given gift of your imagination to take you to the places mentioned in the text.

Perhaps you are drawn to stand with the disciples at the Mount of Olives, as you witness the ascension of Jesus to heaven. How does this experience speak to you?

Do you feel a sense of abandonment now that our risen Lord has left this earth- or are you able to encounter him in a different way?

Perhaps you now want to join Mary and the others in expectant, attentive, prayer in the upper room in Jerusalem. How does it feel to be back in this place without Jesus?

What do you notice about Mary as she prays ... or any of the named disciples?

Ask the Lord to help you join in their continuous prayer, as they wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Who would you like to bring into this circle of prayer? Take a moment to remember before the Lord all who come to mind.

When you are ready, speak to Jesus or to Mary from your heart as to a dear friend, sharing your thoughts and feelings.

You may like to bring your time of prayer to a close with a 'Hail Mary' or an 'Our Father'.

## DIGNITAS INFINITA

A new Vatican Document lists 'grave violations' of human dignity. Andrea Tornielli of Vatican News writes:

'The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith's new document 'Dignitas infinita' took five years to complete and builds on the papal magisterium of the last decade: from war to poverty; from violence against migrants to violence against women; from abortion to surrogate motherhood to euthanasia; from gender theory to digital violence.

Three chapters offer the foundations for the fourth, which is dedicated to "some grave violations of human dignity".

'That's the structure of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith's new Declaration **Dignitas infinita**, which commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirms "the indispensable nature of the dignity of the human person in Christian anthropology" (Intro.)

The main novelty of the document, which is the fruit of five years' work, is the inclusion of a number of key themes from the recent papal magisterium that accompany the bioethical ones. In the 'non-exhaustive' list that is offered, abortion, euthanasia, and surrogate motherhood are listed as violations of human dignity alongside war, poverty, and human trafficking.

'The new text thus contributes to overcoming the dichotomy that exists between those who focus exclusively on beginning-and-end-of-life issues, while forgetting so many other attacks against human dignity and, conversely, those who focus only on defending the poor and migrants while forgetting that life must be defended from conception to its natural conclusion.

### Dignitas Infinita

The document from the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith was released on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April. The full document can be found on the Vatican website:

[https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_dcf doc\\_20240402\\_dignitas-infinita\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_dcf doc_20240402_dignitas-infinita_en.html) and a summary on the Vatican news: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-04/human-dignity-ddf-document-migration-gender-surrogacy-war-theolo.html>

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION - May

Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

### THE CYCLE OF PRAYER:

During Eastertide we are asked to pray for:

The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIANS OF THE EAST – SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY

This Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians is celebrated annually on the Sixth Sunday of Easter. It offers an opportunity for Eastern and Western Christians to come together to pray for peace in the world – especially in the Middle East. This weekend we remember particularly the Christians of the Eastern Catholic Churches so many of whom experience persecution and significant hardship due to the conflicts, politics and intolerance by other faiths in the countries in which they live.

On <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/cardinal-fitzgerald-give-thanks-to-god-for-eastern-christians/> you will find a message from Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald about the International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians. Prayer resources be found:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pray-for-eastern-christians/>

## WORLD DAY OF CHILDREN

At the end of his Angelus Message on the feast of the Immaculate Conception (8<sup>th</sup> December 2023), Pope Francis said, "And now I have the joy of announcing that the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of May next year, (2024) we will celebrate the first World Day of Children, in Rome. The initiative, organised by the Dicastery for Culture and Education, responds to the question: 'What type of world do we want to transmit to the children who are growing up?' Like Jesus, we want to put children at the centre and take care of them."

## Episcopal Ordination and Appointments

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Peter will join other bishops of England and Wales for the Episcopal Ordination of Canon Bosco MacDonald as the 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Clifton.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed Rev. Monsignor Paul James Curry, a priest of the Diocese of Westminster, until now Parish Priest of Our Lady of Victories, Kensington, as Titular Bishop of Ramsbiria (*Ramsbiriensis*) and Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster.

He has also appointed two new Auxiliary Bishops for the Archdiocese of Birmingham:

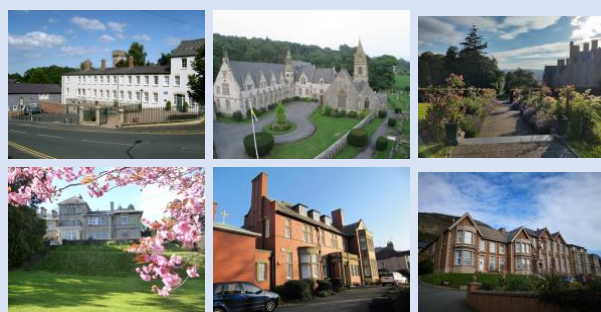
Rev. Monsignor Timothy Francis Menezes as Titular Bishop of Tugga (*Thuggensis*) until now, Dean of the Metropolitan Cathedral of St Chad, Birmingham and Rev. Canon Richard Adrian Walker as Titular Bishop of Mortlach (*Murthlacensis*) until now, Vicar General of the same diocese.



## Retreats And Conferences

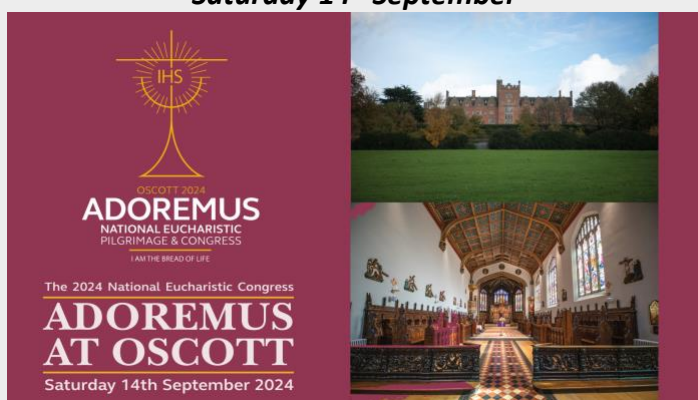
Summer 2024

# In the Spotlight



**Refresh, Renew, Re-Treat!**

### The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress at Oscott – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September



The Catholic Church in England & Wales, Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Lay People from all Dioceses will gather at St. Mary's College, Oscott for a day of renewing and deepening devotion to the eucharist. **You are invited** to be part of the limited number (simply because of the capacity of the venue) of participants. A coach from the diocese will be organised. Further details will be made available in due course; in the meantime please **put the date in your diary**. Bishop Peter seeks a volunteer to co-ordinate all Diocesan arrangements.

That weekend parishes will be encouraged to have a period of Eucharistic Adoration and even their own Blessed Sacrament procession for the benefit of those unable to go to Birmingham. In September 1850 the first Eucharistic procession since the Reformation took place at Oscott, after the re-establishment of the hierarchy, when Pope Pius IX appointed the first new bishops for England and Wales for more than 200 years.

### Looking for calm? Quiet time, or communal retreats?

These are the Centres of Retreat in Wrexham Diocese:  
Details of retreats can be found on line:

St Beuno's Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Tremeirchion	SJ
Noddfa Spirituality Centre, Penmaenmawr	RSHM
Loreto Retreat Centre, Llandudno	IBVM
St Winefride's Guest House, Holywell	OSSS
Vincentian Divine Retreat Centre, Pantasaph	VC
St Augustine's Priory, Old Colwyn	SSHJM

## SOCIETY OF SAINT GREGORY

You're interested in liturgical ministry, lay leadership and formation? - then this is a must!

**Summer School 2024 31<sup>st</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August**  
**'A Symphony of Praise in Word and Music'**

At Liverpool Hope University, the Summer School conference is a chance to gather together with 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 further details: [ssg.org.uk](http://ssg.org.uk)  
or [summerschool@ssg.org.uk](mailto:summerschool@ssg.org.uk)

### Retreats at Loreto, Llandudno

#### Living Theology 2024

Understanding your everyday Beliefs  
A Summer School in Christian Faith

Loreto Centre, Llandudno  
Friday 28th - Sunday 30th June

#### Keynote Speaker:

Karen Eliason - 'Listening in the Old Testament'

#### Plus options of workshops on:

- Understanding Christ in the New Testament
- God East and West
- Liberation Theology: Origins and Enduring Relevance

For more information:  
[www.loretocentre.org.uk](http://www.loretocentre.org.uk)  
[info@loretocentre.org.uk](mailto:info@loretocentre.org.uk)  
01492 878031



#### Ecotheology and the Vows

A Weekend for Religious

Gemma Simmonds CJ

Loreto Spirituality Centre, Llandudno  
31st May - 2nd June 2024

"And for all this, nature is never spent  
There lives the dearest freshness  
deep down things"  
(Hopkins)

For more information visit [www.loretocentre.org.uk](http://www.loretocentre.org.uk)

Ecotheology:  
NB. For anyone interested, a 6 day Individually Guided Retreat begins immediately following this weekend retreat for Religious

## Around and About in the Diocese

### Sister Brigid Kenny IBVM RIP

Please pray for the repose of Sr Brigid's soul, for the Loreto Community and all who mourn her. Sr Brigid died on April 17<sup>th</sup>

For many years she was the Director of the Loreto Retreat Centre and was well known to many in the Diocese. May she Rest in Peace.

### MYSTAGOGIA MASS

Bishop Peter invites all new Catholics to celebrate Mass with him on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May (the day of vigil of the Solemnity of Pentecost) at 12 noon in the Cathedral. To this Mass last year's neophytes (new-Catholics) also would be especially welcome to celebrate the anniversary of coming to the Faith. For further details please speak with your Parish

### Vigil for Peace

A weekly vigil for peace, is held every Sunday 4pm, in Mold, Daniel Owen Square. The vigil lasts no longer than 30 minutes and is led by both faith and non-faith leaders. There is a period of silent reflection and prayer and a song for peace. All are welcome.

### BISHOP'S FUND

Historically on the weekend of the Whitsun (Spring) Bank Holiday at the end of May – this year 26<sup>th</sup> a retiring collection was taken for the Bishop's Fund. Those expenses are now consolidated in the annual Levies. You can assist your parish payment of the Levies by contributing this day to a Bishop's Fund collection. As you will have seen in the March edition of CLARION 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.

### WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

The theme of this year's World Communications Day, chosen by Pope Francis is: Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication.

*"Artificial Intelligence is radically affecting the world of information and communication, and through it, certain foundations of life in society."* Pope Francis

The full message, prayers and resources can be seen at [World Communications Day - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://World Communications Day - Catholic Bishops' Conference (cbcew.org.uk))

A retiring collection will be taken for the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), which provides the Catholic community and media with reliable news about the Church and world issues in the home countries. Last year the Diocese contributed £2,979.03 to this element of the Church's work.

### Events and Invitations

#### MAY

- Wed 1<sup>st</sup> St. Joseph the Worker  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> International Mass. 12noon Cathedral  
Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Prayer for Christians of the East  
Thu 9<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.  
Novena of prayer in preparation for Pentecost  
Sun 12<sup>th</sup> World Communications Day  
National Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Taper, Cardigan.  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Mystagogia Mass for new Christians  
Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday  
25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> World Day for Children  
Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity  
Continent of Africa Pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Winefride, Holywell

#### JUNE

- Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ - Corpus Christi  
Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus  
World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests  
Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Day for Life  
Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Winefride, Holywell  
Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Mass for the Legal Profession and those of the Criminal Justice System

### FORTHCOMING OPPORTUNITIES for EMPLOYMENT or VOLUNTEERING ROLES

The Diocesan Trustees will soon advertise the following posts:  
**Archivist** A part time Archivist to continue the work of Mrs Sue Copp who will retire later this month.

**Visitor Centre Manager** An enthusiastic person will work with the Shrine Administrator in the development of the National Shrine of St. Winefride, Holywell. The Shrine was recently featured in the BBC2 series 'Pilgrimage'.

**Environmental Lead** The person appointed will help to educate, advise, and implement the Church's environmental policies within the Diocese.

**Marriage and Family Life Worker** After a few years of total dedication and service Jeannie Larkin will step down due to family and other Diocesan commitments. A vacancy will therefore exist from August.

Early expressions of interest for any of these posts are invited and should be sent by email to Mrs Dominique Gresty [pa@rcdwxm.org.uk](mailto:pa@rcdwxm.org.uk) Formal advertising of these posts will be made in the coming weeks.

### Volunteer as a steward at St Winefride's Well

Pilgrim stewards are needed daily – Pentecost to 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. DBS clearance required and induction will be given. Please contact the curial office [pa@rcdwxm.org.uk](mailto:pa@rcdwxm.org.uk)

To help you decide, just watch the BBC2 'Pilgrimage' programme. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001vvd/pilgrimage-the-road-through-north-wales-episode-1>. It gives a sympathetic presentation of the Shrine and will surely attract more visitors this year.

# THE BACK PAGE

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

### BISHOP PETER'S ENGAGEMENTS

<b>May</b>		
04	12Noon	International Mass Cathedral
08		Episcopal Ordination Clifton
09	12Noon	The Ascension of the Lord Cathedral
11		Episcopal Ordination Bangor Cathedral
12		National Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Taper Cardigan
18	12Noon	Mystagogia Mass Cathedral
19	10.30am	Pentecost Cathedral
	3.00pm	Confirmations Cathedral
25	12Noon	Anniversary Convention & Padre Pio Day Pantasaph
26	2.00pm	African Pilgrimage St Winefride's Shrine
<b>June</b>		
02	10.30am	Corpus Christi Cathedral
03-07		Diocesan Clergy Retreat St Beuno's
12	11.00am	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Cathedral

LOURDES

### WREXHAM DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024

Led by the Bishop of Wrexham Rt. Rev. Peter Brignall

## 23 JULY 2024 7 Nights

### By Air from Liverpool Airport

- » Airport transfers and assistance in Lourdes
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- » Full board: breakfast, lunch and dinner each day
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- » 20kg check-in luggage
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### How to explain the Spirituality of Religious Orders!

#### Benedictine Spirituality

"Ah, 5am. Time to start my 12 hour prayer routine!"



#### Ignatian Spirituality

"What a beautiful day outside! Truly God made this."



#### Franciscan Spirituality

"Hmmm. Should I set up a hospital or a soup kitchen today? I'll pray on it"



#### Dominican Spirituality

"What does love mean? Its very simple! You see,



#### Trappist Spirituality

"..."



#### Latest from Laudato Si Animators

<https://www.facebook.com/LaudatoSiUK>  
 It is a summary of Glen Merzer's book 'Food is Climate', Review by Brian Austin for Laudato Si' Animators UK

### Proverbs and sayings!

God could not be everywhere, so he made mothers  
 He who takes the child by the hand, takes the mother by the heart  
 Who teaches, often learns himself *(Italian proverb)*  
 To love to preach is one thing – to love those to whom we preach, quite another *(Richard Cecil)*  
 Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children *(William Makepeace Thackeray)*  
 When Winston Churchill was told that some writers were predicting that by the year 2100 women would be ruling the world, he replied in one word, "Still?"  
 An English professor wrote on the board "Woman without her man is a savage", directing the students to punctuate it correctly. He found a gender difference:  
 Males wrote: 'Woman, without her man, is a savage!'  
 Females wrote: 'Woman! Without her, man is a savage!'  
 Woman was made from the rib of man.  
 She was not created from his head -to top him,  
 Nor from his feet to be stepped upon.  
 She was made from his side -to be equal to him,  
 From beneath his arm to be protected by him,  
 Near his heart -to be loved by him  
 I wished for all things, that I might enjoy life, and was granted life that I might enjoy all things. *(An anonymous soldier)*

Notice in a church hall: 'Will those responsible for making the tea kindly empty teapots and kettles, then stand upside down in the sink'

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