

News & activities Holy Family Parish



SVP Many thanks for your most generous donations to the recent collection.

Finance Committee meeting Tuesday 22nd January at 6.30p.m.

Church cleaning -Group C w/b 14th Jan, **Group A** w/b 21st Jan. Please note the change in the rota.



Foodbank Collections

Collections of food are as follows:-

St Mary's - Sunday - **21st January**
Holy Family - 2nd/3rd February

Sunday Collections

Many thanks for your generosity

St Marys	Holy Family
Gift Aid: £213.90	Gift Aid: £253.50
Loose: £792.15	Loose: £366.03

Recently died

Please pray for the following who died recently:

Christopher Morris Requiem Mass Wednesday 16th January at 10.45am in St Mary's.

Brian Powell Funeral Wednesday 23rd January at 12.45pm in St Mary's

Keith Jacobs Funeral Service St. Mary's at 12 noon on 30th January.

Fr Owen Hardwicke who died recently in Wrexham

We offer their families our sincere condolences. **May they rest in peace.**

Pray for the Sick

Holy Family: Sheila Ferriter, Adrian Connor, Joan Lewis, Collette Griffin, Edward Brown, Bernard Perry, Vivian Miller, Kay & Paul Parris, Gary Sutton, Mary Bodman, Brian Webster, Martin, Valentine, Henry & Tony Fernandez, Chris Collins.

St. Mary's: Sheila Cummins, Dave Burns, Cath Kemp, Jean Allen, Jean Hayman, Madison Lane, Heugette Skinner, Laurence Tobin, Will Johnson, Cecily Hughes, John & Marian Lamb, Nadasiri Ifada, Ivan Sadka, Bets Sullivan, Tom Hopkins, Teresa Francis, Freda Burns, Margaret Griffiths, James Church, Anthony Jackson, Sarah Coakley, Joanne Coakley, Maria Gomez and Andrew Norman.

First Holy Holy Communion 2019

First Communion Meetings
Holy Family: 15th January at 6.30pm in Holy Family School.

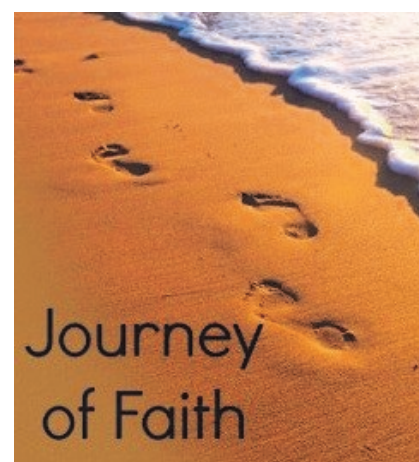


St. Mary's: 16th January at 6.30pm in St. Mary's School.

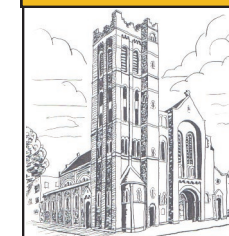
Please take with you the First Communion book "We share in the Eucharist" If you don't have this Communion book please contact Fr. Maguire immediately.

Journey of Faith

For those interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church. The Journey of Faith takes place each Thursday at 7.30pm in the Priory, 67 Talbot St, CF11 9BX



News and activities from St. Mary's Parish



Children's Liturgy for Primary School children takes place during the 10am Sunday Mass. Children's Liturgy adapts the Liturgy of the Word to suit the ages of the children involved.

Parish Directories 2019 are on sale at the back of church at a cost of £3.

Finance Committee meeting Sunday 20th January at 7pm in the Priory.

Parish Advisory Council meeting Sunday 3rd February at 7pm in the Priory.

Baptism Preparations

Baptism Preparation - for parents requesting Baptism for their children. Second session on Wednesday 19th January at 7pm in the Priory. Both sessions must be attended. Please see one of St Mary's clergy if you wish to attend. **Parents who have not undergone the preparation course must do so if they wish to have their child baptised. If you have already done the course but wish to have another child baptised you must make an appointment with one of the priests.**

Today's Gospel tells us that the people were 'filled with expectation'. It sounds like a very exciting time as they wonder who this prophet John could be. John must have been a very dynamic and inspiring preacher as the people speculated if he were the one they had been waiting for. He uses all of this attention for one purpose: to point people to Jesus. There are many people in our own lives who have pointed us towards Jesus, perhaps by an invitation to an event or a retreat by sharing a reflection with us at just the right time. In them, we see something special and interesting that makes us wonder in our hearts and seek a little further. They are the John the Baptists in our lives, pointing us towards the Lord like signposts along the way.

John humbly responds to the people by saying: 'One who is more powerful than I is coming.' He emphasises that it is He who will really set their hearts on fire. While the words concerning 'winnowing forks' seems harsh, we might interpret them as speaking of God's power to transform our lives through Jesus. When Jesus enters into the narrative, Luke emphasises that He is at prayer, and it is then that this powerful experience of God occurs. A nice meditation for today is to repeat the last sentence of today's Gospel, imagining God speaking these words to you 'You are my Daughter/Son, the Beloved: with you I am well pleased.'

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions - It is an ancient tradition to have a Mass celebrated for our deceased relatives or friends, for someone who is sick, or in gratitude for help received. It is usual in requesting such a Mass to give a small stipend (donation); this goes directly for the support of the priest who celebrates the requested Mass. If you wish to have a Mass dedicated please write 1) name of intention (2) date required on a slip of paper, put your stipend into an envelope and hand it into the Priory. We will try to facilitate the date required but priority must be given to funerals and weddings. Thank you for your help.

Piety Stall St. Mary's @ 10am on Sunday

Selling Baptism cards, Easter cards, First Communion cards and gifts, Confirmation cards etc from the Piety Stall plus many other items. We are always happy to source other items that parishioners need. Please ask if you are looking for something special. *Dot Howells*

Christmas Offerings

Father John, Father Andy and Father Nick would like to thank you all for your very generous Christmas Offerings and seasonal gifts and wish you all a happy and fulfilling 2019.