Parish of St Winefride, Lymm

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A very happy new liturgical year to all of you. Welcome to the beginning of Advent – a season of anticipation and preparation for the celebration of anniversary of the birth of our Saviour. This weekend our Bishop writes to us with words of encouragement amid the continuing pandemic. In the readings at Mass, the prophet Jeremiah reminds God's people of His promises. Paul, in the very first words in the New Testament writings, asks the people of Thessalonica to make progress in the life they are meant to live; and Jesus warns everybody to stay awake and be prepared for his coming, to be able to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

After 10.30am mass this weekend, the SVP invite us to a coffee morning, giving us a chance to meet other worshippers in comfort. Do please accept the invitation.

One way for us to keep focussed on Advent is to follow the daily readings and prayers in the booklets for sale in the church porch. I will make myself available for **Confessions** on Saturday morning (Dec. 6) from 10.00 to 10.30am. That is THE best preparation for the coming of Jesus, which happens every time we receive Holy Communion. (If there is a more convenient time for Confessions, please let me know.) In the week ahead there will be Exposition on **Tuesday** at 7.00pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm, and Mass on **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday** at 9.15am as usual. There will be **NO** coffee morning after Mass on Thursday.

Thanks to our musicians, particularly the ones who have recently volunteered to play at Mass on Saturdays. Surely in a talented place like Lymm there is someone who could accompany hymns on the keyboard at 10.30am Mass, even occasionally. It so enhances our worship.

Thanks also for the contributions of gifts for St Joseph's Family Centre in Warrington to more needy families locally. This year there will again be vouchers, and you can donate to this on <u>https://cafdonate.org/18286</u>. But there will also be gift parcels, and we would welcome more donations of non-essential items such as selection boxes, chocolates, biscuits, and luxury toilet gift sets. A container is in the church porch for your gifts.

Here is some advance notice for some events in December:

December 1: Bishop Mark will lead a Holy Hour at 5pm live streamed at the cathedral through the link <u>https://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral</u> There will be prayers for victims of abuse, as well as for protection for all of us from the pandemic. **December 3 – 5:** St Mary's C of E are holding their Christmas Tree Festival.

Monday 6th at 7.30pm: The annual candlelight memorial service for children who have died, in Warrington Parish Church (St Elphin's).

Tuesday 14th at 5.00pm on Zoom: The AGM of the Lymm Sanctuary Hub. We are a member church and as such we are entitled to have a representative who can vote. Please let me know if you would be willing to do this job, and I can 'appoint' you. There must be at least one parishioner who values the Hub.

Fr Tony Elder