Parish of St Winefride, Lymm

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Newsletter 31 December 2021

Hello everyone and a very happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a good Christmas and that you are all safe. May I thank you all for the really generous Christmas offerings collection, and for your many messages of kindness, and even for the three bottles (!) which were actually great. I was struck by the beauty of the many religious cards you sent me. There was a good turnout for Mass, the carols were uplifting, and then I enjoyed a good rest.

On **Saturday 1 January (New Year's Day),** the feast dedicated to Mary the Mother of God, there will be an extra Mass at 12 noon in thanksgiving, and to ask her blessing and protection in the coming year. There will be the usual 5.45pm mass for the vigil of the second Sunday of Christmas, and 9.00 and 10.30am on Sunday January 2. We can all pray fervently that by being sensible and following safety guidelines we can get through the rigours of the seemingly endless pandemic and see its conclusion.

During the coming week there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday at 7.00pm followed by 7.30pm mass, then morning Mass at 9.15am on Wednesday and Friday. **Thursday** is the **feast of the Epiphany**, so we will have the usual 9.15am mass and one at 7.30pm. There will be coffee after the morning Mass.

FIRST COMMUNIONS Action at last! There will be a most important meeting for parents of the seven children due to make their First Communion. It will be on Thursday 20 January at 7.00pm. Please make every effort to be at this essential event.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dympna Feeley of Foxley Hall Mews, who died recently. Her funeral is at Altrincham on Wednesday 5th January. Mass during the coming week will be offered for Joan and Wilf Austin, Sean O'Cleirigh, Stan Beardwood, Christina Weighill, and James Igoe, and on the Holy Day for Kevin and Teresa Kilcoyne who celebrate sixty years married life together.

We remember that twelve months ago there was nothing doing at church because of the pandemic. We thank God for the freedom to worship and pray together, but ask God to spare us more illness and death through Covid. We continue to pray for the medical teams and the carers, for the shop assistants (colleagues?) who valiantly face the public daily, and for all who contract the virus. Please God 2022 will be a better New Year for all.

Fr Tony Elder.