

Parish of St Winefride, Lymm

RC Diocese of Shrewsbury a registered charity 234025

18 Booths Hill Road, Lymm, Cheshire. WA13 0DL

Parish Priest Fr. Tony Elder 01925 752224 e-mail: lymm_rc@btinternet.com [www:stwinefrideslymm.org](http://www.stwinefrideslymm.org)

Newsletter 25 February 2022

There will be Exposition at 7pm on Tuesday, (the feast of St David), followed by Mass at 7.30pm; Mass on ASH WEDNESDAY will be in the morning at 9.15am and at 7.30pm in the evening. On Thursday and Friday Mass is at 9.15am. The weekend services are as usual at 5.45pm (Sat), and 9.00am and 10.30am Sun). Mass intentions will be: for Cathal McAllister, James Slater, John Wright, for world peace, for Sister Catherine Joy, Mary C Higgins, and the SSCF.

The World Day of Prayer this year is on Friday 4 March in the Methodist church on Eagle Brow at 7.30pm, to which all are welcome.

*Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Fr David Craig** who has died at the age of 91 in Crewe. He had been an Anglican priest who then became a Catholic, had a three year course at The Beda College in Rome, was ordained for our diocese, and then worked in eight different parishes until his retirement in 2005. His funeral is at Nantwich.*

Lent begins on Wednesday. It is a day of fasting and abstinence, and the Pope asks us to offer our penance on behalf of the people of the Ukraine and to pray for peace. During the six weeks of Lent it might be unreal to look for negative ‘giving up’ things, after all the restrictions and deprivation of the last two years, and make sure that we repent of any slackness in our service of Almighty God. We could devote more time to prayer: there will be a return of the half-hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed **on Saturday mornings between 10 and 10.30am** – what a magnificent gesture of commitment that would be. During that time there will be the availability of Confession. After two years that could be used at the beginning of Lent as a help to examine where we need to do better, and to humbly apologise for our shortcomings. We can all of course be more generous.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury has committed itself thoroughly to **safeguarding**. The time has come round again for checking the background of all our parishioners who have volunteered to act in any capacity which brings them into contact with children or vulnerable adults. This requires all such people to fill in a tiresome number of forms. Your co-operation and patience are necessary, so when you are asked, please comply as quickly as possible. Mrs Rowena Ford is our Safeguarding Liaison Officer and we thank her for undertaking this essential role. Everyone must feel safe in our church and parish.

The eighth Sunday in ordinary time tends to get effaced except when Lent is as late as it is this year. St Paul reminds us, in those words copied into the hymn ‘Abide With Me’, that Christ has conquered death. The first reading from Ecclesiasticus gives some words about guarding our talk – *it isn’t just about ‘men’*. And in the gospel, Jesus suggests that it would be better for us to concentrate on our own faults, to which we can often be quite blind, rather than putting other people straight.

‘Holy Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle: be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, prince of the heavenly host, thrust down to hell Satan, and with him all wicked

spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.' (Prayer said for the conversion of Russia said after every Mass for fifty years). Fr Tony Elder