

Parish of St Winefride, Lymm

RC Diocese of Shrewsbury a registered charity 234025

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Newsletter 23 April 2021

Greetings to you all. I always thank God for the sunshine. It just makes me feel good. There are those of you who have big black clouds hanging over you and we pray that in God's good time they will evaporate. Last Sunday I attended a worthy service at St Mary's on your behalf in memory of HRH Prince Philip, ably and sensitively conducted by the Vicar of Lymm, Rev. Beverley Jameson. Later that evening the end of the world was announced – the formation of a European Super League. Seventy-Two hours later it was cancelled and we could all rejoice again. AND THE SUN CONTINUED TO SHINE! Today is the feast of St George, and we pray that he will continue to intercede on behalf of our country. O to be in England now that April is here.

Thanks to the people who volunteered to deliver some of the **planned giving envelopes** to those still shielding.

It is **over fifty years now since the Abortion Act** was passed by the British Parliament. Since then more than nine million lives have been destroyed in our country. Not, I think, our most worthy achievement, but my opinion doesn't seem to count for much. We are urged to continue asking God to intervene. The Good Counsel Network asks people to pray and maybe do some penance on **Tuesday 27 April**, the date in 1968 when the act came into effect.

On a happier note, **Mary's Meals**, the organisation which provides 1.8 million meals in 19 countries every school day, asks your prayers during May for God's blessing on their work. Contact them searching Marys Meals on Google.

The Diocesan Youth Team announce a NEW initiative called The Living Room. Contact them on youth@diocesofshrewsbury.org for information about a Zoom meeting on Thursday 29th April at 7pm, which is especially for young Catholics 18+, when plans will be revealed.

*This weekend, the Fourth in Easter Time, is the Day of Special Prayer throughout the world for **Religious Vocations**. Our Bishop will be ordaining three candidates for the priesthood this summer, and we do have some seminarians. It is a long time since anyone from Lymm became a priest or a nun. God plants his seed of a call to follow him in this particular way. We can ask God to continue inviting – not just obviously pious youngsters, but people such as Saul of Tarsus, burning with zeal to stamp out Christianity. The gospel at Mass leads us to focus on Jesus the Good Shepherd, the 'Pastor', and we think of all in our community who have a 'Pastoral' role in their profession. We thank God for them and ask God to continue to help them and enlighten them.*

We have almost a completely full booking for the three Masses this weekend. Remember to book in on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm. It is great hearing from you all. I am offering Mass for the deceased Robert Allright, David Jones, Stephen McArdle, Michael Clayton, and Margaret Donnelly; for some grieving parents; for Grace O'Kelly and young Amelia Aylin who are sick; and for Tony and Sue White on their ruby wedding anniversary. May God bless you all.

Fr Tony Elder

