

# *Parish of St Winefride, Lymm*

*RC Diocese of Shrewsbury a registered charity 234025*

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## **Newsletter 8 May 2021**

**By the time you read this there will, I hope, be a rise in temperature. It was only 4 degrees yesterday afternoon. Contrast this with May last year, when we were locked down and able to bask on recliners outside in the sunshine. But as the canticle says, 'Cold and heat, bless the Lord, frost and snow, bless the Lord...' Thursday this week is the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, 'now the forty days are over'. Rather than restrict our celebrations, I propose to celebrate the feast next weekend instead. Three years ago the whole country was doing this, until the Thursday option became official again. With the Ascension the preparation for Pentecost begins, and we can celebrate the birthday of the Church with our invocation of the Holy Spirit, a kind of novena repeated daily in our prayers. The recitation of the third glorious mystery of the rosary would be an effective shortcut, joining with Pope Francis in his appeal to us for prayers to Our Lady's protection against the world pandemic.**

Churches Together (Lymm and District) are proposing a Day of Prayer on Saturday 15 May. There is a zoom meeting for an hour at 7.00pm, but prayers are suggested on four pages, a few copies of which are available on your way out of church this weekend.

*This Sunday we hear again God's invitation to all of us through Jesus to be united in friendship with him and with one another. Acts records the decision by the early church that 'the Lord has shown his salvation to the nations', not just to Jews. John's letter comes to a climax with the insistence the 'God is Love'. He has declared his love for us by sending his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away. Then in the Gospel, Jesus' words to his apostles, written down as a message for each one of us, is that we are called to that personal friendship with him. 'You did not choose me, no, I chose you'... 'so that your joy be complete'. Do we actually hear this staggering invitation? Do we accept it?*

**Christian Aid Week 10-16 May.** A slight difference this year – you may receive an envelope through you letter-box, but they won't be collected. If you wish to donate, you can take your donation in the envelope to the Sanctuary Café (Thu-Sat) or Lymm Baptist Church (Mon –Fri) or search JustGiving.com on the Lymm Churches Together page. There are some spare envelopes available as you go out of church. They contain details of other ways to contribute.

**Bedding Plants** will be available for collection from the Church Car Park on Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup> from 11.00am. If you are unable to collect, please contact Angela for delivery... 752906 (mobile 07817 988092).

I have offered Mass for Susan Malpas, Lorna Vacarro, Jack Terrill, Margaret Caton, David Jones, Margaret Coffey, and for a special intention (TW). **Thursday 13 May** is the anniversary of the first of the visions in 1917 in Fatima when Our Lady appeared to three children and vast crowds reported visions and miraculous occurrences themselves.

**Fr Tony Elder**

