

St Francis of Assisi, Llay

PARISH NEWS

Mid - November 2024



The content in this Parish News is in addition to that in the Parish Bulletin, the Parish Website and the Diocesan newsletter, The Wrexham Clarion. If you have news or opinions of interest that you'd like to share here, would you please let our parish secretary know of them.

SVP RETREAT

On 28th September this year the annual Retreat for North Wales SVP Conferences was held at Pantasaph Friary and was an inspirational day of quiet prayer and reflection. Those attending were asked to bring a favourite reading, poem or quote to share prompting discussion about wide and varied issues relating to the work of the Society. The poem entitled "Refugees", shown alongside, was one shared with the group and we thought we would like to share it with you too. It is well worth a read.

Our SVP Conference at St Francis at present has just 3 full active members meeting every two weeks for one hour to discuss and plan our activities. However, there are others in the parish who support the group as auxiliary non visiting members with their prayers, and occasional help with practical tasks. If you feel you would like to know more about what we do within our community you would be very welcome to come to a meeting or speak with Eileen Evans (07989 616872) without any commitment.

SVP Christmas cards will be available for sale in the church hall after Sunday Mass in the coming weeks.

Refugees by Brian Bilston

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way.

(NOW READ FROM BOTTOM TO TOP)

PAC MEETING

The minutes for the PAC meeting on Monday 28th October will be available soon on the parish website

PARISH NEWS COMPILERS

This insert is the twelfth since it was started last December, with a small team doing the compiling.

To ensure that its future content represents the widest range of parish interests and activities, and to avoid article selection priorities becoming too narrow, we would like to expand the team and invite you to join us if this is something which you'd like to do, mainly bringing parishioners' activities to readers' attention in the hope of encouraging their future involvement.

Computer and journalistic skills are not necessary as you'll be working with others in the team who are tolerably competent, and if you're interested, please contact Peter on 07581 287 625

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR ROSSETT CHURCH SITE

Apex Architecture and Design Ltd. have submitted a Planning Application No P 2024/1360 for a residential development of three detached family dwellings retaining the existing access leading into three separate driveways, with accommodation spread over two and a half storeys. The buildings will have a floor area of 214m² plus integral garage and are to have red facing brick walls, plain roof tiles, half-timbered gables and splayed bay windows.



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Annual Harvest Festival

On Friday 11th October, we held our annual Harvest Festival in the school hall. Once again, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our school family, and were very grateful for all the harvest donations. We had a wonderful celebration, sharing songs, scripture and offering our prayers of thanks to God for the harvest. We shared the fruits of our harvest with those in need within our direct school community and via the Wrexham Foodbank. Well done everyone.



World Mental Health Day - Class Scarecrow Challenge

Our Eco team set all classes a creative competition to boost our well-being and develop our collaborative skills to mark World Mental Health Day. Each class worked enthusiastically to create their own scarecrow using recycled items of clothing and garden equipment. The children and staff had lots of fun, and our Messengers of Christ selected the winning scarecrow- 'Mrs Acton Scarecrow'- complete with nail polish, high heels and a blonde wig! What a great way to talk about the importance of looking after our minds and our bodies, enjoying the company of others and show that everyone's contribution is valued. Da iawn pawb.



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC AND ANGLICAN HIGH SCHOOL

Whole School Mass

Our first whole school Eucharist took place on Friday 18th October. The sports hall was transformed into our place of worship with our school motto "The Way, The Truth and The Life" on display.

Over 850 pupils, staff and invited guests were in attendance at our Catholic Eucharist, celebrated by Fr Jasper Omongo from the Cathedral Parish, who has recently joined our school Chaplaincy team. The pupils raised the roof with the opening hymn led by the school choir and the joy was tangible!

Yr10 pupils performed a short sketch that welcomed us all to celebration with some gentle humour and teasing of the staff! There was quiet reflection as the pupils led us in the Penitential Rite, helping us to recognise our need for forgiveness. Fr Jasper gave a beautiful homily based on our gospel reading and talking directly to the children, he reminded them that Jesus accompanies them on their way, their path through life.

At the offertory, pupils took time to dress and decorate the altar and bring forward the gifts of bread and wine for consecration, led in procession by acolytes during the hymn "We Come to Your Feast"

Quiet, reflective music was played as pupils who are Catholic received Holy Communion and the pupils who are Anglican received a blessing. We have two whole school Masses each academic year one of those is Catholic and the other Anglican. The closing hymn was a St Joseph's favourite, requested by pupils and all voices were raised to sing "How Great is Our God!"