

NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES ON YNYS MÔN

(Amlwch, Beaumaris, Benllech, Holyhead, Llangefni, Rhosneigr)

Striving to be “Welcoming, Inclusive and Outward Looking”
“Croesawgar, Cynhwysol ac Eangfrydig”

The Oblate Centre of Mission on Anglesey is part of the Diocese of Wrexham: Reg Charity: 700426
5th Sunday of the Year - 3rd February 2024

Fr Joe Daly OMI 01248 810318

priestbeaumaris@rcdwxm.org.uk

Fr Godfrey Joel OMI 01407 762457

Fr Frank Murray OMI

priestholyhead@rcdwxm.org.uk

Holyhead (St Mary's) Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10am - 3pm.

To contact the Parish Office: 01407 762457

or email: priestholyhead@rcdwxm.org.uk

Anglesey Centre of Mission Web Site

catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk

Centre of Mission Facebook Page

@moncatholics or *Mon-Catholics Sharing Faith*

Pastoral Associate Pauline Thomas

07712 117504 paulinepasassoc@btinternet.com

Administrator - Stephen Smith 07788 141335

stevej.smith@btinternet

Safeguarding Officers

Amlwch/Benllech

Kathy Kenny 01248 410671

Gareth Roberts 07885 619407

Beaumaris/Llangefni/Menai Bridge

Maureen Catarall

Ann McFarlane 01248 421004

Holyhead/Rhosneigr

Gareth Hughes 07766 726054,

Brioni Somers-Jones

Ysbyty Gwynedd Chaplain

Fr Adrian Morrin 01248 370421

We pray for those who are sick at this time:

We pray also for those who have died recently:

Steven Burns.

And Those who have anniversaries around this

time: Frank Murtagh, Lily Marzan, Michael Cuddy,

Susan Rogers, Alfred Hutchinson, Sharon Evans,

Dominic Peter Eccleston, Catherine Pratt, George

Perry, Catherine Banks, Patrick Hickey,

John Ashurst, John Graham.

TIMES OF MASSES ON ANGLESEY

Amlwch 4pm Saturday, 10am Tuesday

Beaumaris 6pm Saturday

Benllech 10am Sunday, 10am Wednesday

Holyhead 10.30am Sunday, 10am Wednesday &
Friday

Llangefni 11am Sunday, 10am Thursday

Rhosneigr 5pm Saturday, 10am Thursday

Whenever Holyhead have a Service of Word and Communion there is a streamed Mass from St Joseph's, Llangefni, using the Mobile Streaming App.

Go to catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk / click on *Mobile*

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING for Holyhead and Rhosneigr will take place on Wednesday 7th February 7pm in the parish hall. If any one has something you would like to be discussed at the meeting, please see one of the parish council members. There is a list of names and contact numbers on the Noticeboard at the back of Church.

LENTEN LUNCH -During Lent in St Mary's Holyhead, after the Wednesday Mass and Stations of the Cross there is organised a Lenten Lunch and Raffle. If you have any items that would be suitable for the Raffle Prizes they would be very much appreciated. All money raised goes to CAFOD.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

The service this year takes place (as well as in other venues on Anglesey) on Friday 1st March at 2pm in the English Methodist Church in Newry Street, Holyhead.

OPENING THIS MONDAY 5TH –FRIDAY 9TH

FEBRUARY CYTÛN CHARITY SHOP -

TOP OF TOWN IN HOLYHEAD If you are able to help please pop into the shop to let them know . The money raised will be divided between a local charity for the homeless Di –Gatref and Unicef in Gaza. If you have any items that are sellable please drop them off to the shop, during the week. Thanks.

LENTEN LUNCHES in St Mary's, Holyhead, will start on Ash Wednesday 14th February. There is a Rota at the back of Church for volunteers. 3 are needed each time to prepare and serve the lunch - soup, bread, cheese, tea and coffee.

ALSO - VOLUNTEERS are needed for the Sunday tea and coffee rota. If you can help please sign up.

CHANGE OF DATE - ISLAND LENT RETREAT -Saturday 9th March led by Sr. Mary Jo McElroy from the Noddfa Spirituality Centre. 10am tea & Coffee to start at 10.30am – 3pm. Bring a packed Lunch. Watch out for further information.

'LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLANNING MEETING: Tuesday 6th February, 3pm via Zoom

Contact paulinepasassoc@btinternet.com for the Zoom sessions.

PRAY & PONDER the Scripture Tuesday 6th February 7pm via Zoom.

EUGENE DE MAZENOD 101 COURSE Friday February 9th 11am via Zoom:

Session 12 Daring New Ways to Reach People's Hearts - 'Our Charism Recognised'

This course is about the life and spirituality of St. Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. It is a course for those seeking to grow in their knowledge and understanding of the life, charism, spirituality, and mission of St. Eugene. Contact paulinepasassoc@btinternet.com for a link to the Zoom session.

LENTEN LUNCHES: St Joseph's Church, Llangefni 12noon Thursdays throughout Lent beginning 15th February.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Tom Clifton who was received into the Catholic Church last Sunday 18th January in Our Lady of Lourdes Benllech at the Sunday Mass. Tom has been a regular at the Sunday and Wednesday Masses for some time and decided, after much prayer and reflection, that this is where his "spiritual home" should be. Tom also joined some of the parishioners of the Benllech area for a lovely, lively, buffet at the *Pentraeth Arms* for a much belated Christmas get together. They were joined by Fr Joe, Fr Frank and Fr Godfrey—who much appreciated the social gathering. A wonderful occasion and really enjoyable afternoon!

AS YOU KNOW, our new priest on Anglesey, Fr Godfrey, is from Sri Lanka. A piece of news from his country is that Catholics killed during the bombings of Easter Sunday 2019 are to be canonized, according to Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith of Colombo. He said that the 165 Catholics "who died....sacrificed their lives for what they believed". A terror group affiliated with Islamic State killed 269 people in churches and luxury hotels in the attack. Two hundred and sixty nine people, most of whom were celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Day - were killed as they attended Mass that morning.

CHRISTIAN AID urged the UK Foreign Secretary and the UK Chancellor attending the recent World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, to scale up international commitments to help the most vulnerable communities to deal with the climate crisis. A new Oxfam report showed the EU's five richest billionaires increased their wealth by 76% since 2020, while 99% of the EU's population became poorer.

THE FEAST DAY OF SAINT JOSEPHINE MARGARET BAKHITA is this Thursday 8th February. She was born around 1869 in the Darfur region of Sudan. Historians believe that sometime in February 1877, Josephine was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. Although she was just a child, she was forced to walk barefoot over 600 miles to a slave market. She was bought and sold at least twice during the gruelling journey. For the next 12 years she would be bought, sold and given away over a dozen times. As a slave, her experiences varied from fair treatment to cruel. Her first owner, a wealthy Arab, gave her to his daughters as a maid. The assignment was easy until she offended her owner's son. As punishment, she was beaten so severely she was incapacitated for a month. One of her owners was a Turkish general who gave her to his wife who both beat her daily. Josephine wrote that as soon as one wound would heal, they would inflict another. She told about how the general's wife ordered her to be scarred. As her mistress watched, ready with a whip, another woman drew patterns on her skin with flour, then cut into her flesh with a blade. She rubbed the wounds with salt to make the scars permanent. She would suffer a total of 114 scars from this abuse. In 1883, the Turkish general sold her to the Italian Vice Consul. He was a much kinder master and he did not beat her. When it was time for him to return to Italy, she begged to be taken with him, and he agreed. She was given away to another family as a gift and she served them as a nanny. When her new family decided to travel to Sudan without Josephine, they placed her in the custody of the Canossian Sisters in Venice where she came to learn about God. According to Josephine, she had always known about God, who created all things, but she did not know who He was. The sisters answered her questions. She was deeply moved by her time with the sisters and discerned a call to follow Christ. When her mistress returned from Sudan, Josephine refused to leave. Her mistress spent three days trying to persuade her to leave the sisters, but Josephine remained steadfast. This caused the superior of the institute to complain to Italian authorities on Josephine's behalf. The case went to court, and the court found that slavery had been outlawed in Sudan before Josephine was born, so she could not be lawfully made slave. She was declared free. For the first time in her life, Josephine was free and could choose what to do with her life, and chose to remain with the Canossian Sisters. She was baptized on January 9, 1890 and took the name Josephine Margaret and Fortunata. (Fortunata is the Latin translation for her Arabic name, Bakhita). She also received the sacraments of her first holy communion and confirmation on the same day. The Archbishop who gave her the sacraments was none other than Giuseppe Sarto, the Cardinal Patriarch of Venice, who would later become Pope Pius X. Pope John Paul II visited Sudan and honoured her publicly. He canonized her on October 1, 2000.