

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

The Epiphany of the Lord - 7th January 2024

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Holyhead (St Mary's) Parish Office Hours

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

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Anglesey Centre of Mission Web Site

catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk

Centre of Mission Facebook Page

@moncatholics or *Mon-Catholics Sharing Faith*

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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:

Anne Davies (wife of Harold who died recently)

Those who have anniversaries around this time:

Priscilla Valejo, Joe Foster, Dennis Masterson, Frances Galea, David Briggs, Eric Bradley, Katherine MacGregor, Arthur Grove, James McGregor, Paul Roberts, Sarah Speakman, Barry McMullen, Jack Ashton, Jack Walsh, Joseph and Bridget Harvey,



TIME OF MASSES ON ANGLESEY

Amlwch 4pm Saturday, 10am Tuesday

Beaumaris 6pm Saturday

Benllech 10am Sunday, 10am Wednesday

Holyhead 10.30am Sunday, 10am Wednesday,
10am 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*

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON ENDS THIS WEEKEND

with this Sunday's *Feast of the Epiphany* and Monday's *Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*. We leave behind the white and gold vestments and banners, the Crib and the Christmas tree, the Advent Wreath - and enter into what is known as **Ordinary Time**. The winter portion of Ordinary Time lasts but a few weeks until Ash Wednesday on 14th February. (Ordinary Time returns after Pentecost Sunday 19th May - this is the Summer Ordinary Time). We may think that this time is "ordinary" in the sense of "run of the mill". However, the term "ordinary" derives from the word "ordinal" or "numbered", because the Sundays of Ordinary Time are numerically ordered (1st Sunday in Ordinary Time, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time etc.). The liturgical colour is green: the Mass Vestments, the Tabernacle Veil. Perhaps one of the great opportunities of Ordinary time - whether in this winter or in the summer to come - is to make our following of the Lord Jesus visible, not only through our words but also through our deeds. In this way, Ordinary Time becomes anything but ordinary!

FRIDAY JANUARY 12TH 2024: *"Eugene de Mazenod 101 Course"*: Session 7 - 'Dare to Serve the Most Abandoned', 11am via Zoom. 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.

LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLANNING GROUP MEETING:

Tuesday 16th January 2023 3pm via Zoom

PRAY & PONDER THE SCRIPTURE for the coming Sunday next Tuesday 16th January: 7pm

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD. A lot of work goes into the days leading through Advent to prepare for the Christmas Festivities in all of our 6 Churches on Anglesey. St Therese Rhosneigr has an outside Crib Scene which is a great attraction in the village and appreciated by many people who pass the Church. St Mary's Holyhead has one too on Market Street - popular with parishioners and towns-people alike. And there are the cribs erected within the Church buildings, the Christmas trees purchased, erected and decorated. Church buildings are cleaned, flowers bought and arranged, sanctuary's decorated with taste and style, lighting and sound systems checked, heaters working (most of the time!). And because of all that we welcome so many people to the Christmas Eve and the Christmas Morning Masses, with pride in our buildings both inside and out. And you, parishioners, give to the monetary collection week by week to make all these things possible and without which we would, quite literally, be all the poorer. Besides all that there was the little Advent booklet "Walk with Me", our Advent Day Retreat, and the "Making Space" Advent Sunday Leaflets - to help us prepare for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Thank you all for making it a memorable Christmas Celebration 2023!

And on the subject of thanking people, two in particular deserve mention by name: Christine Hunt and Andrew Fleming both of St Mary's Holyhead. When both Helen Douth (Parish Secretary) and then Fr Frank ended up in hospital, Christine and Andrew stepped in immediately to "run" the Parish Office and all that that entails. They were also available, along with others, when our new priest, Fr Godfrey, arrived, to help him settle in. It was over and above what you would expect from any well run Faith Community - that people step up and take responsibility when necessary. And they did, and it was well done! So - thank you to them both, but also to the others (you know who you are!) who were behind the scenes making sure things went smoothly.

A note from Fr Frank: "Thank you all for the good wishes I have received over the past two months since I went into Ysbyty Gwynedd. I have been back in St Mary's Parish House for a while now, but still receiving regular treatment under the hospital who are monitoring the infection in knee and leg, as well as checking out the operation done on the knee. Walking is difficult without a crutch and managing stairs is a real challenge. But I am improving and hopefully will be back to celebrating Mass in the very near future."

A DONATION OF £2000 was given to St Mary's Parish recently. How it came about was: Newry Community Centre (Holyhead) was closing down as things came to a standstill after Covid. The Trustees were asked to donate the money from the remaining funds to a charitable cause of their choosing. One of the trustees was Keith Roberts of Trearddur Bay and a parishioner of St Mary's Parish and he chose St Mary's Church. So - thank you to Newry Community Centre for their generosity, and to Keith for proposing us as the recipient.

THE OFFERINGS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES: Holyhead + Rhosneigr £1371.74 / Amlwch £377.02 / Beaumaris + Benllech + Llangefni £725. A huge thank you for your generosity, visitors and parishioners alike.

AND FINALLY.....as the Christmas period comes to an end
with the setting sun of this weekend,
and a new Ordinary Time in our Church's calendar begins,
we finish with a lovely poem by Howard Thurman:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
Then the work of Christmas begins:*

*to find the lost,
to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry,
to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all the peoples,
to make a little music with the heart,
to radiate the Light of Christ,
Every day, in every way,
In all that we do, in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.*

THE RAFFLE that was held in St Joseph's Church Llangefni for Children with Cancer UK amounted to £430. Mrs Sara Cannon who organised it wants to thank all who bought tickets and participated in the raffle. Thank you for contributing to this wonderful worthwhile charity for children.

CYTŪN MEETING this Tuesday 9th January at 2pm in St Mary's Hall, Holyhead.

SILENT VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND. Next Wednesday, 10th January. It takes place at 6pm in St Mary's Oratory, Holyhead.

SILENT VIGIL IN FRONT OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On Sunday 28th January in St Mary's Holyhead, to commemorate any child that has died in infancy. The Vigil will last for one hour, but people attending can stay for as long or as short a time as they desire. This Vigil will begin after the Sunday Morning Mass in St Mary's. This Vigil has been organised in conjunction with the "White Flower Appeal".

IF YOU ARE READING THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL (in advance of the weekend paper copy): there is a Concert in St Mary's Hall, Holyhead **this Saturday** 6th January at 7pm. Entertaining us will be our very own Hefin Jones and the Holyhead Male Voice Choir. There will be a raffle and light refreshments. Any money raised will go to the Renovation fund for the St Mary's Hall, House and Oratory painting of woodwork.