

NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES ON YNYS MÔN

(Amlwch, Beaumaris, Benllech, Holyhead, Llangefni, Menai Bridge, 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 20th Sunday of the Year 20th August 2023

Fr Joe Daly OMI 01248 810318

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Holyhead (St Mary's) Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9am - 3pm.

To contact the Parish Office: 01407 762457

or email: priestholthead@rcdwxm.org.uk

We pray for those who are sick:

We pray for those who have died recently:

Tony Adawek, Gabrielle (Gaye) Williams,
Vincent O' Connor (Beaumaris) Edward Silkowski and
Conor Whooley

And those who have anniversaries around this time:

Kit Williams, Paul Cottington, William Roberts, Linda
Beasley, Jean Chadwick, Terry Joe Dever, Robert
Ammundsen, Michael Collins, John Cleary, Mary Ball,
Maireid Hoey, Edna Johnston, Beryl Donnelly.

The Funeral Mass for Gabrielle Williams will take place
on Wednesday 23rd August at 12 noon in Our Lady
Queen of Martyrs, Beaumaris. And the Funeral Service
for Vincent O'Connor will be on Friday 25th August at
11am in Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

The Funeral Service for Kieran Markey will take place
this Monday 21st August at 12 noon at Preswylfa
Funeral Chapel in Valley, followed by Cremation at
1.30pm at Bangor Crematorium.

The Funeral Service for Edward Silkowski will take
place Tuesday 22nd August in St Mary's Church
Holyhead at 10.30am followed by Interment at St
Mary's Cemetery.

EXAM RESULTS When you look at the people who
make the world go round, you may be surprised at the
exams that they did or didn't manage to pass. As you
get older you realise that it isn't the exams in them-
selves that were important but how you moved forward
from that point. This of course is difficult for teenagers
to believe when the importance of exams has been
drummed into them from the earliest youth. We offer our
prayers this week for our younger parishioners who
have just received or just about to receive exam results.
We praise their efforts, and we support them in whatev-
er they want to do next.

TIME OF MASSES ON ANGLESEY

Amlwch 5pm Saturday, Service Tuesday 10am

Beaumaris 6pm Saturday, Tuesday 7pm

Benllech 10am Sunday, Wednesday 10am

Menai Bridge not open

Holyhead 10.30am Sunday

Llangefni 11am Sunday, 11am Thursday

Rhosneigr 6pm Saturday

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

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

No Mass during this week in Holyhead or Rhosneigr.

A warm welcome to all our Summer Visitors. We hope you
have a wonderful holiday on sunny Anglesey.



Tea and Coffee will be served after 10am Mass
in Benllech this Sunday and after the 10.30am
Service in Holyhead. All are welcome to join us
for a cuppa and a chat.

CRAFT CORNER IN ST MARY'S CHURCH HOLYHEAD. There
is a Children's Crafts Corner at the back of the church by *The
St Eugene Shrine*, during the 10.30am Mass. All the children
are welcome.

AMLWCH SEQUENCE DANCE GROUP meet every Thursday
2-4pm in Amlwch parish hall. All are welcome for a dance
and a cup of tea.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO WALK - Thanks to those who
came to the meeting last weekend to show their inter-
est in taking part in a walk in April 2024. Please can you
all contact Angela so she can set up a WhatsApp Group.
email angelarylance55@gmail.com If you missed the
meeting and would like to be included in the group and
get more information email Angela.

THE SEASON OF CREATION 2023 'Let peace and justice
flow' Each year from September 1 to October 4, the
Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of
prayer and action to protect our common home.
This year, the theme for the season is "Let justice and
peace flow". The Season of Creation begins 1st Septem-
ber on the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation
through to 4th October, the Feast Day of St Francis of
Assisi. Ways in which we can take part will be
advertised in next week's Newsletter.

THE JOY OF FAITH IN CHRIST. Pope Francis is the pope of relationships. They were the subject of his encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* – probably the first papal document to urge people to smile at one another – and this thread ran through what he said at **World Youth Day in Lisbon** held recently, possibly the largest gathering of people in Portuguese history. The lens through which Francis sees relationships is the essential Christian one: in Jesus Christ, through Jesus Christ, by Jesus Christ. This may be why Lisbon was such a success. It was buzzing with joy; it was open; it was personal; it was Christ-centred. Francis did not beat the drum for Church teaching, as some of his predecessors did. If he had an implicit message on that score, it was not to let doctrine stand in the way of a loving personal encounter. With each other, with Christ: it was an all-embracing message, excluding nobody. This approach, of seeing Christ in others and in oneself, struck a chord with the million and a half young people who soaked up the Pope's words. He seemed at ease with them and they with him. Although even this number is hardly representative of a Church a thousand times larger, this selection of young people were witnesses to a particular, but also universal, truth. Jesus Christ is magnetically attractive. The story of his life is attractive in all its mystery, tragedy and glory; his speeches and parables are as attractive as they are relevant. The Church only exists to introduce Christ into the lives of others, so why not let Christ do that himself? The more one hears his words, the more one knows him. He is the foremost evangelizer; and through him the laity can be empowered to evangelize too, their lives transformed by his presence within. Young Catholics like those at Lisbon are the Church's future, and those who shared and experienced their energy and love came away feeling cherished, enriched and emboldened. They are the perfect therapy for the hopelessness and fatigue that can infect any ancient organization. Lisbon's gift was to lift the Church's morale, to make all things seem possible once more. It was the gift of Francis and the young people; and, seen with the eyes of faith, it was the gift of Christ himself. (from *The Tablet*).

Below is a brief summary from two of our parishioners from St Mary's Church - Rebekah Fleming and Paige Hudson-Jones sharing their experience of World Youth Day 2023.

When asked on how our experience of the Lisbon World Youth Day was, in short we would say; encouraging, inspirational, difficult and overwhelming at times, but set a better foundation in faith for ourselves and energized us for thinking about the future of our own parish.

Picture this, it's Saturday and the evening is drawing in, bringing with it a well welcomed breeze. The day had reached an outrageous 37 degrees (but not as outrageous as the next day which surpassed 40 degrees) in which we walked several hours in the midday sun.

Around us, nearly 1.5 million people lie, sit or stand in anticipation for The Pope's final messages to us. People chant "Esta es la juventud del Papa!" - Spanish for "This is the Pope's Youth!", and the WYD theme song is played *almost* a little bit too much.

Throughout this week, The Pope has brought messages of inspiration and openness, a refreshing call to faith that is based on inclusivity and compassion for all, especially those who have been marginalised and historically those who have not felt welcomed by or found a home in the church. This is beautifully illustrated when in The Pope's opening speech, he said "En la Iglesia hay espacio para todos" - "There is room for everyone in the church", and we all organically repeated after him "todos todos todos", "everyone everyone everyone".

This compassion and inclusivity should be the only possible outcome of following truly the joy and love that Jesus spoke of throughout his preachings and that our church is based upon. Crucial to all of this, is of course, friendships and social bonds. This week was an incredible coming together of cultures and backgrounds, from all over the world, brought together as one faith community. The relationships with those around us enriched our experience and knowledge through conversation, prayer and song, and was often an important addition to the preachings of various bishops and priests, that sometimes needed greater discussion and the chance to share our own opinions and outlooks.

The Pope spoke to us about God's call for us to renew the faith in the church and how this can't just happen inside the four walls of a church, but truly living out what it means to be followers of Christ; as one Bishop said last week, "We must be the Gospel on our own two legs". A faith community is not an insular existence, but rather an active and loving one, working towards social justice enacted within our local communities and beyond.

We must now ask, what do we do when we leave such a lively and energised space, where everyone was so joyful about their faith? How do we turn this enthusiasm and energy into actively living out of the message of Jesus in our own communities at home?

How can we bring healing and renewal into our faith communities that for the past two decades, have been struggling with numbers, and wondering what our place is in this changing world? And how can we best serve our local community?

At the conclusion of the final Mass for World Youth Day, Pope Francis expressed his deep gratitude for every person who made "this grace-filled event" possible and announced Seoul, South Korea as the next location for World Youth Day in 2027.