

# 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 Transfiguration of The Lord Sunday 6th August 2023*

Fr Joe Daly OMI 01248 810318

[priestbeaumaris@rcdwsm.org.uk](mailto:priestbeaumaris@rcdwsm.org.uk)

Fr Frank Murray OMI 01407 762457

[priestholyhead@rcdwsm.org.uk](mailto:priestholyhead@rcdwsm.org.uk)

**Holyhead (St Mary's) Parish Office Hours**

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

To contact the Parish Office: 01407 762457

or email: [priestholyhead@rcdwsm.org.uk](mailto:priestholyhead@rcdwsm.org.uk)

**Anglesey Centre of Mission Web Site**

[catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk](http://catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk)

**Centre of Mission Facebook Page**

@moncatholics or *Mon-Catholics Sharing Faith*

**Pastoral Associate** Pauline Thomas

07712 117504 [paulinepasassoc@btinternet.com](mailto:paulinepasassoc@btinternet.com)

**Administrator** - Stephen Smith 07788 141335

[stevej.smith@btinternet.com](mailto:stevej.smith@btinternet.com)

**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:**

**We pray for those who have died recently**

Kieran Markie, John Breen, Catherine McGuinness, Eithne O'Brien.

**And those who have anniversaries around this time:**

Eileen Griffin, Cecilia Worrall, Eddie Anthony, Frank Kelleher, Andy Naylor, Gordon Campbell, Winnie + George Wharton, Bridget Hennessy, Mrs Perry, Eileen Ammundson, Molly (Mary) Hannon, Mary Bennett, Joe Darby.

**The Funeral Service for Kieran Markie** (South Stack Road, Holyhead) will take place at the Funeral Chapel of Griffiths Roberts and Sons, Preswylfa Chapel of Rest, Valley, Holyhead LL65 3EA on Monday 14th August at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Llandegai Crematorium at 1.30pm.

## **TIME OF MASSES ON ANGLESEY**

**Amlwch** 5pm Saturday, 10am Tuesday

**Beaumaris** 6pm Saturday

**Benllech** 10am Sunday, 10am Wednesday

**Menai Bridge** not open

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

**Llangefni** 11am Sunday, 10am Thursday

**Rhosneigr** 6pm Saturday, 10am Thursday

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](http://catholicchurchesanglesey.org.uk) / click on *Mobile*

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## **THE POPE'S AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION**

is for the success of the World Youth Day in Lisbon. The Pope invites the Church to pray for this intention in this month's *The Pope Video*, which is entrusted to the entire Catholic Church through the [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network](http://Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network). The video was created in collaboration with *The Lisbon 2023 World Youth Day Foundation* and the *Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life*, and is about young people and World Youth Day. Pope Francis' message emphasises his invitation to young people to quickly take the path of bearing joyful witness to the Gospel. The video begins with Pope Francis reassuring young people of their importance for the Church, noting the Church needs young people in order to survive.

Last Thursday 3rd August 2023, saw the official opening ceremony with Pope Francis. It is estimated that 500,000 young people turned up to Park Eduardo to greet and listen to him. Our Oblate Youth from the Anglo-Irish Province, along with many others, arrived two hours early to get a good spot and enjoy the live performances. The Holy Father arrived at 5:30 pm, to start the welcome ceremony. He spoke passionately to those gathered to remind the youth that the Church is for them, it's for everyone. Remember in your prayers two of our Island Parishioners Rebekah Fleming and Paige Hudson-Jones who are there from St Mary's Church, Holyhead.

**A WARM WELCOME** to all Summer visitors who are with us this weekend on Anglesey. We wish you a happy and restful holiday and hope that the weather will be better than last week. Come into St Mary's Hall after 10.30am Mass today for tea & coffee. Or if you are at **BENLECH CHURCH** teas and coffees will also be served after 10am Mass (every Sunday during the holidays). All are welcome to stay behind in both Churches for a "paned" and a chat.

**TRAINING AND REFRESHER COURSE FOR BEREAVEMENT VISITORS AND FUNERAL MINISTERS** at St Joseph's Church, Llangefni: Thursdays 11am - 12.30pm: 7th, 14th, 21st Sept.

**"GROWING IN POTS"**: next Session is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August at 11am following 10am Mass at St Joseph's Church, Llangefni: During this session we will be exploring 'How to make the most of your Summer veg garden' and 'What to sow in August'. We will then have an opportunity to plant more seeds for August. Come and join us as we help one another to learn more about growing our own food by pot planting vegetables and fruit. Experienced planters and complete novices welcome!

**PRAY & PONDER THE SCRIPTURE**: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 7pm via Zoom

**THE FRIDAY MORNING GROUP**, takes a break for August and will gather again on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

**ISLAND LAUDATO SI' ACTION GROUP**: Meeting this Monday 7th August 2pm via Zoom. At this meeting we will be planning events and ways in which our Faith Communities can participate in celebrating the ***Season of Creation*** which begins on the *World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation* 1<sup>st</sup> September through to the *Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi* 4<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like to join this group email Pauline for a Zoom link to the planning meeting.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES** On Sunday 10th September St Mary's Church and School are having a Parish/School BBQ after 10.30 Mass. It will be a get together of Parishioners, Parents and children. Bring a friend along and enjoy a relaxed and fun filled few hours. Tickets will be on sale soon.

**ST THERESE'S CHURCH RHOSNEIGR** are compiling a new Reader's Rota. If anyone is willing to put their names forward to help, please contact Fr Frank or Rhian Lloyd-Williams on the following email: rhian\_patricia@hotmail.com

**A 'GRAND' DAY OUT 2023 FOR ALL GRANDPARENTS AND GREAT GRANDPARENTS!** 10:30am – 4pm on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September At Noddfa Centre, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF Join a day of celebration, prayer, activities and Mass to reflect on the gift and wonder of being grandparents. ***BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL BY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023*** Cost - £15 per head which includes a light buffet lunch and refreshments. To book and to find out more, please contact Jeanie Larkin E-mail: [mfl@rcdwxm.org.uk](mailto:mfl@rcdwxm.org.uk) Tel: 07542 268728

**ANNE SANDERS** and family (Valley) would like to thank everyone for all their kindness, cards and messages of sympathy that they received after the recent death of Anne's husband Jim. They were all very much appreciated.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION.** Can any one of us describe our relationship with God, or tell someone else who or what God means to us? This answer has to be "No!" There are no words to describe God, and no words to explain our relationship with God. When we say we 'talk' to God in prayer, or that we 'hear' God when we pray, these words are used as symbols or images only of what happens in prayer. God cannot 'talk' as we talk. Nor can we 'hear' God as we hear someone else talk to us. Just as two people who experience love for one another will never be able to adequately put 'love' into words, so too is our relationship with God; it will always be deeper than any words we can find to express it. Our relationship with God is always at the level of something we 'experience'. We know it is real, and true, and certain but we will never be able to express it in words. Today's feast – The Transfiguration – is similar. It describes an experience of God's presence, granted to Jesus and three of his friends on a mountain top. It was real, and true, and certain, but it was still an experience. Moses and Elijah, the cloud, dazzling light, the voice speaking, the words spoken by God, even the desire of Peter to stay there, are only the words, images and symbols chosen to express an experience which is beyond words. The experience of the Transfiguration is not just for Jesus and the three disciples with him. It is also an experience for us.

**A PERSONAL COMMENT FROM FR FRANK:** *"It is sad to reflect on the attitude of some visitors to our Churches who, on arriving for weekend Mass, discover that there is no Mass but, rather, "a Service of Word and Holy Communion in the absence of a priest". These visitors (thankfully only a few, and more sadly and surprisingly, some parishioners), need to understand that our desire to have Mass each weekend in our 6 Churches is just not possible. There are only 2 priests on the Island and a workable schedule has been worked out to guarantee that there is Mass two weekends out of three in rotation. Without this schedule there would be nothing every third weekend - that the Church would be closed and there would be no gathering because there is no priest to celebrate Mass for that community. But in order to have an open place of worship every third weekend we have a wonderful group of parishioners who lead a Service in the absence of the priest. It is the ideal to have Mass celebrated in every Church every weekend, but this is not possible. And rather than have nothing, we provide the reading of The Word and the distribution of Holy Communion for the assembled faithful. It is insulting to our communities when visitors walk out and/or complain when they realise that it is not Mass on a particular Saturday evening or Sunday morning. Rather than complain they should be grateful for the dedication of the faithful parishioners on our Island among our Faith Communities who attend, and especially for the Leaders of Prayer, the Ministers of Communion, the Readers of the Word, the Musicians, the Welcomers, the Offertory Collectors, those who arrive early to open and prepare the Church - who together provide a fitting service in the absence of their priest. (Who, by the way, is not "away again on holiday", but celebrating Masses in the other communities). **These visitors need to realise that what we do here is what they might be hoping for in the near future wherever they live, due to the gradual absence of priests in their town or city - if they wish to worship together at the weekend.**"*