

**LENTEN ALMS** bishop Peter has dedicated this year's Lenten Alms to the SVP Covid-19 Recovery Programme. Information on this programme can be found at <https://www.svp.org.uk/covid-19-recovery-programme>.

So your Lenten giving may be directed this way here at St Mary's. If you make a donation direct please identify it as being from Wrexham Diocese. The SVP Registered Charity Number is 1053992, which must be included in notices and newsletters. Lenten Alms collections are to be submitted to Bishop's House as soon as possible after Easter.

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**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE, SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2021** This year's celebration next Saturday 13th February will take the form of a livestream Mass at 11.00am which Bishop Peter will celebrate, followed by a Zoom 'reception'. All couples with significant anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and above) who would like to take part in this celebration should contact Margaret Hinton, our Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Coordinator as soon as possible at [mfl@rcdwxm.org.uk](mailto:mfl@rcdwxm.org.uk).



## Lent 2021 Reflect, Repent & Renew. Together.

Ash Wednesday is on 17th February next.

Remember, Pope Francis has called us to conversion on climate change—a much bigger life or death issue than the pandemic. Lent's a good time to start or to deepen our life changes. We have two younger parishioners currently working with TCC who are in dialogue with Denbighshire County Council and effecting change locally.

One great idea for LENT is to go to the **Global Catholic Climate Change** movement website and [Join Laudato Si' Lent today](#) to receive weekly reminders and ideas about how you can live this journey of ecological conversion with the movement, including opportunities to connect through retreats, webinars, and prayer services. Each week will feature a "mini-fast" challenge that will help all of us reduce our ecological footprint and reflect on our relationship with God and all creation.

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**QUOTE** "I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next.

From "Perfect ambiguity" by Gilda Radner submitted by Brenda (thanks)

### A God who speaks Quote

"If you want to speak to God, find a quiet place.  
If you want to see God, send a text while driving."

Thanks to Eric for this.

## Scriptures for Fifth Sunday of the Year.

[Job 7:1-4, 6-7](#)  
[Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](#)  
[1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23](#)  
[Mark 1:29-39](#)

The following is included to honour all our nurses and carers, especially covid-victim Thelma Agbyani, whose funeral took place here last Wednesday. Please pray for her family and friends.

### The Book of Job

*He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*  
Psalm 147

Four hundred lights suddenly illuminated the Lincoln Reflecting Pool as the sun set over our national monuments in Washington D.C. the night before the presidential inauguration, in the United States.

The haunting voice of a young nurse rang out, breaking the solemn silence. "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me," she sang as she had in her Michigan hospital to comfort dying Covid patients separated from their families. I broke into tears. Like everyone I know. For the past year, we have been living the Book of Job. "My life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again." No one is unscathed. I thought especially of the husband of my dear friend Jane who died a couple of weeks ago. He spent the summer in agony because her nursing home banned visitors due to Covid. We're all mourning someone.

However, as people of faith, we believe that despair isn't the last word. "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds," says Psalm 147, which immediately follows Job in the Mass readings.

I'm no Pollyanna but I believe in the resurrection. I do NOT believe that a loving God inflicts suffering on the innocent for some cosmic reason. That would be cruel. However, since suffering is inevitable, we can learn lessons about empathy and resilience from it. As a young reporter, I wrote a lot of stories about tragedies – it goes with the territory. And I wrote still more stories about people who had emerged from their own tragedies determined to give their horrors meaning by doing something good for others.

Given the choice, they would never have been sexually assaulted, lost a child, been paralyzed or had to flee their homeland. But they refused to believe that they would "not see happiness again." Instead, they became God's instruments for healing other brokenhearted people.

These were people of empathy more than compassion who did not sugarcoat their own losses or those of others. Their empathy was hard won because they had, unfortunately, lived the Book of Job. But through faith and the "amazing grace" of which the young nurse sang, they managed to rise from the ashes.

And we can too. May God heal our brokenness.

Click on the link below to send an e-mail response to the writer of this article .  
[emw@creighton.edu](mailto:emw@creighton.edu)

*(Used with permission from the Creighton online ministries webpage., which we highly recommend for prayer and reflection.)*



**Church Finances:** Church collection for Sunday, 13th December amounted to £279.00p, of which £164.00 was 'loose' and £115p was Gift Aid. Many thanks.

**How to contribute to Mary's** the best way is by Standing Order, or Direct Debit. This gives the parish a more regular income. It seems to be becoming the preferred method. It also makes church income easier to assess and control. Standing Order seems to be the easiest and flexible for you, the contributor. You can start or stop it any time, whereas direct debit is more formalised.

For Standing Order the parish account is **Rhyl Catholic Church The account Number is 08121087. The Sort Code 55-81-42**

**Hospital Chaplains on call:**

Glan Clwyd: Mrs. Sheila Johnson. 01745 354311\07717182557 Llandudno hospital: Fr Frederick 01492 877353. Ysbyty Gwynedd, Colwyn Bay Hospital Fr Frank Ryan 01492 532670

"May I have the courage today to live the life that I would love

To postpone my dreams no longer.

But do at last what I came here for and waste my heart on fear no more."

- John O'Donohue-



**Live-streamed Mass.** All St Mary's services are now available livestream on youtube . Just google Youtube and enter *stmarysrhyllivemass*.

**Just a wee reminder.** During lockdown we're asking everybody not to gather inside church grounds as this leaves churches vulnerable to closure. Also, can last person out please close the church gates—this will be very helpful, thanks.

Our **Facebook** account is [St Marys Parish Community Rhyl](#). To gain access you need to open up your own Facebook account if you dont have one. Your account will be completely closed to outsiders (unless you allow people to enter) but allows you to access Facebook pages for other individuals or groups.

You enter Facebook in your search engine. When it opens, tick Create Account and enter your details. You will need a user number (either your phone number or email) and a password. When your new Facebook page opens then you enter the parish page: [St Marys Parish Community Rhyl](#).

Please write or phone if help needed.

Parishioners can easily access what's going on from our excellent website, without needing Facebook. But having Facebook enables parish outreach to the world, helping us create good relationships with people, so we can share our faith and values and listen to theirs - essential to our faith practice. Only when people feel received and understood, though, can real dialogue begin. Nobody changes by having cold facts or ideas thrown at them without a pre-existing relationship. People are generally changed by love and truth.



# Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

119 Wellington Road,  
Rhyl  
Denbighshire LL181L  
7th February 2021

**5th Sunday of the Year**  
Sunday of the Word of God

Reading Cycle B - The Year of Mark's Gospel		
Mass Times and Intentions		
Sunday	10.00 am	Mass <b>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Monday		No service
Tuesday	11.00am	Mass Winefride Hinder RIP
Wednesday		Mass on livestream William and Mary Richardson
Thursday	11.45am	Mass - Thanksgiving Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
Friday		Mass on livestream Private Intention
Saturday	5.00 pm	Vigil Mass - Tricia Reay RIP
Sunday 31st Jan	10.00 am	Mass <b>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> <b>Racial Justice Sunday</b> For the parish

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Please call to discuss this

**Anointing of the Sick**

**Ring for emergencies please.**

All welcome to ring as below for a chat.

**Priest: Fr Charles Ramsay** - Tel 01745 353395 email [chasram323@gmail.com](mailto:chasram323@gmail.com)

Parish website: [catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk](http://catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk)

Web Administrator Ernest Jones [webmaster@catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk)