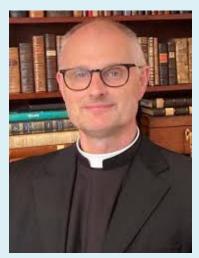
St Winefride's RC Church Holywell is on Well Street in Holywell and is the parish church of St Winefride's Catholic Primary School.

Father Matthew is our priest and we see him when we celebrate masses in school or church and during our weekly mass visits.

https://www.stwinefridesholywell.co.uk/





#### **Harvest**

We have a Harvest Mass where we are thankful to God for the crops that have been harvested and for all the people who put food on our tables. We ask our children, parents and staff for donations of food for the foodbank. Some of these donations are also shared with church, as well as potatoes grown by St Winefride's.





#### Masses

We celebrate masses in church or school where Father Matthew leads mass and other liturgies (for example, on a Welcome Back Mass, Harvest Mass, Christmas Mass, Easter Mass and the Year 6 Leaver's Mass). All parents and friends of St Winefride's are welcome and invited to attend.





We are asking for donations of food to be brought into school on Thursday 5th October please. Tinned foods, UHT semi skimmed milk, pasta, rice, cereal etc are good choices and many of these are required at foodbanks. However, any parents wishing to bring fresh fruit and vegetables, please bring them in on Friday 6th October. Many thanks



CHRISTMAS MASS TODAY 2.00pm 🧻

Fr Matthew will be celebrating our Christmas Mass here in school today, Tuesday 17th December at 2.00pm.

All families and friends are welcome to attend. The main door will open 10 minutes prior to the start of the mass. Refreshments will be served after mass. Thank you 😂



# We went to St Winefride's Church for Ash Wednesday where we all received the ashes.







#### **Weekly Masses**

We follow a timetable meaning one class visits church for the 9:30am service every Tuesday Morning. The children join the parishioners to celebrate Mass and the visits help them to become familiar with the church and its traditions.





### **Holy Communion**

Mrs Keogh, one of our dedicated teaching assistants and Mrs Forrester, a dedicated parent, work closely with the parish in preparing our children for their First Holy Communion. They work closely with Father Matthew on their Holy Communion Journey. The Bridgetinne Sisters also have an involvement with the children, for example making all the children rosary beads and hosting the celebrations after their special service in church.





Mrs Keogh helped prepare our Holy Communion Children for their Preparation Mass.





Mrs. Keogh led our Holy Communion candidates around Pant Asaph Franciscan Friary to help them prepare for their big day. They went around the Stations of the Cross and at each station read a key event from Jesus' Passion, from his condemnation to his burial, offering a path for reflection and prayer.



#### **Church visits**

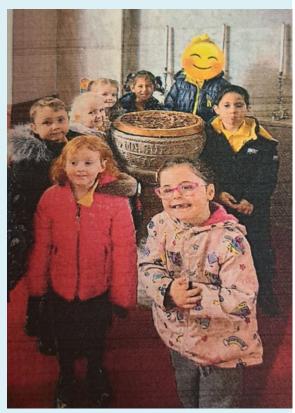
The classes visit church to enhance their RVE teaching in class.



Dosbarth Glas visited church to learn how people gather. They then listened about the Stations of the Cross and then walked around church to spot and follow them.

They also looked at the signs and symbols of Baptism.





Dosbarth Coch visited Church to have a look at The Stations of the Cross. We went around each one and said a prayer at each station. This helped us to have a further understanding of the Stations of the Cross for our RVE lessons.









#### **Father Matthew visits to school**

Father Matthew visited Dosbarth Glas after they made some star shaped biscuits. The children were exploring the Feeding of the 5000. Father Matthew kindly blessed the food they had made and joined them, alongside Mrs Murphy, one of our Governor, to enjoy the biscuits and a little celebration.





Father Matthew came to visit school to look around our prayer boxes. Led by two members of the Little Ways council, he went completed a prayer box prayer walk by walking around every prayer box, listening to an explanation of each box and saying a prayer at each box.





#### Father Matthew visits to school

Father Matthew came to school with some of the partitioners and governors to support our Fairtrade Coffee Afternoon.







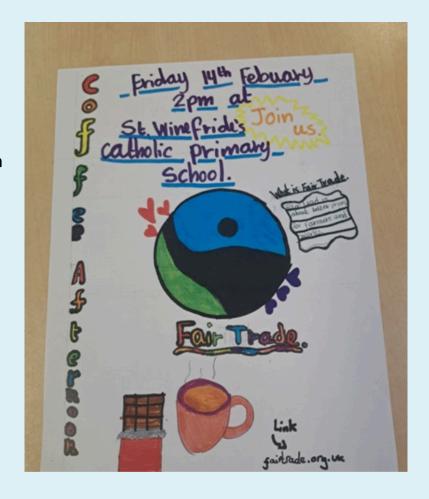
#### **Events in Church**

St Winefride's took part in the parish end of summer concert. Some of our children performed some songs and put in a great performance. We also enjoyed performances from Cambrian Chords and the Holywell band.





We advertise school events in church and on their social media channels, such as our upcoming Fairtrade coffee afternoon.



#### **Events in Church**

Children in school made some Christmas wishes for those around the world who needed some extra prayers. Once they were completed some of our children went down to church to decorate the Christmas trees with our wishes for father and the parishioners to see.





The church newsletter always highlights any links made between the school and church, for example our harvest donations, our Fairtrade coffee afternoon and our weekly mass visits.

#### What's Happening

Church Sunday Collection / Donations please use the Parish Bank details for either for setting up a standing order or for online transfer.

For Online Donations > Parish Bank Details; Bank name - NatWest Wrexham Branch Acc. name - Holywell Catholic Church; Acc. number - 08120897; Sort Code 55.81.42:

Last week Sunday Collection Standing order collection = £357.81 Cash = £112.70

Envelopes = £147.40 Cafod = £30 Total collection = £647.91 Thank you for giving so generously to our church in cash, in kind and in service. Thank you all. FATHER MATTHEW will be out of action until further notice.

There will be no confessions while Father Matthew is recovering. Please make other arrangements with local parishes. Alternatively, a personal request can be made to the priest who will cover for Father Matthew on the weekend Masses

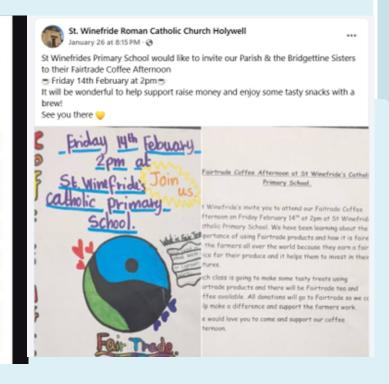
Fr Matthew's surgery went well on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, and the cancer was found to be malignant as was guessed it would be. He will know more over the coming weeks about how far it was, and whether further treatments will be needed or in remission after laboratory tests are followed up. He returned from the hospital on Tuesday 8th October and is now in the recovery period as required of him. Thank you again to all of you who have been keeping him in your prayers and is much appreciated.

Prayer Request: Your prayers are requested for Fr Matthew that he may make a full and speedy recovery. Please also keep in our prayers Canon Adrian Wilcock as he continues his convalescence following his knee operation and all the sick Clergy of this Diocese.

NEXT FOLK MASS will be Sunday October 20th. This will be the parish harvest celebration Mass. We are asking parishioners to make food donations for the food bank and will have an altar display of these. Also any singers or players for folk mass will be very welcome. **36** of 10 of HARVEST FESTIVAL - will be celebrated with a Folk Mass on 20th October. Donations suitable

for the food bank will be welcomed. Harvest Mass: The pupils, and staff of St. Winefride's Primary School shared a Harvest celebration last week. A harvest Mass had been planned but due to Father Matthew going into hospital, this had

to be cancelled. The children brought in items for the celebration and this was donated to the Food Bank. However, they also kept some donations for the Harvest Mass for our church this weekend. A special thank you to the Eco Club for their generous donation of potatoes grown at the school. Many thanks for all the kind donations.



# Some of our children went to help St Winefride's Gardening Club to tidy up the gardens and plant flowers and sunflowers.









### Mission and Purpose

At St Winefride's we have a Mission and Purpose group. The aim of this is to ensure religion is at the core of the school and that we work together to ensure the best opportunities for our children through living out of mission statement, 'Learning and Growing Together in the Love of Christ.' The groups includes a variety of people including school staff, governors and the parish priest.

We have many discussions about the school and carry out activities such as reviewing policies, looking at future developments such as our ongoing prayer garden, sharing good practice, looking at how we can further develop parish links, updates regarding school and the parish, create action plans and how we can work towards exciting events, such as the Jubilee Year.



Some of our governors looking at the prayer garden area and discussing ways to develop it.

#### **Bridgettine Sisters Guest House**

The Little Ways group assisted the Bridgettine Sisters with their MacMillan Coffee Morning, helping to raise money for cancer.







The Little Ways group took the school stars for St Kentigern's to hang outside
The Guest House. Children in the school wrote a name on a star for someone they
wanted to pray for in heaven. We had a lovely morning full of Christmas spirit and
spreading Christmas joy.





#### St Peter's Church

We assisted St peter's Church at their soup kitchen. We spent time with the guests, parishioners, the sisters and some of our school governors and helped serve soup.





St Peter's Church Foodbank

This month we are kindly reversely you to donate:

Hot chocolate

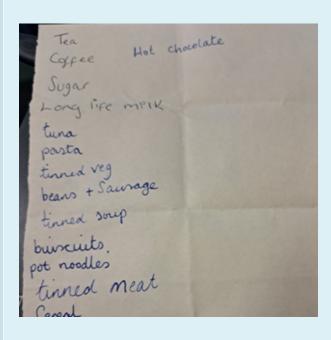
Please drop your donations of, in your child's classroom (6)

Pasta

Our Little Ways group have started to work with St Peter's Church foodbank.

Each month we will ask the school to donate two items that the foodbank need.

At the end of each month we will take down our contributions which will help our local community.



Some of our Year 6 children went to help St Peter's Church with Mrs Murphy, one of our Governors, to help with their Lent Lunches. They helped serve soup and a drink and made sure everyone was updated with all the good work going on at St Winefride's, with the help from Father Matthew. The children helped raise money for Christian Aid and CAFOD.







#### **Christmas Links**

The Parish have a table at our Christmas Fair. This helps us build positive relationships and strengthens our school/parish links.



Each year we provide approximately 20 names to the church of families we think would benefit and appreciate some extra support around Christmas time. The Parish then donate some Christmas gifts for these children.







#### St Winefride's Well

We are extremely lucky to be within walking distance of St Winefride's Well, a popular place of Pilgrimage for many people. We like to visit here when we can, usually with our Governor Liz Murphy who shares her expert knowledge with us.



