

*Please pray for . .*

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR  
AROUND THIS TIME

**Catherine Burke, Bridget Lavin  
Rita McGarry, Ronald Mahon  
Maureen Power, Jim Sheeran  
Jane Walsh, Sidney John Wilkinson**

*May all who sleep in Christ find in your  
presence light, happiness and peace, through  
Christ Our Lord. Amen*

ALSO THOSE WHO ARE SICK

**Sister Charles, Colette and Luciano Bartolo,  
Ellie Beaton, Louise Boughey, Mary Bretherton,  
Tina Corkill, Les Cowell, Sheila Cowell, Anita  
Dubique-Ashton, Margaret Harrison, Jayne  
Heaton, Jim and Pat Heffey, Pat Hindley, Marian  
Hodson, Bernard Johnson, Ruth Lightfoot, Peter  
McKeown, Angela Rawlins, Joan Redmond,  
Mary Wilkinson.**

*God holds the whole world in his hands.  
We ask him to embrace those who are sick  
that they may be brought to a fullness of  
health and life.*

.....

If anyone wishes to be visited by a Eucharistic  
Minister to receive Holy Communion please  
contact Fr Mark or Deacon Jim. Just email:

[stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk)

.....

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt  
among us, and we have seen his glory;  
glory as of the only Son from the Father,  
full of grace and truth.*

**Last Week's Offertory – £344.35  
Standing Orders (Nov.) – £1,215**

*Thank you!*

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday 30 Dec.**

6.30 pm Dominic Christopher Byrne;  
Frank Hawley

**Sunday 31 Dec.** *The Holy Family*

11 am Mike Bretherton; Kate Farmer

**Monday 1 Jan.** *Mary, Mother of God*

12 noon Jim Sheeran;  
Dorothy & Fred Marsh

**Tuesday 2 Jan.** *St Basil; St Gregory Nazianzen*

No Mass

**Wednesday 3 Jan.** *The Holy Name of Jesus*

7.30 pm Recovery from Operation;  
Mike Clifton

**Thursday 4 Jan.** *St Elizabeth*

No Mass

**Friday 5 Jan.** *St John Newmann*

9 am Epiphany Mass in School

**NO MASS IN CHURCH**

**Saturday 6 Jan.** *The Epiphany of the Lord*

6.30 pm Rita & Geoff Boyer; Anne Byrne

**Sunday 7 Jan.**

11 am Christine Lowrey; Paul Vernon

*Integrity is doing what is right and truthful –  
and doing as you say you would do*



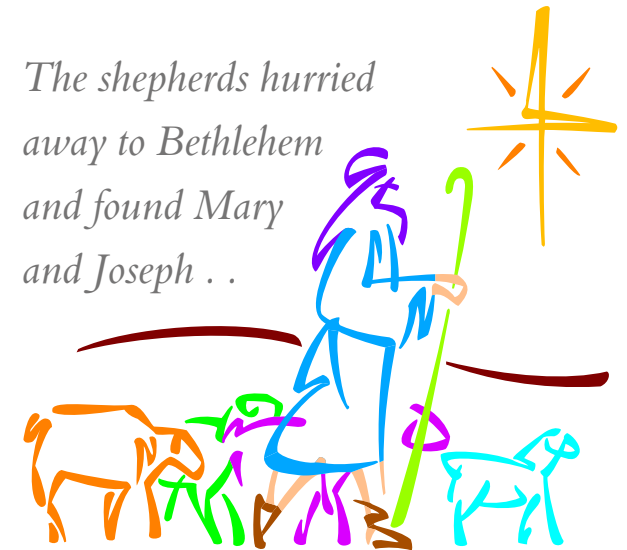
PARISH OF ST PETER & ST MICHAEL  
Weir Lane, Woolston, Warrington

*Newsletter*  
**Sunday 31 December 2023**

**THE HOLY FAMILY (p.105)**

*Psalter Week 1*

*The shepherds hurried  
away to Bethlehem  
and found Mary  
and Joseph . .*



**A WARM WELCOME TO ANY VISITORS**

*Parish Priest* Fr Mark Drew

*Deacon* Revd Jim McGraw



Tel. 01925 812443

[www.stpeterschurchwoolston.com](http://www.stpeterschurchwoolston.com)

Email: [stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk)

## The Holy Family

The devotion to the Holy Family was born in Bethlehem. The shepherds went to adore the child Jesus and, at the same time, they gave honour to his family. Later, in a similar way, the three wise men came from the east to adore and give honour to the newborn King with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In a certain sense Christ himself was the first devotee of his family by submitting himself with infinite humility to the duty of filial obedience to them. Consequently, the liturgical feast of the Holy Family tells us of a fond and loving care that we must render to the Body of Christ.



*As a parish we extend a warm welcome to any visitors to our church and wish everyone a Happy New Year 2024*

## Pray For Peace

New Year's Day is also a world day of prayer for peace. It is said that peace begins with a smile. A smile is free to give and is usually freely returned. There are lots of smiles available, so if you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours. You'll still have plenty left. Start the peace process today – and keep smiling!

## Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of SPAM, St Peter's Parish Council, will be held on Monday 8 January in the Millennium Room at 7 pm. The agenda will be circulated before the meeting.



Father Mark and Deacon Jim wish all our parishioners a



**Very Happy New Year 2024**

## Warrington Foodbank

Collections will now resume and any surplus food items would be much appreciated. Your donations can be left in the crate in the church porch.

## Exposition and Prayers

Each Wednesday evening there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30 pm before Mass. Prayers will be said, followed by Benediction, for a peaceful end to the Gaza/Israel conflict.

### PARISH 100 CLUB DRAW

#### Next Draw 14 January – Pay Next Week

The next draw will take place after Mass on Sunday 14 January. There are still numbers available so you need to choose one to make sure you are in the January draw. If you have chosen your number please remember that payment of £3 for each number must be made by the weekend before the draw takes place.

**If you're not in you can't win – Good Luck!**

## From the Archbishop

In the midst of the world's darkness, we find hope in the light that the birth of Jesus brings. Like the shepherds on that holy night, let us not be afraid, for the message of Christmas is a message of hope – a hope that transcends time and circumstances.

I pray that this Christmas fills your hearts with the warmth of love, the joy of hope and the peace that surpasses all understanding. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your lives, bringing comfort and assurance in the days ahead.

Wishing you and your families a blessed and Merry Christmas. In Christ's love,

*Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP  
Archbishop of Liverpool*

## Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

Next year's Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will be from 19-26 July. Make a note of the dates if you wish to join. The Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes is now open for applications for young people from Year 10 up to the age of 22, and it will cost £700. Raffle tickets will be on sale in the porch this weekend to help our young parishioners who wish to join the pilgrimage. Please go to [liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk](http://liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk) to apply. Places are limited so please apply soon!



## POPE FRANCIS ON ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

"I continue to follow with great sorrow what is happening in Israel and Palestine. I renew my appeal for the freeing of the hostages and I strongly ask that children, the sick, the elderly, women, and all civilians not be made victims of the conflict. Humanitarian law is to be respected, especially in Gaza. Please, let no more innocent blood be shed, neither in the Holy Land nor in Ukraine, nor in any other place! Enough! Wars are always a defeat, always!"

.....  
LET US PRAY FOR THE CHURCH THAT IT MAY RECEIVE FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT THE GRACE AND STRENGTH TO REFORM ITSELF IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

### A PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Lord, help us to fulfil our mission of bringing your joy and love to others; through our prayers, our listening, our words and our deeds.

May we be a parish that is welcoming and eager to share our faith.

Show us new ways to reach out and encourage those searching for the peace only you can give. Amen

### A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.