

**Beck Sian** has written a letter thanking us for her warm welcome and encouraging applause for her concert. She is already looking forward to a return concert late next year. If you missed her then make every effort to be with us next time.

**Flowers** thanks to Linda and June who will spend many hours arranging the flowers for the church so that we will be surprised and delighted on Christmas Day. They work quietly throughout the year and use their skills and talents in making the masses and liturgies dignified and beautiful. Thanks to you both.

**A Celebration of Married Life** The Bishop will celebrate a mass on Saturday 9th February at St. Columba's in Chester at 2pm. This will be a mass of thanksgiving for all married couples and there will be an opportunity for the renewal of marriage vows.

**Retired Priest's Collection** There will be a retiring collection in January to support the priests of our diocese who have toiled in the vineyard and now resting in the shade of retirement. Please be as generous as you can. The parish has never been without a priest and a priest has only been available because a man has chosen to serve God's people in this particular way. And if you are a tax-payer then Gift Aid will boost your contribution.

**Churches Together in Oswestry** I am still looking for a parish representative to attend the special service of Ecumenical Welcome to the community of St. Michael's, Llanyblodwel on Sunday 6th January at 9am. I realise that this will clash with our Epiphany celebrations but if there are any parishioners who live in the area and who would attend as our representatives then please contact me. We will remember them in our prayers that day at all masses. Epiphany is the season of the year when Christ was made known to all people. A great day for a great celebration

**Gift Aid** Our annual collection has been increased by the magnificent amount of £3579.84 and all this is FREE! Thanks to those who are part of the Gift Aid scheme.

**Rome re-union** The bill has finally arrived from Owens' for the coach to the airport. Would the pilgrims leave me £14 each to cover the cost. Thank you. And don't forget 26th Jan for the reunion

**At Your Word Lord.** Sr. Jo is leading this time of prayer and reflection in the convent every Friday starting at 7.30pm.

**Love is** when mummy gives daddy the best bit of chicken. Elaine 5yrs.

... I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and then has to go and buy some more for herself. Lauren 4yrs

... When you love somebody your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you. Karen 6yrs

...Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas when you stop opening presents and listen. Bobby. 8yrs.

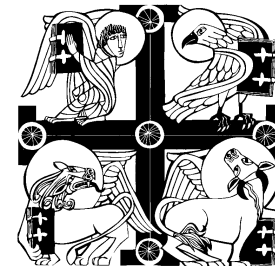
## OUR LADY HELP of CHRISTIANS & St OSWALD

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Christ is the Morning Star, who, when the night of this world is past, gives to his saints the promise of the light of life, and opens everlasting day!

Venerable Bede C8th

### I am Joseph

I am Joseph, carpenter,  
Of David's kingly line,  
I wanted an heir; discovered  
My wife's son wasn't mine.

I am an obstinate lover,  
Loved Mary for better or worse.  
Wouldn't stop loving when I found  
Someone Else came first.

Mine was the likeness I hoped for  
When the first-born man-child came.  
But nothing of him was me. I couldn't  
Even choose his name

I am Joseph, who wanted  
To teach my own boy how to live  
My lesson for my foster son;  
Endure. Love Give.

U. A. Fanthorpe.



## Mass Times and Intentions of Holy Mass

Sundays Year A: Psalter Week Four

<b>Sat</b>	<b>22nd</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Parishioners	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>9am</b>	Shevlin Family	4th Sunday of Advent (Year A)
		<b>11am</b>	Edwin Evans	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>8.00pm</b>	Children of the Parish Ann Jones	Christmas Eve
<b>Tue</b>	<b>25th</b>	<b>9am</b> <b>11am</b>	Parishioners Mairwen Lloyd-Williams	Nativity of the Lord
<b>Wed</b>	<b>26th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Adrian Davidson	Feast of St. Stephen
<b>Thu</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Josephine & William Blake	St. John the Apostle
<b>Fri</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>11am</b>	Eddie Taylor	Holy Innocents
<b>Sat</b>	<b>29th</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Private Intention (P.D.)	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>30th</b>	<b>9am</b>	Parishioners	Feast of the Holy Family
		<b>11am</b>	Celeste van Langenberg	

**Many thanks** for all your cards and gifts. They are all appreciated and will be a constant reminder of the support I have felt throughout the year. I think that we have come a long way in a short time and that many of the changes have been accepted and enjoyed. I am not out to change things for their own sake but in order for us to learn and deepen our faith. Change is always difficult but when there are reasons (and they are explained and understood) then we become more mature in our faith.

When I first arrived I mentioned that I would like the help of a few parishioners to look at the church building and liturgies that we celebrate. If you think you have something to say or contribute to the discussion then watch this space. I am planning a meeting in early February when we can come together and look at forming a Liturgy Group.



**Weston Rhyn.** Many thanks to those who were able to join us for the Carol Service last Thursday. It was a warm and intimate evening were we listened to a great variety of carols, ancient and modern as well as readings from Scripture and fiction. Ged conducted his choir and helped us all to remember the real meaning of Christmas. The retiring collection was to support the homeless in Oswestry and district. The final total will be announced in next week's newsletter.

**Advent Shoe boxes** There were over 40 boxes for the Children's Society that will, by now, have been distributed to the children of the families that the Society cares for throughout the year. Many thanks to those who were able to leave such generous presents. I took with me a cheque for £148.60 that was the amount collected from the "Little Houses" boxes. This brings the amount for the year to £250.39! Thanks again to those who collect at home and make a worthwhile contribution to the Society. Finally I took with me a lot of toys and books that had been left over from the school Christmas Fair. They will all find good homes to go to.



**Justice & Peace** A final opportunity to add to the Advent collection to support the work of CAFOD. There has been an excessively generous cheque left to support this vital work in the countries of Africa. If you want to add any more money then please place it in the jar at the back of the church. Alternatively you may hand in monies to the house. I will try to get a final amount in next week's newsletter.

**School Christmas Party for Senior Citizens** The children of the school put on a lovely show for the "old folk" who joined them on Thursday in school. Mince pies and tea were consumed and carols were sung. A good time had and then children made excellent hosts. We are blessed with such a fine collection of children, parents and teachers and they are an great credit to the parish.



**Stamps and Christmas cards.** Please remember to save your stamps and cards when you dismantle the decorations and we will send them the Poor Clares in Ellesmere. They re-cycle the cards and are also able to make a little money from the stamps by sorting them and selling them to dealers. Every little helps so please don't throw these little things away!



### Liturgy of the Word

<b>1st Reading</b>	Isaiah 7:10-14	1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
<b>Psalms</b>	Psalm 23	Psalm 83
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 1:1-7	1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 1:18-24	Luke 2:41-52

### Next Week

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** By appointment. Please contact Fr. Philip.

**Recently died.** Henryk Puchala.

**Those who are sick:** Alan Tucker, Barbara Williams, George Lee, Evelyn Lloyd-Williams, Barbara McDougal, Matthew Walton, Irene Cranage, Fr. Frank McManus, Sr. Patricia, Joyce Williams, Liam Lynch, Annie Bough, Bob Davies, James Tomley, James McDougall, Richard Burman, Gerald Jones, Joanna Gidge, Kathleen Bebb, Rev John Warnock,

**Anniversaries in December.** Martin Kilbane, Rose Rogers, Catherine Shepherd, Samuel Morrison, Raymond McCurrach, Victor Walker, John Pryce, Winifred Sauer, Agnes Pratley, Thomas Evans, George Bauress, Margaret McGovern, Mary Rogers, Edward Ryan, Annie Duddlestone, Joseph Cassie Albert Tincello, Hgnat Barna, Marie Cabe, Mary Lee, Mary Longueville, William Tincello, Patrick Sullivan, Kathleen Thomas, Mary Anderson, Veronica Clowes, Helen Pitts, Francis Tedesch, Anthony Attah, Anne Jones, Mary Nyland, Brian O'Brien, Mary Goddard, Matthew McConville, James Kelly, Harold Mitchell, Richard Challinor, Kenneth Whale, Gertrude Singer, Alice Barton, Jeffrey Grant, John Davies, Mary Howell



**Offertory Collection**    Week 9th Dec.    £446.46  
    Week 16th Dec.    £456.85

Please Pray for