

Retired Priest's Collection There will be a retiring collection this week 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. And if you are a tax-payer then Gift Aid will boost your contribution. There will be envelopes at the back of the church next week.

Human fertilization & Embryology Bill The Bishop's Conference have asked each parish to hold a meeting to inform ourselves of the dangers of the new Bill going through Parliament soon. There are some documents to read and a short DVD to watch. For those who are interested and able to make it, there will be a meeting after the 7pm mass on Tuesday 22nd Jan in the school hall.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration! Advanced notice for a Ceilidh. The School will be holding a dance at the Cricket Club on Saturday 15th March at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 with proceeds going to the school. Please contact school for more details. All are very welcome.

Pax Christi We are invited to pray for the work of Pax Christi on 20th January. Christ's first word to his disciples was "Peace!" This is the peace that can only come when we recognise that we are all called to recognise the needs of our neighbours.

Church cleaning. Thanks to the "ladies of the mop" who did sterling work on Friday. There was much to do to clear the church of the Christmas decorations as well as the usual cleaning and polishing.

Christian Unity Week starts on Sunday 20th January with special prayers at all masses as well as all the other churches in Oswestry praying for that day when there will be but one Church. We are the hosts for the final service on **Fri. 25th Jan** at 12 noon. I would like as many as possible to join us that day. We do not have the option to opt out of praying and working for Church Unity. Please make every effort to attend at least on service.

Rome coach There are still a couple who have yet to drop in a cheque for the cost of the bus to the airport. £14 will do nicely to cover the cost. Thank you. And don't forget 26th Jan for the reunion.

Rome reunion All those who went to Rome last September are reminded to come along to the school hall on 26th January after the 6.30pm mass. There will be a time to share stories and some refreshments. If you are going to bring some food or drink along will you let either me or Pat know. This invite is also open to anybody else who wants to come and join us and see some of the pictures that we took.

At Your Word Lord. Sr. Jo in the convent every Friday starting at 7.30pm.



Beatitudes for the Friends of the Deaf

Blessed are they who are patient and kind, that gives me comfort and peace of mind
Blessed are they who have a smile that makes my life more worthwhile.
Blessed are they who make it known by faith in God's promise, "I'll not walk alone"
Blessed are they who understand as I journey to that City "not made with hands"

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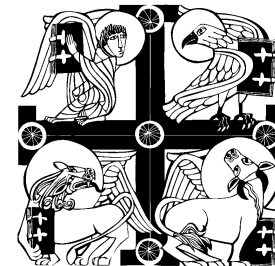
OUR LADY HELP of CHRISTIANS & St OSWALD

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The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. The God of glory thunders, In his temple all cry "Glory!" *Psalm 28*



Jesus comes out of the water, drawing the world with him, and raising it up when it had hitherto been sunk in the abyss. He sees the heavens, not being rent, but open of their own accord. The first Adam had of old closed heaven to himself and us, just as he had sent the earthly paradise being closed to him, with a fiery sword barring access.

The Holy Spirit bears witness. Here all is in perfect harmony for the testimony comes heaven, just as he to whom the Spirit witness has come from heaven.

Gregory of Nazianzus. C4th

The Christian mysteries are an indivisible whole. If we become immersed in one, we are led to all the others. Thus the way from Bethlehem leads inevitably to Golgotha, from crib to cross. When the Blessed Virgin brought the child to the Temple, Simeon prophesied that her soul was to be pierced by a sword, that this child was set for the fall and the resurrection of many, for a sign that would be contradicted. His prophecy announced passion, the fight between light and darkness that already showed itself before the crib.

Elizabeth Stein C20th

Newsletter for Sunday 13th January 2008
Baptism of the Lord

Mass Times and Intentions of Holy Mass

Sundays Year A: Psalter Week One

Sat	12th	6.30pm	Patrick & Mary Lee	
Sun	13th	9am	David Jones	Baptism of the Lord
		11am	Parishioners	
Mon	14th	9.30am	Tom Jordan	
Tue	15th	7pm	Alan & Arthur Greene	
Wed	16th	9.30am	Sheila Gadd	
Thu	17th	9.30am	Frances Quinn	St. Anthony, Abbot
Fri	18th	12noon	Josephine & William Blake	
Sat	19th	6.30pm	Special Intention	
Sun	20th	9am	Parishioners	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
		11am	Oonagh & Ernest Haigh	

Brass restoration Please don't panic if you have noticed the Paschal Candle-stand and the doors of the tabernacle are missing! I have arranged for them to be cleaned and re-plated. As well as this, the processional cross, the acolyte candlesticks, thurible and stand and a chalice are away being restored. They should be back with us by the end of the week and our beautiful church will be made even more beautiful. The firm who are doing the work are based in London and have a very good reputation with many dioceses. The one thing they asked me to do was *NEVER* to use brasso on any of the items again! All of the items will be lacquered and will only require a gentle wipe!

Latin Mass. I have received a letter of thanks from the Latin Mass Society for our hosting of their monthly mass. They are now able to have a weekly mass at Shrewsbury and so will no longer be coming here. If you wish to find out more details then contact the Society directly. Thanks to those who attended this traditional celebration of the Eucharist.



First Sacraments Programme Please remember in your prayers the children and families preparing for First Holy Communion on 8th June. There will be a monthly meeting with the parents when we will share experiences and learn more about the significance of the Sacrament. To help us make connections with the Eucharist and the Last Supper I have arranged for the whole group to experience a Passover Meal on Thur. 13th March. If this is a success then I will plan for a parish celebration next year.

Justice & Peace The final figure that was raised for CAFOD and the other Advent projects was £590.95. Thank you for your generosity. We also received a donation for £500 to add to the parish collection. I will be sending off cheques to CAFOD and the other two charities and am sure that our offerings will be used for the good of many people.

Stamps and Christmas cards. Please remember to save your stamps and religious cards when you dismantle the decorations and we will send them the Poor Clares in Ellesmere. They all help to raise money. Please use the boxes at the back of church.

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.

Lent 2008! We have not yet finished the Christmas season yet still we have to make ourselves aware that Easter is about as early as it can be this year (23rd March!). This means that Ash Wednesday is 6th February. I am planning on a series of short services/prayer evenings and music for these six weeks as we prepare for Easter. In order for as many people to attend they will be on different days and at different times. As soon as it is finalised I will print details in the newsletter.

Mass Times I have decided that for a six month period I will change the time of the monthly "children's" mass from 9am to 11am. Many parents find it very difficult to get the family up and ready for the early mass and there is a possibility that we could have musicians to help support the music at this mass. The first mass will be on Sunday 3rd February.

Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Psalm Psalm 28
2nd Reading Acts 10:34-38
Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

Next Week

Isaiah 49:3,5-6
 Psalm 39
 1 Cor. 1:1-3
 John 1:29-34

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

Those who are sick: Alan Tucker, 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 January William Owen, Leonard Hand, Theresa Charles, Catherine Wilson, Vera hands, John Murray, Gerald Smith, Mary Challinor, Mary Kemp, Brendan Halley, Beatrix Alves, Kathleen Williams, David Evans, Elizabeth Tomley, Margaret Jones, Catherine Sullivan, Thomas Powell, Nora Wilcox, John Joy, Francis Murray, Celia Roscoe, Peter Morrissey, Dorothy Hartley, Mary Donovan, John King, Kathleen Jones, Mary Gadd, Eileen O'Connor, Albert Saunders, Susan Rowe, Maria Ingram, Margaret Evans, Michael McDade, Kathleen Harris, Carl Walker, Kathleen Griffiths, Roy Winterbottom, Thomas Marshall, Joyce Price, Leonard Challenor, Evelyn Dobson, Winifred Jones, Thomas Jordan, Lucy Grant, Dorothy Price, Barbara Vidal.

Offertory Collection £634.12 Thank you for your generosity.

Please Pray for