

# ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COLWYN BAY

01492-532670

[www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk](http://www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk)

## Sunday 15th May 2011 4th Sunday of Easter



### FAITH IN FOCUS: ETERNAL SHEPHERD

In John's gospel there are a number of times when Jesus uses a very common phrase but invests it with much more meaning. The phrase is "I am". Sometimes this phrase means nothing more than "I am" but on other occasions it is the way that Jesus hints at his oneness with God, saying "I share the timeless existence of the Father". Among these famous phrases are "I am the bread of life", "I am the way the truth and the life", "I am the light of the world", "I am the door" and "I am the resurrection and the life". Next week we will hear him say "I am the vine" but today

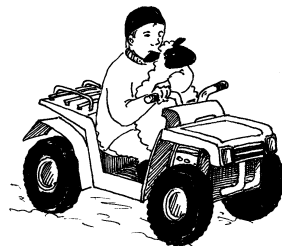
we come across Jesus saying "I am the good shepherd".

We don't follow Jesus because we feel he has some good ideas that will help us get through hard times. We don't follow Jesus because he has a philosophy that makes us feel good and improves our self-image. We don't follow Jesus because we're just like sheep that would follow anyone who promised grass and water. We follow Jesus the Good Shepherd, because we believe that Jesus is the Son of God and because the pastures that he offers us do not simply promise a better life but life itself.

The shepherd leads his sheep. But we are not simply sheep that aimlessly follow wherever we are led, because there are some paths that we need to avoid. And so we need to listen out for the true voice of Jesus amid the conflicting sounds of our world as they lure us into thinking that they have the solution to all our promises. Where do we look to in order to hear this word? Where would we expect to find the word of God? We find it in the Church, in the sacraments and in the proclamation of scripture. And we find it in the voice of those who speak with God's accent.

Yet there is no compulsion about belonging to Christ's flock. Christ is the shepherd not the sheepdog. We enter the fold of our own free will and we remain there on the same condition. What the shepherd offers is guidance and protection.

And so we can celebrate our liturgy about the Good Shepherd by painting a woolly picture of some sheep on a mountainside, or we can accept that if we want to get the most out of life, to eat and drink where pastures are at their freshest, then we have to recognise who our shepherd is and to listen out for where he is leading us.



### Prayer for the Parish

O God our Father and Creator

Where two or more are gathered together in your name  
you are there in their midst.

We bring to you our parish of St Joseph's to ask your blessing  
as we meet the challenges of our mission of witness and discipleship.

Give us courage and enthusiasm.

Give us spirit of initiative and originality of thought.

Give us charity and unity

and make us aware of each other as we work towards the renewal of our  
parish.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Joseph pray for us.

### EXPOSITION, ROSARY AND QUIET PRAYER

Saturday 11-00am to 12-00noon

### SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

11-00am to 11-30am

5-00pm to 5-30pm

### SATURDAY MASS

5-30pm

### SUNDAY MASSES

9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m.

Monday 12.00 noon Mass

Tuesday 7-30pm Mass

Wednesday 9-30am Mass

Thursday 9-30am Mass

Friday 12noon Mass

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all those who are sick, especially :

Basil Sanders, Mary Derrick, Peggy Porter, Edward Burke, Bridget McLaughlin, Fr Colm O'Riain OMI, Wendy Swinton, , Mary O'Leary, Fr Chris Dunne OMI, Eddie Mann, Neil Hogan, Mike Tobin, John Lyon, Rose Bostock., Drina Watts, Gay Merrick, Francis Shaw, William Richardson, Mary Bushell, Betty McCarthy, Peter Smith, Nancy Bowden, Anthony, Norman Graham, Josie Canning, Cathy Murphy, Eddie Hosker, Stacey Usher, Anne Boyle, Claire Carlson, Eva Rose Callaghan, Ernie Speakman, Derek Hughes, Annie Quinn, Annie O'Neill, Heather Hillis Maxwell.

**All whose Anniversaries occur around this time including**

Davis Jones (Husband of Maria), Hazel Mary Shearer, Irene Parton, Ted Fitzsimons, Betty Hide, Peggy Curran.

**Recently Deceased**

Tony Kirby, Josephine Shaw, Fred Smith, James French, Mary Cafferkey.

Last Week's Offertory Collection

Was

£549-37

(including £183-44 loose)

**REPOSITORY**

**The Repository is open after both the Saturday and Sunday Masses And also from 12-30pm till 1-00pm**

**NOTICE BOARD**

Information or notices for the parish notice board should be given to Sr Clare in advance

**Parish Bulletin**

Please note there is a box in the Presbytery hall for all items to be included in the Bulletin. The cut off point is Wednesday evening. Thank you.

**WORD FOR TODAY**

To be Christian is not to go it alone but to belong to a community, to be members of the Church, the flock that is led by the Good Shepherd. And just as sheep recognise the voice of their shepherd so too we need to recognise the sound of our leader calling us in a world of competing voices.



**S.P.U.C. Little Feet Club**

April Draw Winner

**Sr. Clare**

**Next meeting Thursday 26th May 7pm in the Presbytery**

**PARISH NEWS**

**Social Committee**

**The Social Committee have arranged a coach day trip to the Lake District on Saturday 4th June 2011. The cost will be £12-00 per person with pick up points in Rhos/Colwyn Bay/Old Colwyn/Abergele.**

**This is your last chance to book your seat for this trip as the closing date will be Sunday 22nd May. If insufficient numbers the trip will have to be cancelled. Book with John Williams (Organist) or tel 01492 517038.**

**Singing at Masses**

With the intention of increasing further the interest in music content at Masses, I would like to invite parishioners to ask that a particular hymn be sung at a Mass. This could be a hymn which holds a fond memory or other particular remembrance. The choir and myself will do our utmost to include the request in the Mass setting subject to suitable liturgical needs. I would like to commence his trial at the beginning of May.

Please contact me if you would like to choose a hymn. **John Williams (Organist)**

**Parish Assembly**

We will be holding our annual Parish Assembly on the afternoon of Sunday 5th June. Please keep this day free in your diaries. Thank You.

**Adult Faith Group**

The AFG are pleased to announce we have secured the services of Fr. Hughes SJ from Oxford. Fr Hughes taught Philosophy at Heythrop College, University of London from 1970 until 1998, and then was Master of Campion Hall, the Jesuit College in the University of Oxford, until his term of office expired in 2006. He tutors in the university, and has recently written books on the problem of evil, and on religious fundamentalism.

Saturday 28th May from 2-00pm / 5-00pm.

**First Holy Communion**

Please note that the First Holy Communion preparation programme will commence on Tuesday 17th May 3-30pm—4-15pm

The preparation meeting will be held every week until the Children make their Holy Communion on Saturday 2nd July 2011, excluding half term week.

Oblate website for Britain and Ireland for news & publications:  
oblatesai.org Oblates worldwide: omiworld.org

**To anyone thinking about becoming a Catholic**  
01352-711053 stpioshrine@btconnect.com

This Parish is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wrexham Registered Charity No. 700426.  
Trustees: Oblates of Mary Immaculate