

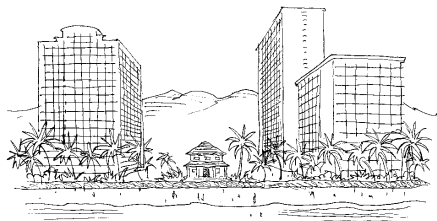
**FAITH IN FOCUS:
FAVOURITE PEOPLE**
Religious people often see non-religious people as outsiders. This no doubt stems from the fact that to espouse a religion is no light matter; it means taking a step that is the basis of our whole being and

orientation. For religion is a life option not a leisure activity. In the Old Testament the Jewish people considered themselves to be the chosen people of God to the extent that they kept clear of all dealings with the “nations”, the surrounding peoples and cultures. When prophets like Isaiah came along and in God’s name foretold that all these pagan nations would be welcome to offer worship on the holy mountain of Jerusalem, it profoundly shocked the religious sensitivities of their audience.

In the New Testament Peter makes an astounding discovery: that God has no favourites and that anyone who tries to do God’s will is acceptable to God. This comes after thousands of pagans have listened to his preaching and have received the same Holy Spirit with which he himself has been anointed.

Things haven’t changed that much. We have an inbuilt tendency to think of those who do not share our faith as being on a different plane to us. Yet one thing is clear: God gives his Spirit to anyone he thinks is striving to do his will. And this should make us stop and think: we have no monopoly on truth and goodness. While we know that our Church possesses the gifts of the Holy Spirit, it is patently obvious that the Spirit blows through Jewish people, through Muslims, through Buddhists and Hindus....in fact, even through those who do not even believe. For all goodness and truth comes from God.

Living our faith in the power of the Spirit is a real challenge, because it dares us to look at our surroundings and discern the people and events that God is using today to speak to us. And of course sometimes these people and events are the last ones we would ever expect to be mouthpieces of God. But when it comes to choosing people, God has no favourites. Anyone who strives to do his will is acceptable.



ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COLWYN BAY

01492-532670

www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk

Sunday 29th May 2011 6th Sunday of Easter

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.

Bank Holiday Monday 9-30am 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

Peggy Curran, Ray Pitman (1998), Mary Peddar (1984).

Recently Deceased

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

Last Week's Offertory Collection

Was

£556-29

(including £187-37 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

Vision Aid

Our collection for Vision Aid
Raised £505-00
Many Thanks

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate Present

Oblate Youth Summer Camp August 1st—5th 2011

A short residential camp at Blue Peris, Dinorwic, Caernarfon for 12-14 year olds organised by the Oblate Youth Service.

Activities will include rock climbing and abseiling, sea cliff traversing, gorge scrambling, kayaking, canoeing, raft building and much more!!! All for a cost of £180-00 which covers all costs, meals, accommodation and transport.

Please see Fr Declan for further information

Quiz Nights

Quiz Nights are back! Come and enjoy a night out full of fun at 7-00pm
In the Parish Centre on 25th June.

PARISH NEWS

Social Committee

Day trip to the Lake District next Saturday 4th June. I have 4 seats available. Cost £12 only. Local pick up points. See me at the organ after Masses or tel 517038 . Hurry don't miss a lovely day. John Williams. NB. Please check our Church website for updates on social activities.

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

Change of date for "What's it all about?" to 18th June 2-00pm/4-00pm
"The Meaning of Life" - was the topic voted the most popular in our recent parish survey. In response the AFG have invited Fr Gerry Hughes SJ to give a talk exploring the following issues:

Does the Universe have a point, a meaning?

Does thinking of God as Creator explain anything?

Is God present in our lives?

We have all asked questions like these. Fr Gerry will explore some answers in the light of contemporary science, philosophy and our own experience.

This will be accompanied by ample opportunity for questions and discussion.

We can confirm this is now scheduled to be held at the Parish Centre on Saturday 18th June, from 2-00pm till 4-00pm. Tea and coffee will be available over the afternoon. To assist with arrangements can those interested please list their name on the list at the back of the Church (available from 28th May).

Social Committee

The Social Committee is hoping to organise a Parish Dinner towards the end of September—more details to follow.

We are also hoping to organise a BBQ on Saturday 9th July in the afternoon—bring your own food and bbq! Please let Margaret Batty know if you are interested by Sunday 19th June. **Tel: 07825 701029**

Parish Holiday

The next parish holiday will be to Bideford. Departing 16th April 2012.

Cost will be £165-00. Includes 4 nights DBB, excursion to the Eden Project plus one other. Local pick up points. Extra's will be single room supp, admission to Eden Project, Insurance. See John (Organist) or Tel: 517038. £5-00 deposit secures your place. **NB** This holiday is already heavily subscribed. Singles still available. If interested please don't delay.

Religious Education for Adults

On Friday June 17th the Religious Education group will be holding a meeting in the Parish Centre to discuss the start of a *Know Your Faith* forum for adults of all ages—parents, pensioners and post confirmation pupils. It will only last an hour, from 7 to 8pm and include some sharing about why there is a need for such Education. We will take a look at the *Evangelium* programme which will form the basis of future regular sessions and ask for input about what schedule best suits those interested. Hot drinks will be available and time allowed for casual discussion and socializing afterwards.