***PARISH OF BLESSED SACRAMENT & BLESSED TRINITY* (www.connahsquaycatholicchurch.org.uk)**

**Canon Joe Stewart: tel 01244 830358 / mobile 07550079995 / e-mail quayandferry@gmail.com**

**3rd Sunday of Lent (A) 18th & 19th March 2017**

**Sat 18th March 5.30pm @ CQ Theresa Channall RIP**

**Sat 18th March 7.00pm @ CQ Polish Mass**

**Sun 19th March 9.30am @ QF People of the Parish**

**Sun 19th March 11.00am @ CQ Elizabeth Josephine Stewart RIP**

Mon 20th – 10.40am **Funeral of William Anthony Durkin @ Chester Crematorium**

Tue 21st – 9.30am @ QF Liturgy of the Day He Family

Wed 22nd - 1.00pm @ CQ **Requiem Mass for George Joseph De Lisle RIP**

Thu 23rd – 9.30am @ QF Liturgy of the Day Theresa Baker RIP

Fri 24th – 10.00am @ CQ Liturgy of the Day Martha E Morrin RIP (FM)

Sat 25th – 5.30pm @ CQ 4th Sunday of Lent Tess Taylor

“ “ - 7.00pm @ CQ Polish Mass

Confessions –Saturday 5.00pm @ CQ

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word Rota** – Mar 19th – Mrs Doyle & Miss Doyle / Mar 26th – Mrs Sullivan & Mrs Smith

**Church Cleaning Rota CQ** – w/c Mar 19th – Dorota, Iza & Joanna / w/c Mar 26th – Sharon & Jeannette

**Stations of the Cross**: Queensferry on Thursdays before Mass and Connah’s Quay on Friday evenings at 7pm throughout Lent.

**Lent Studies**: St Mark's, Connah's Quay - 'Faces of Jesus' 6pm Sunday 19th March & 26th March.

The Manse, Queensway, Shotton - 7.30pm Thursday 23rd March, 30th March & 6th April.

**First Confession & First Holy Communion**: the next session is on Saturday 1st April at 10.00am. This year’s First Holy Communion celebration will take place at the 11am Mass on Sunday 25th June.

**Retiring Collection**: the March collection for the Parish Maintenance Fund will be taken next weekend (25th/26th).

**24 Hours for The Lord**: Friday 24th-Saturday 25th March at St Winefride’s, Holywell. Our Parish has been allotted from 4.00pm to 7pm on 24th and the Flint Deanery Service is 10.00am to 12.00pm on 25th.

**Walk of Witness**: Good Friday April 14th at 11.00am, from the Catholic Church in Connah’s Quay to St Ethelwold’s in Shotton. All welcome. Come all or part of the way. Refreshments afterwards

**URGENT**: Parliament has given approval for the Abortion Decriminalisation Bill to progress to Second Reading. The Bill would introduce abortion on demand, for any reason (including sex-selection), up to 28 weeks of pregnancy. It would also seek to allow terminations up to birth when a baby can be born alive. Please write to your MP before March 24th expressing your opposition to this proposed Bill and asking him to vote against it being adopted.

**Red Boxes**: the total banked for the period from Aug16 to Feb17 was £504.05, many thanks to all contributors. There are spare boxes in the porch if you would like to take one, just put your spare change in and it soon adds up – Every Bit Helps.

**Repository**: there are a good selection of Mass Cards available in the porch. The following headings are available - Repose of the Soul, In Loving Memory, Deepest Sympathy (and various other bereavement cards), Thank You, Anniversary, For your intentions, Especially for you, Happy Occasion, Birthday & Get Well. The money for any cards that are bought should be put in the ‘repository’ slot on the outside wall.

**Next SVP Meeting**: is on Tuesday 28th March. The local SVP group meet at Connah's Quay church in the presbytery every fortnight on Tuesdays at 7pm - new members always welcome.

**Collection totals**: Last weekend was £272.13 with a further £442.00 from the Gift Aid envelopes. Gift Aid donations given this week mean our parish can claim back £110.00 from tax paid. Last week's collection in aid of CAFOD will remain open for another week as further Gift Aid envelopes are expected to be returned. Please consider giving your offertory collection in a Gift Aid envelope if you pay tax. **Appeal**; would parishioners in the Gift Aid scheme PLEASE use your white envelope for the monthly Parish Maintenance Fund collections. If your donation is not in the envelope we are unable to claim back the tax refund.

**Gift Aid**: The new Gift Aid envelopes commence on April 9th & can be collected over the next few weekends. Our parish urgently need new donors to join the scheme as we have lost seven former contributors. As our Diocese is a charity we can clam back one quarter of contributions given, from tax that has already been paid. If you give, for example, £4.00 in the collection each week, our parish will be given back £1.00 which means you will have added £52.00 to your Offertory Collection over the year. All that is required on the form is your name, address and postcode - **you will not be contacted by the taxman**.

**Items for the bulletin**: to Carmel Smith, tel 01244 830985 or e-mail carmel\_smith@sky.com - by Weds evening please.