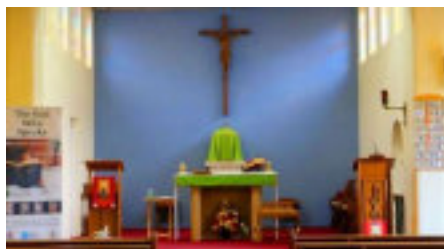


St Francis of Assisi, Llay  
**PARISH NEWS**

Mid – June 2025



The content in this Parish News is in addition to that in the Parish Bulletin, the Parish Website and the Diocesan newsletter, The Wrexham Clarion.

If you have news or opinions that you'd like to share here, would you please let our parish secretary know of them.

**TCC – THE COMMUNITY ORGANISING CHARITY**

TCC's AGM will be held in the old pizza express building Unit B12 Eagles Meadow Shopping Centre, Wrexham LL13 8DG next to the Odeon Cinema, at 7:30pm on Wednesday 2nd July, and reports are now being finalised to record its recent and current activities and its aspirations for the coming year.

TCC has been very active in its youth training, both in schools and its Youth in Action group meetings, developing an awareness of inequality and injustice in society and how, by working together, identifying issues that can be changed and addressing decision-makers and peer networks, our youth can be a force for change in society. This training continues to be wonderful in its character building, generating the skills of future changemakers to tackle society's injustices.

Social issues being pursued by the organisation have included the introduction of a pilot scheme to help fund meals for eligible secondary school pupils, increasing the numbers of changing-place toilets (which allow space for carers) in public areas, removing obstacles on the North Wales coastal path, and creating pathways to allow comfortable access for the disabled to beaches. TCC has also been very involved with, and supportive of, other charities in the Wrexham Town of Sanctuary, cost of living, living wage, mental health and climate change activities.

The group will be continuing their efforts along these lines and will continue to seek injustices in our area of Wrexham, Flintshire and Denbighshire which might be changed by community pressure.

Our parish is a member of TCC and has been prominent in its activities, having until recently had two parishioners on its trustee board, and you'll find full information about the organisation on [www.tcc-wales.org.uk](http://www.tcc-wales.org.uk). Please do come along to the AGM which is open to all of us, join in with the discussions and help to set the agenda, making arrangements, if you'd like to help, to work with a community group to make the changes to improve our community wellbeing.

**HOSTING OF UKRAINIAN REFUGEES**

We'd like you to know that a refugee Ukrainian couple, Kyrill and Yuliya, after a delay of over a month, have now been granted visas and will be travelling in early July to stay with a host in the parish.

Kyrill's parents Yaroslav and Oksana were members of the parish in Sumy and were involved in the early exchange visits between our parishes; they later stayed with us as refugees after the Russian invasion and now live in Connah's Quay. It will be wonderful for them having their family close by after their years of enforced separation.

**REMINDER – COFFEE MORNING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR HCPT**

This Sunday – 15th June 2025 – is Father's Day – but it is also the day that St Francis of Assisi parish is hosting a fundraising event for HCPT.

The Wrexham Diocese HCPT group – "Group 155" – organise a trip to take a small group of children every two years on a Pilgrimage to Lourdes and planning is now underway to raise funds to organise the 2026 event – which will be the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HCPT – and so will be even more special.

Please do come to the coffee morning that will be in our church hall from 11:15am, and have a hot drink and piece of cake – at a very reasonable price of £4 – and buy a ticket for our obligatory raffle.

If you are unable to attend, donations are also welcome, there is a little cardboard box for this purpose at the back of church, or pass donations onto Helen Zammit-Willson who is part of the organising group.

Many thanks.

## PEACE PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master,  
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

## SYNODALITY UPDATE

On 16th May at 7pm, seven members of our parish met in the parish hall to discuss in a synodal way the topic of "Where is our parish today?"

Each person spoke for between two and five minutes, without interruption, and everyone listened. What had been said was then considered in silence for a short time and then a discussion was held about what were the common themes.

These themes included referencing back to pre-COVID times when there were more attendees at Mass, and to when the parish felt more vibrant with social events such as the Sumy Soup Supper, parish quiz nights, etc. There was also a feeling that the parish had a reduced number of families with young children attending and there was a desire to re-create a more community feeling. There was also an element of wanting to increase the numbers of people coming to Mass through evangelisation.

The discussion then moved onto what could be done to achieve what seemed to be a common desire to do more together as a parish. A starter idea was to hold a social event and to invite not only current parishioners, but also those who no longer attended Mass. It was decided to make it a fundraising event for the benefit of those suffering in Gaza.

To that end a parish "Bring and Share" Supper is to be held in the church hall on Friday 11th July at 7pm – please put this date in your diary and look out for your invitation. The idea is for everyone to bring some food to share – there will be a list of various food items for you to put your name against.

In respect of Synodality discussions, the group felt it would be useful to have another meeting with a different discussion topic, to continue to practice this way of sharing ideas. The next meeting is to be held at 7pm on 27th June and will be time limited to one hour. The topic to be discussed will be formation of the laity e.g. how people advance their understanding of their Faith.

Please let Steve Williamson know if you are interested in attending using  
[steve@williamsonfineart.co.uk](mailto:steve@williamsonfineart.co.uk)

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025 – 7PM PARISH "BRING AND SHARE" SUPPER

Look out for your invitation to come to this parish event – we would like to re-create our feeling of community – please come and support us. We will also be raising funds for those suffering in Gaza.