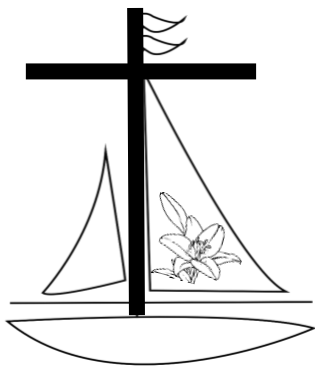




Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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4th October 2026 – Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE OF CATECHESIS - JUBILEE 2025. HOPE. IV. JESUS CHRIST OUR HOPE. IV. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD. 3. EASTER GIVES HOPE TO EVERYDAY LIFE

From that morning until today, every day, Jesus will also have this title: the Living One, as He presents himself in Revelation: “I am the First and the Last, and the Living One: I died, and behold I am alive for evermore” (Rev 1:17-18). And in Him, we have the assurance of always being able to find the lodestar towards which we can direct our seemingly chaotic lives, marked by events that often appear confusing, unacceptable, incomprehensible: evil in its many forms, suffering, death, events that affect each and every one of us. Meditating on the mystery of the Resurrection, we find an answer to our thirst for meaning.

Faced with our fragile humanity, the Paschal proclamation becomes care and healing, nourishing hope in the face of the frightening challenges that life presents us with every day on a personal and global level. In the perspective of Easter, the Via Crucis, the Way of the Cross, is transfigured into the Via Lucis, the Way of Light. We need to savour and meditate on the joy after the pain, to retrace in the new light all the stages that preceded the Resurrection.

Easter does not eliminate the cross, but defeats it in the miraculous duel that changed our human history. Even our time, marked by so many crosses, invokes the dawn of Paschal hope. Christ's Resurrection is not an idea, a theory, but the Event that is the foundation of faith. He, the Risen One, through the Holy Spirit, continues to remind us of this, so that we can be His witnesses even where human history does not see light on the horizon. Paschal hope does not disappoint. To believe truly in the Pasch through our daily journey means revolutionizing our lives, being transformed in order to transform the world with the gentle and courageous power of Christian hope.

OUR PARISH VISION & MISSION

We are a warm & welcoming community of faith rooted in the love of God revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Belonging is at the heart of what we do as members of the body of Christ. We believe worship is not just found in prayer; it is something expressed in everything we do.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2026

For mental health ministry – Let us pray that the mental health ministry may be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

MASSES FOR WEEK				
Sunday	TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Billy Boylan R.I.P.	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	<i>Saint Faustina Kowalska</i>	9am	Brian Irwin (Speedy Recovery)	OL
Tuesday	Ferial	11am	<i>Requiem Mass for Claver Rixon</i>	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome!</i>				
Wednesday	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	9am	John Fairman R.I.P.	OL
Thursday	Ferial			
Friday	<i>Saint John Henry Newman</i>	9:30am	Alan Martin Stevens R.I.P. (Birthday)	SP
Saturday	Ferial			
Sunday	TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	Special Intentions	SP
		11am	People of the Parish	OL

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who are sick

Stuart & Jackie, Samuel Adodo, Lily Baker, Michael Brown, Christopher Browne, Gerard & Paul Carey, Pat Cockran, Anna Coughlan, Teresa Denye, Chloe Fortune, Anne Gillet, Aidan Hampsen, Colin James, Clare McElroy, Helen Ryan, Philip Smith, Michael Toner, Eileen & Julia Ward, Sarah & Gary Williams & Pat Wise.

Those who have died

Kerry Morgan & Ann Claver Rixon

SAINT JOSEPH LAMP

The lamp burns for the intentions of Kerry Morgan R.I.P. at Our Lady's and Fr Keith Butterworth at Saint Pauls. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church, £5 donation.

PARISH

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS SINCE THE REOPENING OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH – next Sunday 11th October will mark 75 years since the reopening of Our Lady's church following its restoration after bomb damage in the second world war. To celebrate this anniversary, on Sunday 18th October we welcome back Canon Phil Moor, a former Parish Priest of our parish, who will be preaching at 11am Mass which will be followed by more festive refreshments!

Next year marks 170 years since the creation of Our Lady's parish & 165 since the opening of the church, to celebrate this Bishop Mark will be joining us for a Sunday celebration in May.

CONFIRMATION 2027 – We will be starting the preparation sessions for this year's confirmation programme for any young person who is in Y8 or above on Thursday 5th November at 7pm in Our Lady's. Information cards with all the times & dates will be available in the next couple of weeks.

PAUSE FOR HOPE – An ecumenical service for anyone in anyway affected by cancer. Sunday 18th October at 3:30pm in Saint Michael & All Angels church, New Hey Road, Woodchurch. www.pauseforhope.org.uk.

The initiative came from retired thoracic surgeon Professor Ray Donnelly, MBE FRCS, Founder and President of the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. He was supported by numerous Cancer Charities across the Northwest, including Marie Curie Cancer Care, The Linda McCartney Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support and Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology NHS Trust. The Service has been a tremendous support over the years for hundreds of people affected by cancer- either themselves or family and friends. With one in two people now affected by cancer in some way, perhaps now more than ever do we need a moment when we can come together to pause, and hope.

PRISONERS' SUNDAY takes place next Sunday (11th October) and is the Catholic Church's National Day of Prayer and action for prisoners, their children and families, and all those affected by imprisonment. It is an opportunity to reflect on Christ's call, "I was in prison and you visited me" and to respond with prayer, compassion and practical support. Pact is the national Catholic prison charity. We support prisoners, people with convictions, and their families. Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, we believe in the dignity of every person and in the possibility of a fresh start. We warmly invite you to take part in Prisoners' Sunday 2026.

SHREWSBURY 'MY DESPERATE DIOCESE': THE ROOTS AND CONSOLIDATION OF A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY is a new book by our Diocesan Archivist Fr Peter Philips. This book explores the development of the Catholic community in the counties of Shropshire and Cheshire which were linked, when the new diocese was created in 1850, to the six counties of North Wales, tracing Catholic life here from the late Tudor period, as it survived the confusion of the Reformation and continued through the trials of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, before emerging on strength once more in the nineteenth century. Copies can be obtained by emailing Mrs Pauline McCulloch pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org they cost £25 including postage & packaging.

ROSARY & QURBANA – from Friday 9th October until Sunday 18th October the SyroMalabar will be holding the rosary in Malayalam & English each night at 5:15pm; this will be followed by the celebration of Holy Mass in Malayalam.

SHREWSBURY DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGES – a reunion for participants will be held on Saturday 10th October at Saint Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA and will start with Mass at 2.00pm followed by refreshments in the church hall. All former pilgrims are welcome.

NESTON FLOWER SOCIETY invite you to Flower arranging workshop. Tuesday 13th or Tuesday 20th October 1pm–3pm in United Reformed church Hall, Moorside Lane, Neston Ch66 6UZ. The sessions are hands on using sustainable materials. Tea, Coffee & cake provided. Cost £15 per person. For more information or to book on please contact the secretary Barbara Fisher barbfish54@gmail.com

BONUS BALL SCHEME – The winning number on Saturday 26th September was 31 & congratulations to the winner. If you would like to join, a list of available numbers is at the back of each church or to continue, the next payment is due **by Sunday 25th October**. Thank you for your continued support.

EASY FUNDRAISING – As you are shopping online, don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising especially when shopping for car, home or travel insurance! Thank you to everyone who has used it.

<u>PARISH FINANCES</u> <u>Sunday 27th September 2026</u> Offertory £281.23 (Cash); £87.50 (Standing Orders) £0 (Card/Contactless/Web); Zambia/Caritas £16 <i>Thank you for your continuing generosity.</i>	To donate online, please scan the QR code. 
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JOB VACANCY

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN (PRIEST OR LAY) – This is a unique opportunity to support women in custody and prison staff through spiritual leadership, pastoral care and ministry. Alongside providing faith-based care to Roman Catholic prisoners and staff, you will work collaboratively with colleagues to meet the pastoral needs of people of all faiths and none. Through your ministry, you will help create an environment where women can rediscover dignity, purpose and hope. We are looking for someone who is empathetic, resilient and committed to serving others with respect and integrity. This role provides an opportunity to live out your vocation in a setting where your faith and pastoral gifts can have a profound and lasting impact. This is a one day a week post 8 hours. For info, please contact Managing Chaplain Jo Hirst at Joanna.hirst1@justice.gov.uk or 01625 553015.

CHARITY

TESCO BAGS OF HELP – If you shop in Tesco Extra Bidston Moss then please use your blue tokens (available at the checkout) to support Saint Paul's school, they are hoping to get the money via the scheme for a new fruit fridge helping our children to continue to make healthy choices!

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY was Friday 2nd October. There will be a retiring collection to support the work of CAFOD at Masses TODAY (Sunday 4th October), and please return your Gift Aid envelopes. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope

RED MISSIO BOX TO BE COLLECTED – Please contact Angela on 07864336321 to arrange a pickup or alternatively please leave in sacristy at either church.

WIRRAL FOODBANK HARVEST APPEAL – please see the posters or the Word search sheets at the back of each church for the Harvest shopping list or for further details visit www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk. Donations can be left outside the Saint Joseph chapel at Our Lady's or in the sacristy at Saint Paul's.

WIRRAL FOODBANK ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING – will be held at Saint Albans Parish Centre, St Albans Road, Wallasey, CH44 5UD on Thursday 8th October at 7pm. This will be an opportunity to hear about the plans for the next 12 months, the challenges faced as income declines and food donations fail to keep pace with sustained demand. For further details visit their website www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk

STAMPS & GLASSES – These are donated to the RNIB to support their work with those suffering sight loss. There is a box at the back of each church for any used stamps or glasses you have.

USED TABLET BLISTER PACKS TO SUPPORT THE MARIE CURIE CHARITY – can be donated at each church but **PLEASE ENSURE THAT NO OTHER ITEMS ARE INCLUDED.**