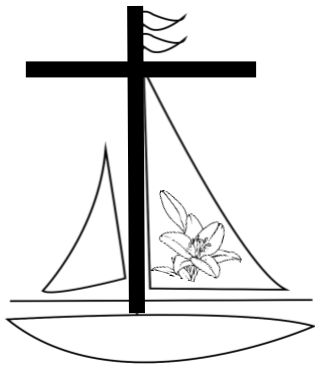




Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Coughlan 652 1074
Parish Deacon: Bernard McConnell 07724 643883
Parish Sister: Sr Pauline 07710 717207
Parish Secretary: Lorraine Forshaw 652 1074 / 07709 186201
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27th September 2026 – Twenty Sixth 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**

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning, and welcome to you all!

The Pasch of Jesus is an event that does not belong to a distant past, now settled into tradition like so many other episodes in human history. The Church teaches us to make a living remembrance of the Resurrection every year on Easter Sunday and every day in the Eucharistic celebration, during which the promise of the risen Lord is most fully realized: “Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age” (Mt 28:20). For this reason, the Paschal Mystery is the cornerstone of Christian life, around which all other events revolve. We can say, then, without any irenicism or sentimentality, that every day is Easter. In what way?

Hour by hour, we have so many different experiences: pain, suffering, sadness, intertwined with joy, wonder, serenity. But through every situation, the human heart longs for fullness, a profound happiness. A great twentieth-century philosopher, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, born Edith Stein, who delved deeply into the mystery of the human person, reminds us of this dynamism of the constant search for fulfilment. ““The human being”, she writes, “always longs to have being given to him anew, so that he can draw on what the moment gives him and at the same time takes away from him” (Finite and Eternal Being: An Attempt to Ascend to the Meaning of Being”, Rome 1998, 387). We are immersed in limitation, but we also strive to surpass it.

The Paschal proclamation is the most beautiful, joyful and overwhelming news that has ever resounded in all of history. It is the quintessential “Gospel”, which attests to the victory of love over sin and of life over death, and this is why it is the only thing capable of satisfying the demand for meaning that troubles our minds and our hearts. Human beings are inspired by an inner movement, striving towards a beyond that continually attracts them. No contingent reality satisfies us. We tend towards the infinite and the eternal. This contrasts with the experience of death, anticipated by suffering, loss, and failure. As Saint Francis sings, “nullu homo vivente po skampare” (“no living man can escape”) from death (cf. Canticle of the Sun).

Everything changes thanks to that morning when the women had gone to the tomb to anoint the body of the Lord and found it empty. The question posed by the Magi who came from the East to Jerusalem: “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?” (Mt 2:1-2), finds its definitive answer in the words of the mysterious youth dressed in white, who speaks to the women at Easter dawn: “You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here” (Mk 16:6).

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 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Trevor Jones	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	Ferial	12pm	<i>Requiem Mass for Patricia Eaton</i>	OL
Tuesday	<i>Saint Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels</i>	9:30am	Ronnie Luke (Birthday blessings)	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome!</i>				
Wednesday	<i>Saint Jerome</i>	9am	Sheila Clarke R.I.P.	
Thursday	<i>Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus</i>			
Friday	Guardian Angels	9:30am	Bernard Page R.I.P.	HC
Saturday	Ferial			
Sunday	TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Billy Boylan R.I.P.	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

Patricia Eaton, Fr John Marsh, Kerry Morgan, Ann Claver Rixon & Margaret Roberts

SAINT JOSEPH LAMP

The lamp burns for the intentions of Elsie Chorlton R.I.P. at Our Lady's and Mick Walsh R.I.P. at Saint Pauls. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church, £5 donation.

PARISH

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.

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.

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.

PENSIONERS MONTHLY AFTERNOON TEA – this free of charge live entertainment light lunch will be held *THIS* Wednesday 30th September at A& K Community Hub, 310 Park Road North from 12:30pm until 3:00pm. For details of other events held there during the week please contact Laura on 0151 458 5560 or Laura.akcommunity@gmail.com

MARRIAGE SUPPORT (RETROUVAILLE) – From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues – if you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. Next dates are 2nd to 4th October. To find out more visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info or phone 07887 296 983.

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

CATENIANS – The Birkenhead circle meets each month at Prenton Golf club to enjoy each other's company & to support one another & our families. Membership is open to Catholic men who are aged 18 & over. If you would like to know more, please contact p.davenport.123@btinternet.com.

BONUS BALL SCHEME – The winning number on Saturday 19th September was 45. 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! *Our latest payout was an amazing £171.35!!!!* Thank you to everyone who has used it. Don't forget to use it when shopping for car, home or travel insurance!

<u>PARISH FINANCES</u> <u>Sunday 20th September 2026</u> Offertory £356.38 (Cash); £87.50 (Standing Orders) £0 (Card/Contactless/Web); Zambia/Caritas £10 <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 more information, 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 – Next Friday 2nd October. There will be a retiring collection to support the work of CAFOD at Masses on Sunday 4th October, Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of church. 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.**