



Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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21st JULY 2024 - 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CATECHESIS. THE PASSION FOR EVANGELIZATION: THE APOSTOLIC ZEAL OF THE BELIEVER. 22. SAINT CHARLES DE FOUCAULD: THE BEATING HEART OF CHARITY IN THE HIDDEN LIFE

Let us continue in our encounter with some Christian witnesses, rich in zeal for proclaiming the Gospel. Apostolic zeal, the zeal for proclamation: we are looking at some Christians who have been an example of this apostolic zeal. Today I would like to talk to you about a man who made Jesus and his poorest brothers and sisters his life passion. I am referring to Saint Charles de Foucauld, who “drawing upon his intense experience of God, made a journey of transformation towards feeling a brother to all” (Encyclical Letter [Fratelli tutti](#), 286).

And what was the “secret” of Charles de Foucauld, of his life? After living his youth being distant from God, without believing in anything other than the disordered pursuit of pleasure, he confides this to a non-believing friend, to whom, after having converted by accepting the grace of God’s forgiveness in Confession, he reveals the reason of his life. He writes: “I have lost my heart to Jesus of Nazareth”. [1] Brother Charles thus reminds us that the first step in evangelizing is to have Jesus inside one’s heart; it is to “fall head over heels” for him. If this does not happen, we can hardly show it with our lives. Instead, we risk talking about ourselves, the group to which we belong, a morality or, even worse, a set of rules, but not about Jesus, his love, his mercy. I see this in some new movements that are emerging: they talk about their vision of humanity, they talk about their spirituality and they feel theirs is a new path... But why do you not talk about Jesus? They talk about many things, about organization, about spiritual journeys, but they do not know how to talk about Jesus. I think that today it would be good for each one of us to ask him or herself: “Do I have Jesus at the centre of my heart? Have I ‘lost my head’ a bit for Jesus?”.

Charles had, to the extent that he went from attraction to Jesus to imitation of Jesus. Advised by his confessor, he goes to the Holy Land to visit the places where the Lord lived and to walk where the Master walked. In particular, it is in Nazareth that he realises he must be formed in Christ’s teachings. He experiences an intense relationship with the Lord, spends long hours reading the Gospels, and feels like His little brother. And as he gets to know Jesus, the desire to make Jesus known arises in him. It always happens like this. When one of us gets to know Jesus better, the desire to make him known, to share this treasure, arises. In his commentary on the account of Our Lady’s visit to Saint Elizabeth, He makes him say: I have given myself to the world... take me to the world. Yes, but how is this done? Like Mary did in the mystery of the Visitation: “in silence, by example, by life”. [2] With

one's life, because "our entire existence", writes Brother Charles, "must shout the Gospel". [3] And very often our existence shouts worldly things, it calls out many stupid things, strange things, and he says: No, "all our existence must shout the Gospel".

MASSES FOR THE WEEK				
Sunday	16 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Bosco Viegas R.I.P.	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	Saint Mary Magdalene	9am	Margaret Walsh R.I.P	OL
<i>Access to Our Lady's for weekday Mass is through the entrance to the right side of the church</i>				
Tuesday	Saint Bridget	9:30am	Cath Pearson (Wedding Anniversary)	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday mornings. Everyone welcome!</i>				
Wednesday	Ferial	9am	Gerard Quinlan	OL
Thursday	Saint James			
Friday	Saints Joachim & Ann	9:30am	Clare & Oliver (Wedding)	SP
Saturday	Ferial			
Sunday	17 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	George Sindall	SP
		11am	People of the Parish	OL

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who are sick

Irene Fortune, Susan Edwards, Fr Febin Thomas CMI, Canon Philip Moor, Mgr Peter Walton, Fr Bernard Forshaw, Lily Baker, Christopher Browne, Rob Creer, Michael Coughlan, Eileen & Julia Ward, Philip Smith, Clare McElroy & Laurence Barron

Those who have died

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's something expressed in everything we do.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY 2024

For the Pastoral Care of the Sick – that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

SAINT JOSEPH LAMP

This week the lamp burns for Anna & Michael Coughlan at Our Lady's and for Kevin Coughlan at Saint Paul's. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church. A £5 donation is requested.

PARISH

PARISH BBQ HELD 14TH JULY- Thank you to everyone who attended the BBQ and has supported our ongoing fundraising efforts across the two churches in our parish. The raffle and bottle bank raised £160 which will principally go towards funding our Youth Group & also future Parish events.

SEA SUNDAY - 14TH JULY the retiring collection raised £106.70 so thank you on behalf of Stella Maris.

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES arrives in Lourdes on Friday (26th July). Bishop Mark has asked us to pray for the following intentions:

- ❖ For the renewal of Eucharistic faith and love in all our parishes and families.
- ❖ For the peace of the world amid threats of war and terror: may all peoples walk together in peace.
- ❖ For the unity of the Church and of our Shrewsbury Diocese that we may always walk together in faithfulness.
- ❖ For the upholding of the sanctity of every human life especially of the unborn, the sick and the elderly.
- ❖ For new and generous vocations to Marriage, to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life of women and of men.

On Monday 29th July at 9am UK time we will be celebrating Mass at the Grotto with other English Dioceses present in Lourdes. You, and your parishioners will be able to join us via Lourdes TV <https://www.lourdes-france.org/en/tv-lourdes/>. Some of the other Masses and liturgies may be on Lourdes TV too, including the International Mass on Sunday 28th July at 8.30am UK time. Please be assured of our prayers whilst we are in Lourdes.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY - on the Sunday nearest to the Feast of Sains Joachim & Anne, Jesus' grandparents; Pope Francis invites us to pray especially for grandparents & elderly members of parish communities next Sunday. The Diocese has created a booklet for this, some copies are at the back of each church.

HEALING & ANOINTING SERVICE will take place at Saint John's Church New Ferry on Friday 2nd August at 7pm. The speaker will be Deacon Mike Daly.

CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD? - Have you considered a vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? For more information see shrewsburyvocations.org If you would like to explore God's call for your life and learn about other opportunities for discernment, please email the vocations director, Fr Tony McGrath vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

THE CHESTER ACROSS GROUP are going to Lourdes by Jumbulance from Thursday 15th to Saturday 24th August. Travel is overland in an adapted coach, which has seven beds on board. Therefore, we can take some sick or disabled pilgrims and so far, we have a doctor and two nurses and several helpers. However, we need two more helpers and there is a place for someone who is sick or disabled. *The cost is £1,095 but help with costs is available. Current Passport required.* Travel Insurance is available for £65. Visit our website for an example of our care <http://www.across.org.uk/?s=AJ> For more information, please contact Tony Murphy on 07881 656974 or email tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk.

SAINT PHILIP NERI PARISH SUMMER PARTY - is today from 2pm-5pm, with full afternoon tea, games & stalls. In Stella McGann's garden or Saint Joseph's parish centre if the weather is wet. Admission by ticket, which cost £7 available from the parish office or choir members.

"MASS TOURISM" - Many of you are going to be away over the summer. This is a time when we forget all our normal routines, and Mass is often one of them. We have a hazy memory of hearing that the obligation to attend Mass is suspended "for travellers" and don't ask ourselves whether someone within easy reach of every facility civilisation can offer, including churches, really counts as a traveller in that sense. This is a pity because far from being the reluctant execution of an irksome obligation, "Mass tourism" is a rich and fulfilling activity. The Church is universal, which means that we are part of it wherever we go. To go to Mass means instant belonging. Instead of being in a (more or less) picturesque location ornamented with (more or less) picturesque personages, you are in a real place, doing, with real people, what real people do. I strongly recommend that if you are going away, you make it part of your planning to establish where the churches are and what the times of Masses are. Don't hold obstinately to Sundays either. There are enriching experiences to be had on any day of the week. *Taken from the Universalis newsletter, July 2024*

STRONGER TOGETHER COMMUNITY GROUP empowers members to address daily life challenges in a supportive environment. Tuesday mornings (9:30am-12pm) in Saint Joseph's parish centre, North Road. The group is facilitated by Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury.

PLANNING A PARTY OR A CELEBRATION AFTER A BAPTISM, A WEDDING, OR A FUNERAL?

Our Lady's parish centre is available to hire for all family occasions with food available on request. Contact Linda for bookings on 07971501345.

PARISH FINANCE - 14th July 2024

**Offertory £436.35 (cash); £17.50 (Standing Orders);
£0 (card/contactless); Zambia/Eye Fund/Caritas £19.05**

Thank you for your continuing generosity.

To donate online,
please scan the
QR code.



STANDING ORDERS - You can set a standing order up through your online banking or via the form which is available from the parish office. If you are a UK taxpayer, please gift aid these payments.

EASY FUNDRAISING - Please support our Parish on Easy Fundraising - you can raise **FREE** donations when you shop online at over 6000 retailers (inc. car & home insurance). Thank you to everyone who supports our parish by using Easy Fundraising. ***Our latest payout was £42.94***

SUNDAY RAFFLE - Last week's raffle was held during the Parish BBQ. There is one unclaimed prize for ticket number 227 so if you have this please see anyone at the back of the church after Mass. Raffles will commence again later in the year.

BONUS BALL SCHEME - Unfortunately no-one had the winning number, 59 for 13th July draw so it will be a rollover to yesterday's draw 20th July. Numbers are still available to buy so please see Carol at Saint Paul's or anyone at the back of Our Lady's church to join the scheme for the next month.

CHARITY

WIRRAL FOODBANK - Donations for Wirral Foodbank can be left at the back of Saint Paul's or outside the Saint Joseph chapel in Our Lady's. ***The foodbank is URGENTLY in need of Tins of fish,***

meat, vegetables, tomatoes, potatoes, fruit & rice pudding as well as UHT milk, deodorants and shampoo.

STAMPS – The stamps are sent off to the RNIB to support their work with those suffering sight loss. There is a box at the back of church for any used stamps you have.