



Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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28th JULY 2024 – 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CATECHESIS. THE PASSION FOR EVANGELIZATION: THE APOSTOLIC ZEAL OF THE BELIEVER. 23. SAINT CHARLES DE FOUCAULD: THE BEATING HEART OF CHARITY IN THE HIDDEN LIFE

He then decides to settle in distant regions to cry out the Gospel in silence, living in the spirit of Nazareth, in poverty and concealment. He goes to the Sahara Desert, among non-Christians, and he goes there as a friend and a brother, bearing the meekness of Jesus the Eucharist. Charles lets Jesus act silently, convinced that “Eucharistic life” evangelises. Indeed, he believes that Christ is the first evangelizer. And so he remains in prayer at Jesus’ feet, before the Tabernacle, for a dozen hours a day, certain that the evangelizing power resides there and feeling that it is Jesus who brings him close to so many distant brothers. And do we, I ask myself, believe in the power of the Eucharist? Does our going out to others, our service, find its beginning and its fulfilment there, in adoration? I am convinced that we have lost the sense of adoration: we must regain it, starting with us, consecrated people, bishops, priests, religious sisters and all consecrated persons: “wasting” time before the tabernacle, regaining the sense of adoration.

Charles de Foucauld wrote: “Every Christian, then, must become an apostle”, and he reminds a friend that “close to priests we need laypeople who see what the priest does not see, who evangelise with a closeness of charity, with a kindness for all, with an affection always ready to give of itself”. Holy laypeople, not climbers. And those laypeople – that layman, that laywoman – who are in love with Jesus, make the priest understand that he is not an official, that he is a mediator, a priest. How we priests need to have beside us these laypeople who truly believe, and who show us the way by their witness. Charles de Foucauld, with this experience, foreshadows the times of Vatican Council II; he intuitively understands the importance of the laity and understands that the proclamation of the Gospel is up to the entire People of God. But how can we increase this participation? The way Charles de Foucauld did: by kneeling and welcoming the action of the Spirit, who always inspires new ways to engage, meet, listen and dialogue, always in collaboration and trust, always in communion with the Church and pastors.

Saint Charles de Foucauld, a figure who is a prophecy for our time, bore witness to the beauty of communicating the Gospel through *the apostolate of meekness* : considering himself a “universal brother” and welcoming everyone, he shows us the evangelizing power of meekness, of tenderness. Let us not forget that God’s style is summarized in three words: closeness, compassion and tenderness. God is always near, he is always compassionate, he is always tender. And Christian witness must take this road: of closeness, compassion and tenderness. And this is how he was, meek and tender. He wanted everyone he met to see, through his goodness, the goodness of Jesus. Indeed, he used to say he was a “servant to someone much better than I”. Living Jesus’ goodness led him to forge fraternal bonds of friendship with the poor, with the Tuareg, with those furthest from his mentality. Gradually these bonds generated fraternity, inclusion, appreciation of the other’s culture. Goodness is simple and asks us to be simple people, who are not afraid to offer a smile. And with his

smile, with his simplicity, Brother Charles bore witness to the Gospel. Never by proselytism, never: by witness. One does not evangelise by proselytism, but by witness, by attraction. So lastly, let us ask ourselves whether we carry within us and to others, Christian joy, Christian meekness, Christian tenderness, Christian compassion, Christian closeness. Thank you.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK				
Sunday	17 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	George Sindall	SP
		11am	People of the Parish	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	Saints Mary, Martha & Lazarus	9am	Sue Flanagan 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	Ferial	9:30am	Kathleen Boyle R.I.P.	OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday mornings. Everyone welcome!</i>				
Wednesday	Saint Ignatius of Loyola	9am	Joan Jones R.I.P. (Anniversary)	OL
Thursday	Saint Alphonsus Liguori			
Friday	Ferial	9:30am	Marie Quinlan	SP
Saturday	Saint Oswald			
Sunday	18 TH 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

*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

Fr Anthony Cogliolo & Sr Breda FCJ

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 Susan Edwards (Peace & Comfort) at Our Lady's and for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes at Saint Paul's. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church. A £5 donation is requested.

PARISH

SR BREDA FCJ - Many of you will know Sr Breda FCJ who taught at Upton Hall school for many years. Breda returned to the House of the Father just before last weekend. Her Requiem Mass will take place at Saint Joseph's church, North road at 2pm on Tuesday (30th July).

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES arrived in Lourdes last 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.

Tomorrow on Monday (29th July) at 9am UK time we will be celebrating Mass at the Grotto with other English Dioceses present in Lourdes. You will be able to join the Mass 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 today Sunday 28th July at 8.30am UK time. Please be assured of our prayers whilst we are in Lourdes.

FOURTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY: SUNDAY 28TH JULY 2024

On the Sunday nearest to the Feast of Saints Joachim & Anne, Jesus' grandparents; Pope Francis invites us to pray especially for grandparents & elderly members of parish communities today. 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=AI> For more information, please contact Tony Murphy on 07881 656974 or email tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk.

FUNDRAISING FOR SVP HOLIDAY HOMES AND YOUTH CAMPS – Kate Birkenhead (SVP Officer for the Shrewsbury Diocese) and her partner Colin will be walking the whole of the 200 plus miles of the Shrewsbury Diocese in July & August. All monies raised will go towards funding these vital initiatives. <https://giving.give-star.com/online/saint-vincent-de-paul-society-england-and-wales/kate-and-colin-are-walking-the-length-and-breadth-of-shrewsbury-diocese>

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.

“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.*

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 - 21st July 2024

**Offertory £414.45 (cash); £17.50 (Standing Orders);
£21 (card/contactless); Zambia/Eye Fund/Caritas £29
Apostleship of the Sea £60**

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**

BONUS BALL SCHEME – No-one had the winning number, 44 for 20th July draw so it will be a rollover to yesterday’s draw 27th 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.