

*Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul*

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**31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 - The Most Holy Trinity**

**CYCLE OF CATECHESIS - JUBILEE 2025. JESUS CHRIST OUR HOPE. III. THE PASSOVER OF JESUS. 4. THE SURRENDER. 'WHOM ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?' (JN 18:4)**

Jesus too is troubled when faced with a path that seems to lead only to death and to the end. But he is equally persuaded that only a life lost for love, at the end, is found again. This is what true hope consists of: not in trying to avoid pain, but in believing that the seed of new life is hidden, even in the heart of the most unjust suffering.

And us? How often do we defend our lives, our plans, our certainties, without realizing that, by doing so, we remain alone? The logic of the Gospel is different: only what is given flourishes; only the love that becomes free can restore trust even where everything seems lost.

The Gospel of Mark also tells us about a young man who runs away naked when Jesus is arrested, (cf. Mk 14:51). It is an enigmatic image, but profoundly evocative. We too, in the attempt to follow Jesus, experience moments in which we are caught off guard and stripped of our certainties. Those are the most difficult moments, in which we are tempted to abandon the way of the Gospel because love seems to be an impossible journey to us. And yet, at the end of the Gospel, it is a young man who announces the resurrection to the women. He is no longer naked but clothed in a white robe.

This is the hope of our faith: our sins and our hesitations do not prevent God from forgiving us and from restoring to us the desire to resume following, to make us capable of giving our life for others.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us also learn how to deliver ourselves to the Father's good will, letting our life be a response to the good we have received. In life, it is not necessary to have everything under control. It is enough to choose to love freely every day. This is true hope: knowing that, even in the darkness of trial, God's love sustains us and ripens the fruit of eternal life in us.

**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 JUNE 2026**

For the value of sports. Let us pray that sports can be an instrument of peace, encounter and dialogue among cultures and nations and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity and personal growth.

<b>MASSES FOR WEEK</b>				
Sunday	<b><i>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</i></b>	<b>9:30am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b>	Julie & Reggie D'Souza R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	<i>Saint Justin</i>	<b>9am</b>	Irene Fortune R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
Tuesday	Ferial	<b>9:30am</b>	Josephine Parnell R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome!</i>				
Wednesday	<i>Saint Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</i>	<b>9am</b>	Kathy Miller	<b>OL</b>
		<b>12pm</b>	Funeral Service for John Miller	<b>OL</b>
Thursday	Ferial			
Friday	Saint Boniface	<b>9:30am</b>	Margaret Cook R.I.P.	<b>SP</b>
Saturday	Ferial			
Sunday	<b><i>THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST</i></b>	<b>9:30am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b>	Billy Boylan R.I.P. (Birthday)	<b>OL</b>

***PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS***

***Those who are sick***

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

***Those who have died***

***Mary Dooley, John Miller, Marion Tolley and Stacey Watkinson.***

**SAINT JOSEPH LAMP**

The lamp burns for the intentions of Anna Coughlan at Our Lady's and Sr Damien O'Mahoney at Saint Pauls. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church. A £5 donation is requested.

## **PARISH**

Today we welcome Jane Hamlet Barton as she is baptised as an adult. Commonly adults are baptised at the Easter vigil when we celebrate the resurrection, for a number of reasons this wasn't possible, but it is great today to welcome Jane into the Church, as a child of God!

NEW DIOCESAN WEBSITE - To mark 175th Anniversary of our Diocese of Shrewsbury a new website has been launched for the Diocese. The renewed website is not merely a platform for information but offers a window on the life and witness of our Shrewsbury Diocese. The website can be accessed by clicking on: <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026 - If you plan to travel independently and organise your own accommodation in Lourdes, you still need to register especially if you wish to volunteer or join in with the pilgrimage. You can register via the new online booking system at <https://shrewsburylourdes.fillout.com/application>

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC OR NEVER BEEN CONFIRMED? - We are starting an exploration programme on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in Our Lady's. Come along & find out more! We will meet every two weeks for an hour following the Sycamore programme a short video presentation with pauses for reflection, questions and discussion.

PARISH BBQ will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July after 11am Mass in the presbytery garden at Our Lady's. Donations of bottles are welcome for the bottle stall, please leave them at the back of each church. Helpers will be needed to help with set-up, running the BBQ & especially clearing up. Please see the sheets at the back of church to register your support.

A&K COMMUNITY HUB 310 PARK ROAD NORTH, BIRKENHEAD - For information about activities held there during each week please contact Laura on 0151 458 5562 or [Laura.akcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.akcommunity@gmail.com).

GIFT AID ENVELOPES - If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to join the annual Gift Aid envelopes scheme &/or if you would prefer to donate by *STANDING ORDER*, please see Fr Michael after Mass or contact the parish office during the week.

MISSIO DIOCESAN MASS - The annual Diocesan Missio Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Mark next Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 12:15pm at Shrewsbury Cathedral, SY1 1UE. All are welcome to attend.

PIETY STALL - A selection of cards for all occasions is available to buy at each church. Looking for alternative gifts? To families & friends? Why not look at our parish branded merchandise?

THE TABLET & NEW HALL FESTIVAL 2026 - is taking place at New Hall, Boreham House, Chelmsford on 10-11 July 2026. The festival promises to be a powerful and hope-filled gathering, bringing people together from across the UK to pray, reflect and act for justice, peace and human dignity. Accommodation is available at New Hall for those attending the festival, and exhibition space can also be booked. If you would like further information, please contact [adyoung@thetablet.co.uk](mailto:adyoung@thetablet.co.uk).


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. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

THE TABLET AND NEW HALL FESTIVAL 2026 – Faith in Action: Justice, Peace & the Future of the Church 10-11 July 2026 at New Hall, Boreham House, Chelmsford. Join a powerful two-day Catholic festival, bringing people from across the UK together to pray, reflect and act for justice, peace and human dignity. A joyful, welcoming space for worship, dialogue and renewal. See the poster for details.

VOLUNTEER PRISON VISITING ROLES – Prison Fellowship is a Christian charity that supports people in prison through prison visiting. The volunteer role involves visiting a person in prison once a week or fortnight and supporting them through this difficult period of their lives. Full training and supervision is offered, and it is a flexible role. If you are interested, please speak to Fr Michael.

BONUS BALL SCHEME – The winning number on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May was 35 congratulations to the winner from Saint Paul's. If you would like to join, the next payment will be due on 7<sup>th</sup> June for draws commencing Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026. A list of available numbers is at the back of each church.

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!

<p><b><u>PARISH FINANCES</u></b> <b><u>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026</u></b> <b>Offertory £261.47 (Cash); £70 (Standing Orders)</b> <b>£2 (Card/Contactless/Web); Zambia/Caritas £7</b> <i>Thank you for your continuing generosity.</i></p>	<p>To donate online, please scan the QR code.</p> 
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## CHARITY

WHITE CHARITY OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPE – with the closure of the Eye Fund the proceeds from our weekly charity collection will now be split equally between the Mulanga Clinic run by the sisters of charity in Zambia and our own Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury.

WIRRAL FOODBANK – The immediate shortages are Shampoo, Tinned Fruit & custard, Tinned vegetables. Donations can be left outside the Saint Joseph chapel at Our Lady's or in the sacristy at Saint Paul's. Please see the poster in the porch for further details or visit [www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://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 YOU DO NOT INCLUDE ANY OTHER ITEMS.**

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who taught the hearts of the faithful, by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

