



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

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### **25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C**

#### **POPE FRANCIS – CATECHESIS ON SAINT JOSEPH: THE CARPENTER**

I think too of those who are out of work. How many people go knocking on the doors of factories, of businesses [asking]: “Is there anything to do?” — “No, there isn’t, there isn’t. Lack of work! [I think] of those who feel wounded in their dignity because they cannot find this work. They return home: “Have you found something?” — “No, nothing... I went to Caritas and I brought bread”. What gives dignity is not bringing bread home. You can get it from Caritas — no, this does not give you dignity. What gives you dignity is earning bread — and if we do not give our people, our men and women, the ability to earn bread, there is a social injustice in that place, in that nation, in that continent. Leaders must give everyone the possibility of earning bread, because this ability to earn gives them dignity. Work is an anointing of dignity. And this is important.

Many young people, many fathers and mothers experience the ordeal of not having a job that allows them to live serenely. They live day to day. And how often the search for work becomes so desperate that it drives them to the point of losing all hope and the desire to live. In these times of pandemic, many people have lost their jobs — we know this — and some, crushed by an unbearable burden, reached the point of taking their own lives. I would like to remember each of them and their families today. Let us take a moment of silence, remembering these men, these women, who are desperate because they cannot find work.

Not enough consideration is given to the fact that work is an essential component of human life, and even a path of holiness. Work is not only a means of earning a living: it is also a place where we express ourselves, feel useful, and learn the great lesson of concreteness, which helps keep spiritual life from becoming spiritualism. Unfortunately, however, labour is often a hostage to social injustice and, rather than being a means of humanization, it becomes an existential periphery. I often ask myself: With what spirit do we do our daily work? How do we deal with fatigue? Do we see our activity as linked only to our own destiny or also to the destiny of others? In fact, work is a way of expressing our personality, which is relational by its nature. And work is also a way to express our creativity: each one of us works in their own way, with their own style: the same work but with different styles.

It is good to think about the fact that Jesus himself worked and had learned this craft from Saint Joseph. Today, we should ask ourselves what we can do to recover the value of work; and what contribution we can make, as Church, [to ensure] that work can be redeemed from the logic of mere profit and can be experienced as a fundamental right and duty of the person, which expresses and increases his or her dignity.

<b>MASSES FOR THE WEEK</b>				
Sunday	<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Margaret Wise & family	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	<i>Ferial</i>	<b>9am</b>	Irene McGrath	<b>OL</b>
Tuesday	<i>St Vincent De Paul</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Patricia Walsh Miller R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
Wednesday	<i>Ferial</i>	<b>9am</b>	Michael & Mary Walsh	<b>OL</b>
<i>Access to Our Lady's for weekday Mass is through the entrance to the right side of the church</i>				
Thursday	<i>Ss Michael, Gabriel &amp; Raphael</i>			
Friday	<i>St Jerome</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Curly Keohane (sick)	<b>SP</b>
		<b>2pm</b>	Nuptial Mass for the wedding of Michael Wynne & Kirsty Jones	<b>OL</b>
Saturday	<i>St Theresa of the Child Jesus</i>	<b>12pm</b>	Dominic Fernandes R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
Sunday	<b>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Dave & Theresa Sharkey	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>OL</b>

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

*Those who are sick*

**William Boylan, Richie & Lily Baker, Joan Jones, Margaret Walsh, Christopher Browne, George Perry, Louisa Tower, Julia Ward, Vera Granton & Vin Roper**

*Those who have died*

**Ann Byrne & James Clinton**

**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.*

**SAINT JOSEPH LAMP**

This week the lamp burns for Barry Evans R.I.P. at Our Lady's and for Anna Coughlan at Saint Paul's. Envelopes are at the back of each church for requests. A £5 donation is requested for an intention.

**SYMT PARISH HOLIDAY CLUB** will run during October half term for anyone in Year 5 – Year 8. Volunteers needed; flyers & booking forms will be available in the coming weeks. The holiday club will run from 10am–2pm Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October for anyone in Year 5 to Year 8.

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

This year's focus is on the World Food Crisis. This Harvest, up to 20 million people across Kenya, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia are fighting for survival in the face of the most devastating food crisis in decades. You can help people like Talaso in Northern Kenya who is worried about how she will feed her newborn baby after almost all her livestock died in a devastating drought. Envelopes are available at the back of church or donations can be made online at [www.cafod.org.uk/give](http://www.cafod.org.uk/give)

## **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER**

*For the Church.* That ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, the Church may be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

## **PARISH**

WEDDING OF MICHAEL WYNNE & KIRSTY JONES – Mike & Kirsty are getting married in Our Lady's on Friday, they would like to invite all parishioners to be with them on their special day as they make this commitment to each other before God & the whole community. There will be some light refreshments served at the back of the church after Mass.

ALPHA COURSE – Alpha is the opportunity to explore life & the Christian Faith in a friendly open & informal environment. Each session includes food, a short video & a discussion where you can share your thoughts. There's no pressure & no charge! What have you got to lose?

The course began last Friday & continues this Friday at 9:15am in the community room at Saint Paul's. Why not bring a friend! This week is week 2 but it's not too late to join!

*Please note that from now until Christmas Friday morning Mass will begin at 9:30am to accommodate people coming to the Alpha course.*

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS – for the young people of our parish, that they will know God's love.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS – We are in need of more Foundation Governors at all three parish primary schools but especially at Holy Cross. Why not consider helping our Catholic Mission as a governor?

SYRO-MALABAR INDIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH – The Syro-Malabar rite of the Mass is an ancient rite of the celebration of the Mass originating in Kerala in Southern India. In the Kerala region of India, it is still the most common rite of the Mass & is celebrated in the local Malayalam language. With an increasing number of Keralans working in different parts of Wirral, especially in healthcare settings, they have asked Bishop Mark if they could use a bigger church in Wirral since they have outgrown Saint Joseph's in Upton. After discussions, I am delighted that the Indian community will use Our Lady's church each week on a Sunday afternoon. We welcome them & it is great to be able to use our church now, not just for the Latin or Roman rite of the Mass as we normally celebrate, to welcome the Syro-Malabar community as well! Their first weekend is expected to be 9<sup>th</sup> October.

EASY FUNDRAISING – Please support our Parish on Easyfundraising – you can raise **FREE** donations when you shop online at over 6000 retailers (inc car & home insurance). It's simple & takes 2 minutes to sign up at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> then search for Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul.

## **PARISH FINANCE**

**Offertory £485.20**

**Eye Fund/CAFOD/Zambia £32**

*Thank you for your continuing generosity.*

## **CHARITY**

SOCIAL SUPERMARKET – there is now the opportunity both at Saint Paul's & Our Lady's to pick up any essential items from the stock generously donated by local charities & supermarkets which is located in the community room in Saint Paul's & the porch area near the West Door in Our Lady's.

CRISIS IN PAKISTAN – as you will have seen in the news Pakistan has been hit by severe floods. If you can help financially to provide aid, please do so through the DEC which includes CAFOD.

WIRRAL FOODBANK – Wirral Foodbank is fully operational again. With the increased cost of living, many more households are relying on services such as the Foodbank. Donations can be left at the back of Saint Paul's or outside the Saint Joseph chapel in Our Lady's.

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.

GLASSES – thank you to all those who support the Eye Fund charity through their weekly white envelope donation. Another easy way to support the work of the eye fund is to donate any old glasses which you have via the box at the back of Our Lady's church. These are given to help the work of the Wirral Society of the Blind & partially sighted based at Ashville Lodge on the edge of the park.

EYEFUND UPDATE – The last 2 years have been a very quiet time for the charity, but we have still managed to fund a counsellor at The Wirral Society of the Blind and Partially Sighted and supply a computer to a lady struggling with sight loss. We are always grateful to the parishioners for the many donations they give to us.

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## Opportunities for Faith Development in 2022

- ❖ **A gentle Introduction to Catholic Thought & Church Teaching** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month 3:30pm – 4:30pm in Our Lady's presbytery. We will be using as our guide Catholicism in the Third Millennium by Thomas Rausch SJ. *Chapter 2: **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022***
  - ISBN 9780814658994 – New from Blackwells, £13.71, used in very good condition from Alibris books, £7.16
- ❖ **Alpha course** – *Alpha is a course that creates a space, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about faith, life and God.* Every Friday at 9:15am in the community room at Saint Paul's; week 2, **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**. It's not too late to join!
- ❖ **Looking @ Matthew pt.1** – an Introduction to Saint Matthew's Gospel – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October, 7pm in Our Lady's.
- ❖ **Advent Reflection** – 10am – 1pm, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November in Saint Paul's, two talks with space for personal quiet reflection & group discussion, Mass at 12pm with adoration until 1pm. Our Advent Reflection will be led by Canon Niall Mullaley who is the Parish Priest of Saint Philip Neri parish here in Birkenhead.
- ❖ **Advent course** – Journeying toward Jesus in Advent by Denis McBride CSsR; Tuesdays in Advent (29<sup>th</sup> November, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December)
  - ISBN 9780852313824 – New from Pauline Books & Media, £10.95, used in very good condition from Abe books, £3.96