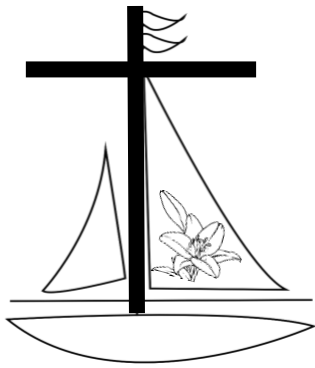




Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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
Web: <http://www.holycrossourladysaintpaul.org>
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30th August 2026 – Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE OF CATECHESIS – JUBILEE 2025. HOPE. IV. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD 1. THE RISEN ONE, THE LIVING SOURCE OF HUMAN HOPE.

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In the Jubilee Year catecheses, until now, we have retraced the life of Jesus, following the Gospels, from his birth to his death and resurrection. In so doing, our pilgrimage of hope has found its solid foundation, its sure way. Now, in the last part of the journey, we will allow the mystery of Christ, which culminates in the Resurrection, to radiate its light of salvation in contact with the current human and historical reality, with its questions and challenges.

Our lives are marked by countless events, full of different nuances and experiences. At times we feel joyful, other times sad, other times fulfilled or stressed, gratified or demotivated. We live busy lives, we concentrate on achieving results, and we even attain lofty, prestigious goals. Conversely, we remain suspended, precarious, awaiting success and recognition that are delayed or do not arrive at all. In short, we find ourselves experiencing a paradoxical situation: we would like to be happy, and yet it is very difficult to be happy in a continuous way, without any shadows. We come to terms with our limitations and, at the same time, with the irrepressible urge to try to overcome them. We feel deep down that we are always missing something.

In truth, we were not created for *lack*, but for *fullness*, to rejoice in life, and life in abundance, according to Jesus' expression in the Gospel of John (cf. 10:10).

This deep desire in our hearts can find its ultimate answer not in roles, not in power, not in having, but in the certainty that there is someone who guarantees this constitutive impulse of our humanity; in the awareness that this expectation will not be disappointed or thwarted. This certainty coincides with hope. This does not mean thinking in an optimistic way: often optimism lets us down, causing our expectations to implode, whereas hope promises and fulfils.

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 SEPTEMBER 2026

For the care of water – Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

MASSES FOR WEEK			
Sunday	TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am Cerys and Family 11am People of the Parish	SP OL
<i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>			
Monday	Ferial	10am Breeda Deasy R.I.P.	
Tuesday	Ferial	10am John Hindmarsh R.I.P.	
<i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome!</i>			
Wednesday	Ferial	9am Sylvia Brady R.I.P.	
Thursday	<i>Saint Gregory the Great</i>		
Friday	Ferial	9:30am Mary Dooley R.I.P.	
Saturday	<i>Saint Theresa of Calcutta</i>		
Sunday	TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am Moira Helbert R.I.P. 11am People of the Parish	SP 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, Pat Eaton, Chloe Fortune, Anne Gillet, Aidan Hampsen, Colin James, Clare McElroy, Kerry Morgan, Canon Philip Moor, Helen Ryan, Philip Smith, Michael Toner, Eileen & Julia Ward, Sarah & Gary Williams & Pat Wise.

Those who have died

Sylvia Brady, Fr Joseph Kendall & Margaret Roberts

SAINT JOSEPH LAMP

The lamp burns for the intentions of Carol Dalziel R.I.P. at Our Lady's and Teachers in our Catholic schools at Saint Pauls. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church, £5 donation.

PARISH

SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM are seeking to appoint both a programme coordinator & a team member. Both roles are based in Stockport. For more information, visit <https://dioceseofshrewsbury.org/careers> Closing date: Friday 18th September. Please send CVs to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE – Act now, contact our MP Alison McGovern. The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday, 11th September 2026. Our clear

principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to unite in prayer and compassionate action. Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, explains our strong opposition to this legislation: "This bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

2027 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – After a successful & prayerful pilgrimage this year the dates for next year are out now, *SAVE THE DATE!* By air: Friday 30th July – Thursday 5th August / By coach: Thursday 29th July – Friday 6th August
Youth pilgrimage: Wednesday 28th July – Friday 6th August

THE DIMENSIONS OF LOVE: FR TOM 'S PILGRIMAGE – To mark ten years of priestly ministry, Fr Tom Cunnah will undertake a nine-day, 130-mile thanksgiving pilgrimage across the Diocese of Shrewsbury, from West Kirby to Ludlow and Shining Tor, beginning on 3rd September. Along the way, he will be praying for vocations and raising awareness and funds for the work of Caritas supporting families in need. Parishioners can follow his journey on Caritas social media. Please see the bar code on the poster at the back of each church to make a donation.

THE SEASON OF CREATION – the Wallasey parishes of Holy Apostles & Martyrs, Saint Joseph and Saint Alban will celebrate jointly from 1st September to 4th October. Please see leaflets at the back of each church for further information.

CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Could you visit your local Catholic school to talk about the work of CAFOD? We are looking for volunteers to deliver school assemblies and workshops and inspire children and young people to make a difference and take action. For further information please contact Anna Letizia on 07710 094449 or email aletizia@cafod.org.uk

ANOINTING & HEALING SERVICE – is to be held on Friday 4th September 2026 at 7pm at Saint John's Church, Bebbington Road, New Ferry CH62 5BJ.

CARD MACHINE – There is now a card machine for payment at both churches, this can be used for offertory giving as well as paying for Mass intentions, items from Piety stall etc.

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.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A PRIEST? – Have you considered exploring a vocation to the diocesan priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? Why not speak to Fr Michael or our diocesan vocations director, Fr Sean Davidson. You can also visit www.Shrewsburyvocations.org

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE DAY AT SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH – As part of the Jubilee Year and in preparation for the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, Franciscan churches have been designated as places of pilgrimage. We are therefore inviting parishioners from across the Diocese to join us for a special Pilgrimage Day at Saint Francis Church, Chester, on Thursday 17th September 2026, the Feast of the Stigmata of Saint Francis. Please see the posters at the back of church.

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 22nd August was 7, congratulations to the winner from Saint Paul's. 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 **20th September 2026**. 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 23rd August 2026</u> Offertory £254.20 (Cash); £87.50 (Standing Orders) £0 (Card/Contactless/Web); Zambia/Caritas £14.81 <i>Thank you for your continuing generosity.</i>	To donate online, please scan the QR code. 
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JOB VACANCIES

CURIAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT INTER-DIOCESAN FUEL MANAGEMENT -
Salary: £27 to 28K depending on experience. **Hours:** 35 per week. Further details can be found on the Diocesan Website using this link www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/careers/administrator-for-inter-diocesan-fuel-management-limited

CURIAL OFFICE ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT – full time, based in Birkenhead. For more information visit <https://dioceseofshrewsbury.org/careers>. Closing date for both jobs is Friday 18th September & please send covering letter and CV to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

CHARITY

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

Emergency Food is not the solution – Through their Food Bank plus project delivered by Citizens Advice on their behalf Wirral Food bank is helping people get support with some of the underlying issues that can lead to them needing emergency food.

Council Tax reduction campaign – Some people who are on a low income are eligible for a reduction in their council tax but due to a recent policy change they could be paying an additional £34 per month. Individuals on a low fixed income are having to spend more to cover essential costs. This could result in them having less money for essentials, getting into debt & increased Food Bank use.

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.**