



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

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

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

The evangelists Matthew and Mark refer to Joseph as a “carpenter” or “joiner”. We heard earlier that the people of Nazareth, hearing Jesus speak, asked themselves: “Is not this the carpenter’s son?” (13:55; cf. *Mk* 6:3). Jesus practised his father’s trade.

The Greek term *tehton*, used to specify Joseph’s work, has been translated in various ways. The Latin Fathers of the Church rendered it as “carpenter”. But let us bear in mind that in the Palestine of Jesus’ time, wood was used not only to make ploughs and various pieces of furniture, but also to build houses, which had wooden frames and terraced roofs made of beams connected with branches and earth.

Therefore, “carpenter” or “joiner” was a generic qualification, indicating both woodworkers and craftsmen engaged in activities related to construction. It was quite a hard job, having to work with heavy materials such as wood, stone, and iron. From an economic point of view, it did not ensure great earnings, as can be deduced from the fact that when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the Temple, they offered only a couple of turtledoves or pigeons (cf. *Lk* 2:24), as the Law prescribed for the poor (cf. *Lv* 12:8).

The young Jesus thus learned this trade from his father. Therefore, when he began to preach as an adult, his astonished neighbours asked: “But where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works?” (*Mt* 13:54), and were scandalized by him (cf. v. 57), because he was the son of the carpenter, but he spoke like a doctor of the law, and they were scandalized by this.

This biographical fact about Joseph and Jesus makes me think of all the workers in the world, especially those who do gruelling work in mines and in some factories; those who are exploited through undocumented work; the victims of labour: we have seen a lot of this in Italy recently; children who are forced to work and those who rummage among the trash in search of something useful to trade...

Let me repeat what I said: the hidden workers, the workers who do hard labour in mines and in some factories: let’s think of them: about those who are exploited with undocumented work, those who are paid in contraband, on the sly, without a pension, without anything. And if you do not work, you have no security. And today there is a lot of undocumented work. Let us think of the victims of work, of work accidents, of the children who are forced to work: this is terrible! A child at the age of play should be playing. Instead, they are forced to work like adults! Let us think about those poor children who rummage in the dumps to look for something useful to trade. All these are our brothers and sisters, who earn their living this way: with jobs that do not give them dignity! Let us think about this. And this is happening today, in the world. This is happening today.

<b>MASSES FOR THE WEEK</b>				
Sunday	<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b>	David Murray	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee after both Sunday Masses</i>				
Monday	<i>Ferial</i>	<b>10am</b>	Queen Elizabeth II R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
Tuesday	<i>St Andrew Kim TaegOn</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Alice Jackson	<b>OL</b>
Wednesday	<i>St Matthew</i>	<b>9am</b>	Hector MacPhee	<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>Ferial</i>			<b>OL</b>
Friday	<i>Padre Pio</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Philip Backle R.I.P.	<b>SP</b>
Saturday	<i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>			
Sunday	<b>26<sup>th</sup> 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>

**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*

***Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Anne Byrne, Fr Gregory Downing, & 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 Mary Theresa Upton (R.I.P.) at Our Lady's and for Kevin Coughlan at Saint Paul's. Envelopes are at the back of each church for requests. A £5 donation is requested for an intention.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER**

*For the abolition of the Death Penalty, that, because it attacks the dignity of the human person, it may be abolished in every country.*

**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)

## **PARISH**

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS – for the success of our parish Alpha course that through us more people will come to know God’s love for them shown to us in Christ.

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?

Beginning this Friday at 9:15am in the community room at Saint Paul’s. Why not recommend it to a friend or even come with them! *Please note that from now until Christmas Friday morning Mass will begin at 9:30am to accommodate people coming to the Alpha course.*

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – Our Lady’s is open 2pm–5pm this afternoon. Why not bring a friend or volunteer for an hour? Thank you to those who have volunteered both weekends. We have had a lot of people through the doors & many great conversations.

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?

FLAYBRICK MEMORIAL GARDENS – Flaybrick was the first public cemetery to be opened in Wirral. It is where two Bishops of Shrewsbury are buried along with many local people & some previous Parish Priests in Birkenhead including Canon Tallon. They offer monthly guided walks; the next walk is **next Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September**. Meet at the chapels at 10:45am wearing appropriate footwear & clothing. Walks last approximately 90 mins. A £2 donation is asked for all guided walks.

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!

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 £359.30   Eye Fund/CAFOD/Zambia £31.40   Aid to Church in Need £126.40**

*Thank you for your continuing generosity.*

## **CHARITY**

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.

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.

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.

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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 3: A visible Church* – **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 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; beginning, **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.**
- ❖ **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. Canon Niall Mullaley from Saint Philip Neri parish will lead us in our Advent reflection.
- ❖ **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