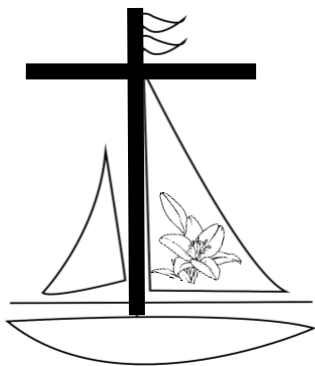




Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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18th October 2026 – Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE OF CATECHESIS – JUBILEE 2025: JESUS CHRIST OUR HOPE. IV. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD. 4. EASTER SPIRITUALITY ANIMATES FRATERNITY. “LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU” (CF. JN 15:12)

This shows the need, more urgent today than ever, to reflect on the greeting with which Saint Francis of Assisi addressed everyone, regardless of their geographical, cultural, religious and doctrinal origins: *omnes fratres* was the inclusive way in which the Saint placed all human beings on the same level, precisely because he recognized them in their common destiny of dignity, dialogue, welcome and salvation. [Pope Francis](#) repropose this approach of the *Poverello* of Assisi, emphasizing its relevance after eight hundred years, in the Encyclical [Fratelli tutti](#).

That “*tutti*”, everyone, which meant for Saint Francis the welcoming sign of a universal fraternity, expresses an essential feature of Christianity, which ever since the beginning has been the proclamation of the Good News destined for the salvation of all, never in an exclusive or private form. This fraternity is based on Jesus’ commandment, which is new insofar as He accomplished it Himself, the superabundant fulfilment of the will of the Father: thanks to Him, who loved us and gave Himself for us, we can in turn love one another and give our lives for others, as children of the one Father and true brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

Jesus loved us up to the very end, says the Gospel of John (cf. 13:1). As the passion draws near, the Master knows well that his historical time is coming to an end. He fears what is about to happen; He experiences the most terrible torment and abandonment. His Resurrection, on the third day, is the beginning of a new history. And the disciples become fully brothers and sisters, after so much time of life spent together, not only when they live through the pain of the death of Jesus, but above all, when they recognize Him as the Risen One, receive the gift of the Spirit and become witnesses to Him.

Brothers and sisters support each other in hardship, they do not turn their back on those who are in need, and they weep and rejoice together in the active pursuit of unity, trust and mutual reliance. The dynamic is that which Jesus Himself gives to us: “Love one another as I have loved you” (cf. *Jn* 15:12). The fraternity given by Christ, who died and rose again, frees us from the negative logic of selfishness, division and arrogance, and restores to us our original vocation, in the name of a love and a hope that are renewed every day. The Risen One has shown us the way to journey with Him, to feel and to be “brothers and sisters all”.

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 OCTOBER 2026

For mental health ministry – Let us pray that the mental health ministry may be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

MASSES FOR WEEK				
Sunday	TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Alan Martin Stevens R.I.P.	OL
Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses				
Monday	Saint Peter of Alcantara	9am	Pam Cassidy (Birthday Blessings)	OL
Tuesday	Ferial	9:30am	Marie McHugh R.I.P.	OL
Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome!				
Wednesday	Ferial	9am	Fr Alberto Clarke R.I.P.	OL
Thursday	Ferial			
Friday	Ferial	9:30am	Andy Malley (Birthday)	SP
Saturday	Ferial			
Sunday	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am	People of the Parish	SP
		11am	Nahid Stevens (Birthday)	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, Chloe Fortune, Anne Gillet, Aidan Hampsen, Colin James, Clare McElroy, Helen Ryan, Philip Smith, Michael Toner, Eileen & Julia Ward, Sarah & Gary Williams & Pat Wise.

Those who have died

Thomas Dunne & Kerry Morgan

SAINT JOSEPH LAMP

The lamp burns for the intentions of Alan Martin Stevens R.I.P at Our Lady's and Warren & Yvonne Francis at Saint Pauls. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church, £5 donation.

PARISH

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS SINCE THE REOPENING OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH – today to mark 75 years since the reopening of Our Lady's church following its restoration after bomb damage in the second world war, we welcome back Canon Phil Moor, a former Parish Priest of our parish, who will be preaching at 11am Mass and which will be followed by more festive refreshments!

Next year marks 170 years since the creation of Our Lady's parish & 165 since the opening of the church, to celebrate this Bishop Mark will be joining us for a Sunday celebration in May.

PAUSE FOR HOPE – An ecumenical service for anyone in anyway affected by cancer will be held **TODAY** at 3:30pm in Saint Michael & All Angels church, New Hey Road, Woodchurch. www.pauseforhope.org.uk.

The initiative came from retired thoracic surgeon Professor Ray Donnelly, MBE FRCS, Founder and President of the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. He was supported by numerous Cancer Charities across the Northwest, including Marie Curie Cancer Care, The Linda McCartney Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support and Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology NHS Trust. The Service has been a tremendous support over the years for hundreds of people affected by cancer- either themselves or family and friends. With one in two people now affected by cancer in some way, perhaps now more than ever do we need a moment when we can come together to pause, and hope.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS – we will begin preparation for First Forgiveness & First Holy Communion for those children who do not attend Catholic schools on Saturday 7th November at 4pm in the presbytery at Our Lady's.

CONFIRMATION 2027 – We will be starting the preparation sessions for this year's confirmation programme for any young person who is in Y8 or above on Thursday 5th November at 7pm in Our Lady's. Information cards with all the times & dates will be available in the next couple of weeks.

THE ANNUAL ANSELMIANS ASSOCIATION MASS – will be celebrated by Fr. Bernard Forshaw in Saint Anselm's College chapel at 11am on Saturday 31st October. At the Mass all Anselmians and family members who have passed away during the past year will be commemorated and prayed for. Bereaved family members are cordially invited and there will be light refreshments afterwards. For further details please contact the Association at anselmianassociation@st-anselms.com

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE – We will be holding a Christmas Raffle in the coming weeks to raise money for Parish funds. We would be grateful for donations of Spirits, Wine, Chocolates and Biscuits for raffle prizes. Please put in the box at the back of Our Lady's church or the sacristy at Saint Pauls. Many thanks for all your support and generosity.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – is today, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, the Pontifical Missions Society. Donation envelopes will be available at the back of each church. You can also support the work of Missio on an ongoing basis through the red box appeal.

NESTON FLOWER SOCIETY invite you to Flower arranging workshop on Tuesday 20th October 1pm-3pm in United Reformed church Hall, Moorside Lane, Neston Ch66 6UZ. The sessions are hands on using sustainable materials. Tea, Coffee & cake provided. Cost £15 per person. For more information or to book on please contact the secretary Barbara Fisher barbfish54@gmail.com

BONUS BALL SCHEME – The winning number on Saturday 10th October was 21 & congratulations to the winner from Saint Pauls. 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 *by Sunday 25th October*. Thank you for your continued support.

EASY FUNDRAISING – As you are shopping online, don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising especially when shopping for car, home or travel insurance! Thank you to everyone who has used it.

<u>PARISH FINANCES</u> <u>Sunday 11th October 2026</u> Offertory £346.51 (Cash); £87.50 (Standing Orders) £0 (Card/Contactless/Web); Zambia/Caritas £18.03 <i>Thank you for your continuing generosity.</i>	
To donate online, please scan the QR code.	

JOB VACANCY

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN (PRIEST OR LAY) – This is a unique opportunity to support women in custody and prison staff through spiritual leadership, pastoral care and ministry. Alongside providing faith-based care to Roman Catholic prisoners and staff, you will work collaboratively with colleagues to meet the pastoral needs of people of all faiths and none. Through your ministry, you will help create an environment where women can rediscover dignity, purpose and hope. We are looking for someone who is empathetic, resilient and committed to serving others with respect and integrity. This role provides an opportunity to live out your vocation in a setting where your faith and pastoral gifts can have a profound and lasting impact. This is a one day a week permanent 8 hours post. For info, please contact Managing Chaplain Jo Hirst at Joanna.hirst1@justice.gov.uk or 01625 553015. Closing date for applications is 26th November.

CHARITY

TESCO BAGS OF HELP – If you shop in Tesco Extra Bidston Moss then please use your blue tokens (available at the checkout) to support Saint Paul's school, they are hoping to get the money via the scheme for a new fruit fridge helping our children to continue to make healthy choices!

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – You can still donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope

RED MISSIO BOX TO BE COLLECTED –Angela will collect any boxes in late November. Contact her on 07864336321 or leave in the sacristy at either church.

WIRRAL FOODBANK HARVEST APPEAL – please see the 'Reverse Advent Calendar' for the duration of November or for further details visit www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk . Donations can be left outside the Saint Joseph chapel at Our Lady's or in the sacristy at Saint Paul's.

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.**