



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

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## **24<sup>th</sup> November 2024 - Christ the King**

### **CATECHESIS. THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES THE PEOPLE OF GOD TOWARDS JESUS OUR HOPE. 4. THE SPIRIT TEACHES THE BRIDE TO PRAY. THE PSALMS, SYMPHONY OF PRAYER IN THE BIBLE**

But we cannot only live on the legacy of the past: it is necessary to make the Psalms our prayer. It was written that, in a certain sense, we must ourselves become the “scribes” of the Psalms, making them ours and praying with them. If there are Psalms, or just verses, that speak to our heart, it is good to repeat them and pray them throughout the day. Psalms are prayers “for all seasons”: there is no state of mind or need that does not find in them the best words to be transformed into prayer. Unlike other prayers, Psalms do not lose their effectiveness by being repeated; on the contrary, they increase it. Why? Because they are inspired by God and “breathe” God, every time they are read with faith.

If we feel oppressed by remorse or guilt, because we are sinners, we can repeat with David: “Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love” (Ps 51:1). If we want to express a strong personal bond with love, let us say: “O God, thou art my God / I seek thee, / my soul thirsts for thee; / my flesh faints for thee, / as in a dry and weary land where no water is” (Ps 63:1). It is not for nothing that the Liturgy has inserted this Psalm in the Lauds of Sunday and the solemnities. And if fear and anguish assail us, those wonderful words of Psalm 23 come to our rescue: “The Lord is my shepherd ... Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, / I fear no evil” (Ps 23:4). Psalms allow us not to impoverish our prayer by reducing it merely to requests, to a continuous “give me, give us...”. Let us learn from the Lord’s Prayer, which, before asking for our “daily bread”, says, “Hallowed be thy name; thy Kingdom come, thy will be done”. The Psalms help us to open ourselves to a prayer that is less focused on ourselves: a prayer of praise, of blessing, of thanksgiving; and they also help us give voice to all creation, involving it in our praise. Brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit, who gave the Church Bride the words to pray to her divine Bridegroom, help us to make them resound in the Church today, and to make this year of preparation for the Jubilee a true symphony of prayer. Thank you!

### **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.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK			
Sunday	<b>CHRIST THE KING</b>	<b>9:30am</b> People of the Parish <b>11am</b> John Ellis R.I.P.	<b>SP</b> <b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>			
Monday	Ferial	<b>9am</b> Geoff Little	<b>OL</b>
<i>Access to Our Lady's for weekday Mass is through the entrance to the right side of the church</i>			
Tuesday	Ferial	<b>9:30am</b> John Pearson R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday mornings. Everyone welcome!</i>			
Wednesday	Ferial	<b>9am</b> Gerard Quinlan	<b>OL</b>
Thursday	Ferial		
Friday	Ferial	<b>9:30am</b> Alice & Arthur Cook R.I.P.	<b>SP</b>
Saturday	<b>Saint Andrew</b>		
Sunday	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>9:30am</b> People of the Parish <b>11am</b> Billy Boylan R.I.P.	<b>SP</b> <b>OL</b>

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

*Those who are sick*

*Irene Fortune, Anna Coughlan, Canon Philip Moor, Lily Baker, Christopher Browne, Rob Creer, Eileen & Julia Ward, Fr Febin Thomas CMI, Philip Smith, Clare McElroy & Teresa Denye*

*Those who have died*

*Michael Christopher Coughlan & Mgr Peter Walton*

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER 2024**

*For all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter that they will find support in their community and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.*

**SAINT JOSEPH LAMP**

This week the lamp burns for Eileen, Cathy & Boylan Family at Our Lady's and Michael Coughlan R.I.P. at Saint Paul's. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church. A £5 donation is requested.

**ASSISTED DYING BILL - BISHOPS' STATEMENT: BE COMPASSIONATE**

The legislation to legalise assisted suicide is to be voted on Friday 29th November. You may also find it helpful to watch the documentary '[Better off Dead](#)' written and presented by the disabled actress Liz Carr for BBC One and iPlayer about the rapid extension of assisted dying in Canada from just terminally ill people to a much wider group to assist you in contributing to these debates. The

government themselves have stated that social care, the NHS, social benefits for carers are not fit for purpose. Hospices and palliative care are massively underfunded too. Aside from any other factors in such circumstances it seems the wrong time to introduce such a bill before reform and resources are addressed. If you have not already done so, **please complete the postcard inside last Sunday's newsletter with your address details and send by affixing a postage stamp to our MP, Alison McGovern before the vote on 29<sup>th</sup> November.** Further copies are available at the back of church.

## **PARISH**

**CONFIRMATION** Any young person who is in Year 8 or above at school and wishes to enrol in this year's Confirmation programme please get an information flyer from the back of church. The sessions for this year's confirmation programme continue on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in Our Lady's. If you know someone who would like to be confirmed but hasn't yet joined tell them to come & bring a friend or three!

**FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER COUGHLAN** – As you will have seen in last week's newsletter, sadly my father died last week. His funeral arrangements are as follows; he will be received into Holy Family church in Sale Moor (M33 2GB), Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7pm. His Requiem Mass will be the following day, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 11:30am. Any parishioners who would like to attend are very welcome. If you are travelling by car please enter your registration into the system on entering the church in order to avoid being fined.

In the meantime, I am very grateful to all those who have been in contact with me to express their condolences to both me & my family. We are very grateful for all your messages, prayers & Masses which you have requested to be said. I am also very grateful to the many local priests who have helped out over the past couple of weeks & are continuing to support the parish in my absence. May God bless all of you & give you the reward of your kindness & generosity, Fr Michael

**LAUNCH OF OUR 2025 JUBILEE YEAR DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024** – You are invited to join Canon Christopher Matthews, our Pilgrimage Director & the pilgrimage management team for Mass at 12:15pm in the Cathedral which will be followed by coffee & cake in the Cathedral Parish room and an opportunity to find out more about our 2025 Jubilee Year pilgrimage, including how you can get involved.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS** are now available at the Piety stall at each church. There are also copies of CAFOD's world gifts catalogue available as well for you to take home.

**WEEKLY RAFFLE** – Congratulations to last week's winner with ticket no. 300. Have. Donations for prizes would be greatly appreciated e.g. Wine, Spirits, Chocolates and Biscuits. Please hand in to the helpers at the back of Our Lady's. Many thanks for all your support and funds raised will go towards the Christmas Raffle to be held in December.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** – For anyone who has been baptised as a Catholic, as a member of another Christian community or never been baptised at all, we will be running the Catholicism course. Our next meeting is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6pm in the Saint Joseph chapel at Our Lady's.

**NOVEMBER LISTS** – envelopes are available at the back of each church for people to place the names of deceased family & friends & when completed place them in the baskets in front of the altars from now until next Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent. We will pray for them each day during November & Mass will be offered for all those on the lists each week.

DILEXIT NOS is the fourth encyclical of Pope Francis. In this encyclical he reflects on the human and divine love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The encyclical can be accessed on the Vatican website <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2024/10/24/enciclica-dilexit-nos.html>

HANDELS MESSIAH PERFORMANCE with Manchester Cathedral Choir will take place next Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in Manchester Cathedral, to mark the start of Advent. It is a celebration of Christ, told through a series of wonderful arias and choral pieces culminating in the magnificent Hallelujah Chorus.

WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS – from this week we welcome Fr Tom Cunnah who has recently moved into the area. He will be celebrating our Mass on Wednesday mornings in Our Lady's.

CAFOD CHRISTMAS FUN RUN, WALK OR WHEEL will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December at Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, Liverpool L15 4LE.. 10 am registration , 11am start line. Further details on [cafod.org.uk/news/events/liverpool-fun-run](http://cafod.org.uk/news/events/liverpool-fun-run).

STRONGER TOGETHER COMMUNITY GROUP empowers members to address daily life challenges in a supportive environment. Tuesday mornings (9:30am–12pm) in Saint Joseph's parish centre, North Road. The group is facilitated by Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury.

EASY FUNDRAISING – thanks to your generosity in using Easy Fundraising, our latest payout is £24.38. As you are shopping for your Christmas presents online, don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising donation reminder so that the parish can collect even more free donations as you shop!

**PARISH FINANCE – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Offertory £392.90 (cash); £17.50 (Standing Orders);  
£10 (card/contactless); Zambia/Eye Fund/Caritas £25**

*Thank you for your continuing generosity.*

To donate online,  
please scan the  
QR code.



STANDING ORDERS – You can set a standing order up through your online banking or via the form which is available from the parish office. If you are a UK taxpayer, please gift aid these payments.

BONUS BALL SCHEME – There was no winner in the draw held on 16<sup>th</sup> November with no. 41, the prize money will roll over to next week's draw.

**CHARITY**

WIRRAL FOODBANK ADVENT CALENDAR– is at the back of Our Lady's church. During November each date square on the calendar has an item to be donated. *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 – Please donate any old glasses to support the work of the Eye Fund. Boxes for donations are at the back of each church.

TABLET BLISTER PACKS – please donate used ones to support the Marie Curie charity.

**JOB VACANCIES**

**DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS** further details of which can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2130729> . For information

or a candidate pack please contact Liam Dowds, Emmaus Advising Consultant, on 01737 652 043 or email at [ldowds@emmausleadership.me](mailto:ldowds@emmausleadership.me). **Closing date Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 at 5:00 pm.**

**TWO ADMINISTRATOR vacancies**, (full time: 35 hours and part time: 25 hours) have arisen within our Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Department, Details can be found at <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> completed application should be sent to Pauline McCulloch, [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) **Closing date Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November.**

**WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT** - Wirral Foodbank (part time 22 hours). For an application form and copy of job description please contact Richard Roberts, General Manager, Wirral Foodbank on 07947387930 or email [manager@wirralfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:manager@wirralfoodbank.org.uk). **Closing date 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.**