



Parish of Holy Cross, Our Lady & Saint Paul

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10th November 2024 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CATECHESIS. THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES THE PEOPLE OF GOD TOWARDS JESUS OUR HOPE. 3. "ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD". KNOWING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH GOD'S WORDS.

One way of doing a spiritual reading of the Word of God is what is called the *lectio divina*, a word whose meaning we perhaps do not understand. It consists in dedicating a time of the day to the personal and meditative reading of a passage of the Scripture. And this is very important: every day, take the time to listen to, to meditate, reading a passage from the Scripture. And therefore, I recommend that you always have a pocket edition of the Gospel and keep it in your bag, in your pocket... So, when you are travelling, or have a little free time, you can take it and read it. This is very important for life. Get a pocket Gospel and read it once, twice, or whenever you have the chance throughout the day. But the quintessential spiritual reading of the Scriptures is the community reading in the Liturgy at Mass. There, we see how an event or a teaching, given by the Old Testament, finds its full expression in the Gospel of Christ. And the homily, that comment by the celebrant, must help to transfer the Word of God from the book to life. But for this, the homily must be brief: an image, a thought and a sentiment. The homily must not go on for more than eight minutes, because after that time, attention is lost and the people fall asleep, and they are right. A homily should be like that. And I want to say this to priests, who talk a lot, very often, and one does not understand what they are talking about. A brief homily: a thought, a sentiment and a cue for action, for what to do. No more than eight minutes. Because the homily must help transfer the Word of God from the book to life. And among the many words of God that we listen to every day in Mass or in the Liturgy of the Hours, there is always one that is meant especially for us. Something that touches the heart. Welcomed into the heart, it can illuminate our day and inspire our prayer. It is a question of not letting it fall on deaf ears! Let us conclude with a thought that can help us to fall in love with the Word of God. Like certain pieces of music, the Sacred Scripture too has a base note that accompanies it from the beginning to the end, and this note is the love of God. "The whole Bible", observes Saint Augustine, "does nothing but tell of God's love". And Saint Gregory the Great defines the Scriptures as "a letter from God Almighty to His creature", like a letter from a bridegroom to the bride, and exhorts us to "learn and know the heart of God in the words of God". "Through this revelation", says Vatican Council II again, "the invisible God, out of the abundance of His love, speaks to men

as friends and lives among them, so that He may invite and take them into fellowship with Himself" (*Dei Verbum*, 2).

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 | 32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9:30am People of the Parish 11am Francisco & Sharmila (Anniversary) | SP OL |
| <i>Tea & Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i> | | | |
| Monday | Saint Martin of Tours | | |
| <i>Access to Our Lady's for weekday Mass is through the entrance to the right side of the church</i> | | | |
| Tuesday | Saint Josaphat | 9:30am Jessie Davenport (Birthday Remembrance) | OL |
| <i>Tea & Coffee are served in the Saint Joseph chapel after Mass on Tuesday mornings. Everyone welcome!</i> | | | |
| Wednesday | Ferial | | |
| Thursday | Ferial | | |
| Friday | Ferial | | |
| Saturday | Ferial | | |
| Sunday | 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9:30am People of the Parish 11am Bosco Fernandes (Birthday) | SP OL |

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who are sick

Irene Fortune, Anna & Michael 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

Mgr Peter Walton, Fr Dennis Maher & Ellen Mary Kenny

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 Andy Malley at Our Lady's and Michael Coughlan at Saint Paul's. Envelopes for intentions are at the back of each church. A £5 donation is requested.

ASSISTED DYING BILL

As you will have seen in the news Kim Leadbeater MP has introduced a Bill into parliament to legally permit medical doctors to end the life of those with a terminal illness. This bill, which is to be voted

on at the end of the month, is concerning on several levels but especially in this attempt to move doctors out of their primary duty to care for patients and towards participation in what will soon, if the bill is passed, become a new UK business sector of euthanasia provision. You may 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. My own research in Europe shows that disabled and other marginalised people can be most at risk. Please write to our MP, Alison McGovern in your own words – not more than one page - sharing your own experiences and views. MPs will have a free vote and so will be interested to hear what you have to say. 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 to me the wrong time to introduce such a bill before reform and resources are addressed. Alison can be contacted by email alison.mcgovern.mp@parliament.uk or through her constituency office 77 New Chester Road, New Ferry, Wirral CH62 1AB.

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 first session for this year's confirmation programme is Thursday 21st November at 7pm in 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 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.

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.

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 Holy Father describes his letter as bringing together precious reflections of previous magisterial texts and a long history that goes back to the Sacred Scriptures to re-propose to the whole Church, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pope Francis has written this Encyclical Letter amid the 350th anniversary celebrations of the apparitions to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. Bishop Mark was asked to write an introduction for the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales website, this can be accessed here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-davies-dilexit-nos/>

The encyclical itself can be accessed on the Vatican website (link below). <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2024/10/24/enciclica-dilexit-nos.html>

TALK BY CARDINAL MICHAEL FITZGERALD – at Saint Werburgh's church in Chester (CH1 1QD) at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th November. Cardinal Fitzgerald has spent all his working life as a missionary on the interface between Islam and Christianity, heading important Vatican departments in this field & working in key Middle East postings, including Egypt & Jerusalem. He is coming to talk about *Muslim-Christian Relations Today*, & to answer our questions. All welcome.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONSIGNOR PETER WALTON – Fr Peter will be received into Saint Alban's, Wallasey on **Monday 18th November** with a Vigil Mass at 7.00pm. Bishop Mark will offer the Requiem Mass on **Tuesday 19th November** at 11.30am. If driving please park at the 'Cherry

Tree Centre' beside the church, which is a Pay and Display carpark. Light refreshments will be available at Saint Alban's Parish Centre following the Requiem Mass.

WEEKLY RAFFLES – start again today and tickets are available at the back of Our Lady's Church. 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 18th November at 6pm in the Saint Joseph chapel at Our Lady's.

ROSARY SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – 21st November 2024 at 2pm in Saint John the Evangelist church, New Ferry. The guest preacher will be Fr Humphrey O'Connor.

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.

CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD? – Have you considered a vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? For more information see shrewsburyvocations.org If you would like to explore God's call for your life and learn about other opportunities for discernment, please email the vocations director, Fr Tony McGrath vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

PARISH FINANCE – 3rd November 2024

**Offertory £481.15 (cash); £17.50 (Standing Orders);
£41 card/contactless); Zambia/Eye Fund/Caritas £17**

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 2nd November 2024 with no.34. A list of available numbers to buy are at the back of each church.

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

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 **Closing date Friday 29th November 2024.**