



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

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### 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### CATECHESIS. THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES. THE PEOPLE OF GOD TOWARDS JESUS OUR HOPE. 2. *Where the Spirit of God is, there is freedom.*

In today's catechesis, I would like to reflect with you on the name by which the Holy Spirit is called in the Bible. The first thing we know of a person is their name. It is by their name that we address them, that we distinguish and remember them. The third Person of the Trinity also has a name: he is called the Holy Spirit. But "Spirit" is the Latinised version. The name of the Spirit, the one by which the first recipients of revelation knew him, by which the prophets, the psalmists, Mary, Jesus, and the Apostles invoked him, is *Ruach*, which means breath, wind, air.

In the Bible, a name is so important that it is almost identified with the person himself. To sanctify the name of God is to sanctify and honour God himself. It is never a merely conventional designation: it always says something about the person, their origin, or their mission. This is also the case with the name *Ruach*. It contains the first fundamental revelation about the Person and function of the Holy Spirit. It was precisely by observing the wind and its manifestations that the biblical writers were led by God to discover a "wind" of a different nature. It is not by accident that at Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles accompanied by the "rush of a mighty wind" (cf. *Acts* 2:2). It was as if the Holy Spirit wanted to put his signature on what was happening.

What, then, does his name, *Ruach*, tell us about the Holy Spirit? The image of the wind serves first of all to express the Holy Spirit's *power*. "Spirit and power", or "power of the Spirit" is a recurring combination throughout the Bible. For the wind is an overwhelming force, an indomitable force, capable even of moving oceans. Again, however, to discover the full meaning of the realities of the Bible, one must not stop at the Old Testament but come to Jesus. Alongside power, Jesus will highlight another characteristic of the wind: its *freedom*. To Nicodemus, who visits him at night, Jesus solemnly says: "The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit" (*Jn* 3:8).

The wind is the only thing that absolutely cannot be bridled, cannot be "bottled up" or put in a box. We seek to "bottle up" the wind or put it in a box: it's not possible. It is free. To presume to enclose the Holy Spirit in concepts, definitions, theses or treatises, as modern rationalism has sometimes attempted to do, is to lose it, nullify it, or reduce it to the purely human spirit, to a simple spirit. There is, however, a similar temptation in the ecclesiastical field, and it is that of wanting to enclose the Holy Spirit in canons, institutions, definitions. The Spirit creates and inspires institutions, but he

himself cannot be “institutionalised,” “objectified”. The wind blows “where it will”; in the same way the Spirit distributes his gifts “as he wills” (1 Cor 12:11).

### **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.

<b>MASSES FOR THE WEEK</b>			
Sunday	<b>29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>9:30am</b> People of the Parish	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b> Agostihno Dourado R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>
<i>Tea &amp; Coffee are served after both Sunday Masses</i>			
Monday	Ferial	<b>9am</b> John Ellis R.I.P.	<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> Frank Morris (Birthday)	<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> Denis Small	<b>OL</b>
Thursday	Ferial		
Friday	Ferial	<b>9:30am</b> Tony McGettrick R.I.P.	<b>SP</b>
Saturday	Saints Chad & Cedd		
Sunday	<b>30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>9:30am</b> People of the Parish	<b>SP</b>
		<b>11am</b> Jacinth Viegas R.I.P.	<b>OL</b>

### **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, Ellen Stewart & Brenda Devey*

### **POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2024**

*For a shared Mission that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a synodal lifestyle, as a sign of coresponsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission among priests, religious and lay people.*

### **SAINT JOSEPH LAMP**

This week the lamp burns for Hector Macphee R.I.P. at Our Lady’s and Anna & 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 introduced a Bill into parliament last week to legally permit medical doctors to end the life of those with a terminal illness. This bill is likely to be

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](mailto:alison.mcgovern.mp@parliament.uk) or through her constituency office 77 New Chester Road, New Ferry, Wirral CH62 1AB.

## **PARISH**

ROSARY FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER - Monday to Saturday evenings this week at 6pm the SyroMalabar community will be leading the rosary for anyone who wishes to join them. This Sunday & next Sunday the rosary will be at 4pm. We remember that October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

PRISONERS SUNDAY - last Sunday was a day dedicated to praying for prisoners', their families & all who work in prisons. Please do look at the work of the Catholic charity, the Prison Advice & Care trust <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - today is World Mission Sunday when we pray for the work of spreading the Gospel in many parts of our world, we pray especially for the work of Missio.

ZAMBIA/EYE FUND/CARITAS ENVELOPES - for the year 24/25 commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> November are now available for collection at the back of each church.

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 at 1pm in Saint Mary's Caritas centre, Crewe CW1 2JX. All members are invited to attend. Please send any apologies to [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk). Prior to the meeting, Mass will be celebrated in Saint Mary's church at midday.

LIVERPOOL BACH COLLECTIVE PRESENTS: *Du sollt Got, deinen Herren, lieben* (You shall love God, your Lord, with all your heart - [Cantata 77]) - Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6:30pm in Saint Michael & All Angels church, Woodchurch. This will be a service of Evening Prayer & the cantata.

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 4<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm in the presbytery.

UPTON HALL SCHOOL MASS - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 11am in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool. This Mass is to celebrate Catholic Education & to pray for the present school community. Everyone associated with Upton Hall or Holt Hill convent schools is warmly invited to participate in this celebration. This year also celebrates 175 years of Upton Hall school & 25 years of the school annual Mass.

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

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025 - After a successful & prayerful pilgrimage this year the dates for next year are out now, *SAVE THE DATE!*

By air: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July - Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July / By coach: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August

Youth pilgrimage: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August

*Our Young People from across the Diocese were amazing this year, they were prayerful, respectful & always cheerful even when sleep deprived! Hopefully we can bring many more of our young people especially from our Birkenhead parishes next year, watch this space!*

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](http://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](mailto:vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

KNIGHTS OF SAINT COLUMBA - the order believes in charity, unity & fraternity, over many years they have helped priests, parishes & our Catholic schools & many projects internationally. Membership is open to Catholic men who are aged 18 & over. Please contact Tony Connolly on 07950 392193.

**PARISH FINANCE - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Offertory £433.70 (cash); £17.50 (Standing Orders);  
(card/contactless); Zambia/Eye Fund/Caritas £19.25**

*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.

EASY FUNDRAISING - Please support our Parish on Easy Fundraising - you can raise **FREE** donations when you shop online at over 6000 retailers (inc. car & home insurance). Thank you to everyone who supports our parish by using Easy Fundraising. ***Our latest payout was £52.60***

BONUS BALL SCHEME - Congratulations to last week's winner in the draw held on 5<sup>th</sup> October with no.19. Payment is now due for draw on 26<sup>th</sup> October for those who would like to continue or join, please give in £5 asap. A list of available numbers to buy are at the back of each church, speak to Carol at Saint Paul's or anyone at the back of Our Lady's church to join.

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**CHARITY**

HARVEST COLLECTION @ WIRRAL FOODBANK - donations can be left at the back of Saint Paul's or outside the Saint Joseph chapel in Our Lady's. ***The foodbank is URGENTLY in need of Tinned tomatoes, fruit, vegetables, meat, jam, deodorant & washing up liquid.***

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

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.