



**Newsletter for
week commencing
4 October 2026**

**Twenty Seventh
Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A**

Sacred Heart and Saint Alban Parish Priest : Canon Christopher Cunningham Deacon : Rev Terry Dolan: 01925 492857 Prison Chaplain : Fr James Fasakin C.S.Sp	Tel: 01925 630928 (Parish Office) Office hours: Monday-Friday (8.30am-1.00pm) Email : stalbanspriory@rcaol.org.uk Website : www.sacredheartandstalban.org Facebook : Parish of Sacred Heart and St Alban Warrington
Saint Joseph Parish Priest : Fr Raymond Anyanwu C.S.Sp Deacon : Rev John McClure (Retired)	Tel: 01925 722105 Office hours : Monday-Friday (9.00am-12 noon) Alternative Tel : 01925 631086 Email: stjoseph.warrington@rcaol.org.uk Website : stjosephpenketh.co.uk Facebook : St Joseph's Penketh Archdiocese of Liverpool
Saint Paul of the Cross Parish Priest : Fr John Schofield	Tel : 01925 226184 (Parish Office) Office hours: Monday-Friday (9.30am-2.00pm) Email : stpaulofthecross@rcaol.org.uk Facebook : St Paul of the Cross UK
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Prayer

God our heavenly Father, we seek guidance from the Holy Spirit, as we move forward in proclaiming the mission you have given us to do in bringing Jesus to the people who need Him.

Give us the courage to work together in making difficult decisions and grant us perseverance to endure the challenges that lie before us. May we continually focus on Jesus, nurture our bond with Him daily and pray for the strength to complete what we have to do with unwavering dedication.

All these we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Sacred Heart and St Alban Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday, 23 October
(from 10.00 am).
Contact Sue (07939518963).
Everyone welcome.

Gospel Reflection - Whose World is it Anyway?

It is not a popular idea to know that we are accountable. We prefer to think of ourselves as free spirits on this earth, carving our future and influencing our own destiny. We don't like to think that God might have different expectations of us. So what happens when we forget that our lives are a gift from God? What happens when we forget that human-kind is God's creation? What happens when we forget that the planet we live on belongs to God?

The tenants in today's parable had forgotten that they were accountable. A landowner had planted a vineyard and left it to be worked by tenants. When the harvest drew near, the owner sent servants to obtain his produce, but the tenants beat and killed them. The landowner then sent a second lot of servants and eventually his own son. They were all similarly mistreated. It was as though the tenants no longer recognised the owner. It was as though they had begun to think of the vineyard as their own. Matthew clearly uses the parable, addressed to the chief priests and elders, as a summary of salvation history. The landlord's servants stand for the succession of prophets God sent to Israel only to see them ignored. The son is clearly a figure of Jesus himself. Jesus is God's last appeal.

If today we are now the tenants then we are now subject to God's expectations of us. How do we compare to the original tenants who did not recognise the owner's authority? Switch on the news, read the papers are we producing the fruits God expects of us? What happens when we forget that Christ is our cornerstone? What happens when we make up our own rules with little thought for Jesus' teachings? As individuals we can best address God's expectation by examining our own small corner of the vineyard. God expects a harvest of peace, love, integrity, forgiveness and sharing. Do we step up to the mark?

ADOREMUS - Saturday, 10 October (9.00am to 6.00pm) Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

The theme this year is... 'How we are Eucharist'

Come and join us to adore the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The event itself is free and available to all. At the Metropolitan Cathedral, there will be Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day, Holy Mass, opportunities for confession, a variety of workshops and a shared time of prayer during the day for all. Celebrated with Archbishop John Sherrington, this is an event not to be missed! Sign up for workshops here ...archdioceseofliverpool.org/adoremus2026

**Parish of Sacred Heart &
Saint Alban Safer
Recruitment and
DBS Representatives**
Irene Crowder, Margaret
McGrath and Paul Towey.
**Archdiocese Safeguarding
Team - 0151 522 1043**
safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

First Holy Communion 2027

St Joseph

Applications are now open for children who are in Year 4 or above. Forms are available from church, the parish office or from St Vincent's and St Joseph's schools.

For more information see the posters at the back of Church or on the noticeboards.

Sacred Heart & Saint Alban

Application forms are currently being distributed at both schools for children in Year 4 and above.

Parents/guardians of children who do not attend our schools and wish them to receive the Sacrament are asked to contact the Parish office on **01925 630928**. Thank you.

Be Women of Courage Women's Weekend at Irenaeus (16-18 October)

Join us for a women's weekend of sharing and exploring the call of God in our lives.

For more information contact centreirenaeus@gmail.com

St Joseph's UCM

Monday, 5 October
Bingo in the Parish Centre
starting at 1.30pm.
Everyone welcome

St Joseph's Gardening Team

will meet on Saturday,
10 October from 8.30am.
All are welcome.

St Joseph's Church Carers
will meet on Thursday,
8 October from 9.00am.
All help is greatly
appreciated.

The Winter Ball will take place on
Sunday, 29 November in Liverpool
(venue to be confirmed).

It is being held by a group of
young Catholics and is aimed at
young people aged 18-30. There
will be food, wine, music and
dancing with a Scottish Ceilidh
Band as well as a jazz pianist.
More information can be found at
<https://forms.gle/zhLNU1S9pucUujDu8>

Archbishop's Certificate Starting Monday 14 October

The Archbishop's Certificate in Catechesis is the principal training course in the Archdiocese of Liverpool whose aim is to equip and support catechists and lay leaders in evangelisation and formation.

Applications are open for this year.

For more information, or to apply, please visit: aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool

Upcoming Parish Events

Join us for two fantastic musical evenings hosted by the St Joseph's Events Team! Both events require advance ticket purchases to assist with seating and catering.

Swing Band Night – On Sunday, 11 October from 6.30pm in the Parish Centre we are showcasing 'The Swinging Woodpeckers' who will be playing the Big Band Classics from the 1920s through to modern hits. Ticket price includes a hotpot supper.

Church by Candlelight Night – Friday, 23 October from 6.30 pm brings Warrington's own *Community Rock Choir* along with local schools choirs to the parish. The Church will be bathed in candlelight as you are treated to a performance of Pop, Rock & Motown chart tracks. Light refreshments are included.

Limited number of tickets left so act quickly. Ticket prices for both events are - adults £10 and children £5 and are available from the Events Team and Parish Centre

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

A meeting will take place on Friday,
9 October at 5.00pm in St Joseph's
Presbytery for those who have expressed
an interest in becoming a Catholic

Lectio for Young Adults

Every Friday at
6.00pm at St Vincent
de Paul's Church
L1 5JN

Fatima Group

First Saturday of the
month at 11:30am at
St Mary's Roman
Catholic Church,
Chorley, PR7 2SR

Young Adult Group Faith-based Talk

*'The Gospel for
Catholics - The
Wonder of the
Incarnation : Matter
Matters!'*

With Fr Peter
McGrail.

Tuesday 13 October
6.30pm-8.00pm

**The Chaplaincy to the University of
Liverpool, John Moores University
and the Liverpool Institute of
Performing Arts** is based at St Philip
Neri Church on Catharine St, L8 7NL.

We offer a place of welcome and hospitality for students and staff. There is a student Sunday Mass at 6pm during term time, and many events through the week and the academic year, helping students to explore their faith, develop their prayer life, and – importantly! socialise with each other and have fun. The chaplain is Fr Neil Ritchie and he is always available to help and support students and staff, whether they are Catholic, are interested in the church or just like what we have on offer. There is a very active student led Catholic Society.

There is a group for staff members which meets fortnightly at the chaplaincy; in the coming year we will be reading together and discussing *The Afternoon of Christianity* by Tomáš Halík.

If you are interested, please contact Fr Neil.

Website : www.cathchap.org.uk

Fr Neil's email:

n.ritchie@rcaol.org.uk

Phone: 0151 709 3858

A meeting for those who have expressed an interest in becoming a **Eucharistic Minister at St Joseph's** will take place this coming Wednesday (7th) after the 6.00pm Mass.

Messages of Thanks

Lynn and all the family would like to thank Fr Raymond, Canon Christopher and everyone for their support, kind words and cards after the sad loss of Martin Mather. A Mass will be said for you all.

Crossing the Line, Making a Difference

Last Sunday proved, once again, that age is merely a statistic. At 73 years young, I crossed the finish line of the Warrington Running Festival 10k Road Race in 1 hour and 9 minutes—setting a personal best and finishing 1st in my category (Over 70+), an achievement that I am immensely proud of.

Thanks to your incredible generosity and support, my efforts raised £1,380 for St Rocco's Hospice—vital funding that directly supports the compassionate care they provide to families across Warrington when it is needed most, something I am privileged to witness weekly as a volunteer. Even more inspiring was the strength of the collective effort on the day: as I was part of a wider St Rocco's running team that raised an extraordinary total of over £20,000.

Running shoes and grit get you across the finish line, but it's your generosity that keeps the doors open and the care flowing. While age is indeed just a number, money is what keeps this wonderful hospice going.

To everyone who donated, cheered, and supported me along the way: *Thank You. Joan Williams*

Canon Christopher reflects When I write these a few words about my thoughts I usually manage to find a theme that has been in mind recently. That has not been easy this weekend as there are so many things going round in my head that the computer (the brain) gets overloaded and freezes.

(When I mentioned this to someone this afternoon, the suggestion was made that I use 'Copilot' which is like A.I. However, I resisted the temptation!).

Having so many thoughts gives rise to stress which is often caused by what might be called the incompetence of some people. I sometimes question why people don't use common sense but we have to tolerate them.

A major cause of concern for all of us is the presence of evil in our world. We hear of it every day in the news headlines and stories. I feel that the devil is having a great time working among people and acting in a subtle way to convince them that he does not exist. I find it strange that warnings are put on the TV screen in news items that viewers may be harmed by what we see, and then they proceed to advertise programmes that exonerate evil and harmful images.

There may be times in life when we feel out of control when we are being manipulated by others who think they know better and who wrongly try to justify themselves and their behaviour. I really feel that they are possessed by a spirit of evil. We must have courage in the knowledge that we have the Spirit of God in us, and we are strengthened by reception of the Sacraments when we receive that Spirit.

There is so much to learn from the Scriptures where we find the Word of God speaking to us through words and events. Only this morning I was encouraged by Saint Paul in his letter to the Philippians ... *"There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength"*. This week we have celebrated the feasts of angels (the Archangel Michael who fought Satan who was then cast into Hell); we each have a Guardian Angel to watch over us and protect us from harm. We do have these helps to conquer evil that we can use.

We celebrate the lives of the saints who have so much to teach us on how they overcame the temptations of the world to give themselves to God. We may feel we cannot live up to the standards they achieved but there are saints living among us even now who do so much to live their Christian calling without broadcasting it. It would be good to know we all have favourite saints from whom we can learn which is why the choice of names for baptism is so important.

This weekend we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi who is well-known. He gave up a wealthy life to follow God, help the poor, and care for nature and animals. During the last few weeks, we have been celebrating the season of Creation leading up to this day, giving thanks to God for our wonderful world and praying that we may continue to respect it always.

All Angels and Saints pray for us.

Right to Life UK : Today is the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. Let us pray with his powerful intercession for our Government, that their ability to support the vulnerable would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us.

Quote of the Week

Proverbs 12:25

Anxiety weighs down the heart,
but a kind word cheers it up.

The October edition of the
Catholic Pic is available to
view at :

https://issuu.com/catholic_pic/docs/catholic_pic_october_2026_45df96024010aa

Advent Retreat for Young Adults

29 November (10 am to 4 pm)

St Basil's Church Widnes WA8 4SZ.

Free of charge but please take a
packed lunch.

More information contact Moses at
m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

Saints for the Week

5 October : Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin. (1905-1938). She was a Polish mystic who in religious life took the name Sr Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament. Her lifelong visions of the Lord and conversations with him she faithfully recorded inspired the devotion of the Divine Mercy. She died at Krakow at the age of 33 and was canonised by Pope John Paul II in 2000 who established that the octave day of Easter would henceforth be retitled for Divine Mercy.

6 October : Saint Bruno, Priest. Bruno of Cologne was educated at Parish and after priestly ordination he taught theology at Reims for 20 years. He was called to Rome by his former pupil Pope Urban II to be his advisor and helper in the needs of the Church. He died at a charterhouse he had established in Calabria.

7 October : Our Lady of the Rosary. Originally known as Our Lady of Victory, this feast was instituted by Pope Pius V on the anniversary of the naval battle at Lepanto (1571). It was said that the Christians were victorious in battle because of the help of the holy Mother of God, invoked by the saying of the rosary. Today's celebration urges the faithful to meditate on the mysteries of Christ, following the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary who was in a special manner associated with the incarnation, passion and glorious resurrection of the Son of God.

9 October : Saint John Henry Newman, Priest and Doctor of the Church (1801-1890). Born in London, he was for over 20 years an Anglican clergyman and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. His studies of the early Church led him progressively towards Catholicism and with the aid of Blessed Dominic Barberi in 1845 he embraced 'the one true fold of the Redeemer'. He was ordained priest and went on to found the Oratory of St Philip Neri in England. A prolific writer and a celebrated orator, he has greatly influenced modern Catholic thought. He was created Cardinal by Pope Leo XIII. Praised for his humility, unstinting care of souls and contributions to the intellectual life of the Church. Cardinal Newman died at Birmingham. He was beatified there by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010 and canonised by Pope Francis in 2019.

Mass Intentions for week commencing 4 October 2026

	Sacred Heart	Saint Alban	Saint Joseph	Saint Paul of the Cross
Sunday 4 October	11.00 am Special Intention	9.30 am Hilda Henshaw (6 th Anniversary)	8.30 am People of the Parish 4.00 pm Leo Taylor (RoS)	10.00 am
Monday 5 October			9.30 am Eileen Connor (RoS)	
Tuesday 6 October	10.30 am Requiem Mass Sol Broadhurst			9.00 am
Wednesday 7 October			6.00 pm Pat Ford	9.00 am
Thursday 8 October		9.30 am – Deceased Members of the Baker & Higginson Families		9.00 am
Friday 9 October	9.30 am Fr Val Farrell		9.30 am – Thomas, Peter & Joseph T J (RoS)	
Saturday 10 October	5.15 pm People of the Parish			6.00 pm
Sunday 11 October	11.00 am Jose & Linta	9.30 am George Michael Antony (RoS)	8.30 am Kevin Thompson 4.00 pm Thomas Moore	10.00 am

Confession	Saturday from 4.30 pm	Saturday from 9.30 am	Wednesday 5.15 pm-5.45 pm	Saturday 5.15-5.45 pm
Adoration [Exposition]		After Mass on Thursday	Monday & Friday 10.00-11.00 am	

- **Holy Eucharist** - Please note that whilst we can receive the Holy Eucharist under both kinds, intinction (dipping the Body of Christ into the Chalice of His blood) **IS NOT PERMITTED**.
- The acronym RoS stands for Repose of the Soul.

Penketh Support Group Food Hub
Meeting Lane Community Centre
WA5 2HB. Opening Hours Thursday,
Friday & Saturday until 12:30pm. If
you require a food parcel please
contact Helen on 07415 939808 or
email penketh2020@outlook.com

The Legion of Mary meets on
Tuesdays at 1.30 pm in the
Loreto Room [behind St Joseph's
Church]. **All welcome**

Why not visit our website and
keep up-to-date on all the
news at
www.sacredheartandstalban.org
or follow us on Facebook @
**Parish of Sacred Heart and
St Alban Warrington**
Why not take a moment to
check in !

Please visit St Joseph's
website for all its news, Mass
times, newsletter and much
more!
www.stjosephpenketh.co.uk

**Please ensure that your mobile
phone is switched off whilst
you are in Church. Thank you.**

Sanctuary Lamps

The Sanctuary Lamps will
burn this week for the
following intentions :

St Alban

Dave (80th Birthday)

Sacred Heart

Parishioners' Intentions

St Joseph

Lucy Harrison

St Joseph's Marian Candle
Newly Baptised Children

Please remember in your
prayers the following who
have died recently :
Sol Broadhurst and Henry
Naden.
May they rest in peace.

St Joseph's Bonus Ball 30/9/26

No 33
Winner : Fran Howgate
*The proceeds from this year's
bonus ball will be sent to
Mary's Meals. Please
continue to support this
initiative.*

FUNERALS

Week commencing 5 October

Requiem Mass for Soledad Broadhurst on
Tuesday, 6 October at 10.30am at Sacred
Heart.

Week commencing 19 October

Funeral Service for Henry Naden on Friday,
23 October at 11.30 am at St Joseph's

May they rest in peace.

Parish of Sacred Heart & St Alban
Baptism Preparation will take place on
Sunday, 25 October at 12.30pm in Church.

Best wishes are sent to those recently
baptised at St Joseph's
George Craig Rigby, Lennon Larkin, Annie
Elsie Shaw, Carter Ezra Prescott, Mason Paul
Spencer and Harper June Marie Spencer .

Open the Book - This is an opportunity to spread the
good news to primary school children in our local schools.
As a group we are involved in an interactive assembly
twice a month. If you enjoy storytelling, costumes and
props, come and join the group. No previous experience
is required.
Patsy Beaumont (01925 572907) says .. "I read a similar
message in the church bulletin and joined 6 years ago and
I love it!"