



**Newsletter for
week commencing
11 October 2026**

**Twenty Eighth
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 : stpaulofthe cross@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 - Must Try Harder!

Do we fondly imagine that people ought to love us just the way we are? We are told often enough that God loves us warts and all. But do we carry this belief through life with not much thought of betterment?

In today's parable a king invites guests to his son's wedding. When the guests refuse to turn up, the king extends the invitation to a different set of guests, both good and bad. The guests fill the wedding hall, but as they do so, the king notices one man not wearing a wedding robe and he has him bound hand and foot and thrown out into the darkness! The consequences for not wearing the right outfit seem overly harsh as far as this poor guest is concerned, but of course the parable has not really very much to do with wedding receptions and even less to do with wearing the right tie. The overriding theme in this story is to do with standards.

Jesus explains that the Kingdom of God is open to all but that doesn't mean that anyone and everyone can stroll into heaven. Just as guests make an effort to be correctly dressed for a wedding, we too must put in the preparation and effort to be accepted into God's Kingdom.

The guest who was thrown out of the wedding feast for his cavalier 'accept me just the way I am' attitude presents a warning for us all. Too often we go about our daily routines not feeling any need to live life better. Far too often we look on our Christianity as making choices between good and evil, and we are confident that we rarely choose evil. But Jesus is asking more of us than simply choosing between right and wrong, he is asking us to choose between good and an even greater good. What we imagine is our 'best' very rarely is.

Just as the guest in today's parable did little more than turn up to the wedding, so we live life going through the motions but not much more. Accepting God's invitation to join him is only the first step; it's how we live out that acceptance that really matters.

Parish of Sacred Heart & Saint Alban Safer Recruitment & DBS Representatives

Irene Crowder, Margaret McGrath
and Paul Towey.

Archdiocese Safeguarding Team

0151 522 1043 safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

Right to Life UK : This Friday is the feast day of St Gerard Majella, the patron saint of unborn children and expectant mothers. We pray for all who work in maternity units with pregnant women, that they may recognise that God is truly with us in each unborn child. Lord hear us.

Quote of the Week Matthew 25:36:

"I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

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.

Today is Prisoners' Sunday

Prisoners' Sunday is an opportunity to consider how we, as individuals, as a Church and as communities, are serving our brothers and sisters affected by imprisonment.

Our prisons are in crisis. There are record numbers of people behind bars. Inspectors regularly report instances of vermin, violence, self-harm and people languishing in cells with nothing to do. At the same time, too many people are released with no home, no job, no family and no hope.

The ripple effects of this crisis are felt well beyond the prison walls. The lives of hundreds of thousands of families and children are affected as they too, serve a hidden sentence. Having a mother, father, husband or wife in prison can have a devastating impact – more than half of families tell us they are struggling to afford the basics for themselves and their children.

They are our brothers and sisters in the Church and we pray for them and their families.

Youth Sunday Celebration Sunday 22 November

Come and join us for our Youth Sunday Celebration at LACE! The fabulous 'One Hope Project' are hosting the day, and there will be guest speakers on the theme of **Take Courage, I Have Overcome The World**. The workshops will be on Courage to Listen, Courage to Pray, and Courage to Act.

The day will start at 10am and finish with Mass together with Archbishop John Sherrington at 5.00pm. There will be a marketplace of information and groups to get involved with.

The day is free and open to all young people in Secondary school, but they must apply for tickets and attend with a chaplain, teacher, or youth leader/ catechist.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Cursillo

Thursday, 29 October to
Sunday, 1 November
St Joseph's Prayer Centre,
Formby, L37 1PH

Cursillo is a Catholic
residential short course in
Christian living.

Cursillo is for everyone.

It is an inspiring experience,
offering renewal and
a deepening of

Christian commitment and
faith within our own lives.

For further details
email national@cursillouk.org
or call 07947271037

St Joseph's Quiz

Sunday at 8.00pm

The jackpot stands at £60 and
there is more than £120 in the
Play Your Cards Right pot.

Come and join us in
St Joseph's Parish Centre.

Advent Retreat for Young

Adults - 29 November
(10.00am to 4.00pm)

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

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 – TODAY
(Sunday) 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

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

Warm Coat Appeal: The Irenaeus Project are looking for donations of warm coats for their Warm Coat Appeal. Coats should be suitable for use by another person, clean, and in good repair. All coats donated will be available to those who are vulnerable, in need or short of finances. **Coats can be dropped off at the Irenaeus Centre, Great George's Road, Waterloo, L22 1RD.**

Donations of new or nearly new scarves, hats and gloves are also very welcome.

Thank you for your kindness and support. The Irenaeus Centre is open for donations Monday–Thursday (10.00am to 4.00pm).

The Project is unable to accept donations of other types of clothing as there is very little storage space.

Please do not drop items off at church as we do not have the space and the Irenaeus Centre does not collect. Thank you.

Toy Appeal : As part of their outreach the Irenaeus Project is also appealing for donations of new or nearly new toys and games suitable for children of all ages. Please ensure that donations are in good repair and able to be used by others (no missing pieces in jigsaws!). All of the games and toys donated will be used to provide presents for children who will not be as fortunate as others may be.

Toys can be dropped off at the Irenaeus Centre, Great George's Road, Waterloo, L22 1RD. Thank you for helping with this valuable appeal.

Some jewellery was
found in the grounds
of St Joseph's last
weekend. If you
think you are the
owner please call
into the office to
claim it.

St Joseph's UCM

Thursday, 16 October at 1.00 pm
Quiz and Bring & Buy Meeting.

Thank you to those who supported our
recent Bingo. We raised £35 for charity
and £90 prize money.

Next Bingo is on 2 November at 1.30pm

Canon Christopher reflects We are already well into the month of October which is often referred to as the month of the Holy Rosary. Last Wednesday we celebrated that feast of Our Lady of the rosary. Popes in the past have encouraged us to use this form of prayer which draws us to Mary as the mother of Jesus. As he died, hanging on the cross, he gave her to us as our spiritual Mother through John the beloved disciple. As we meditate on the role of Mary in the joyful, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries in the life of her Son as well as the more recently added luminous mysteries we are drawn closer to Jesus.

All the Saints in some way have venerated her in love and through this prayer. For example, during this month we celebrated the feast of Saint Teresa of Lisieux as the 'little flower' last week and this week we honour Saint Teresa of Avila, both of whom were Carmelites for whom Mary had a special place in their lives. More recently, Pope Saint John Paul II had special devotion to Mary the mother of God. It was he who introduced the luminous mysteries of the rosary when we meditate on other aspects Jesus' life and her part in that. His motto was '*Totus Tuus*' translated as '*Totally Yours*' which expressed his personal consecration to Mary. It was his favourite prayer shown by his declaration soon after his election as Pope in the Angelus message in 1978 calling it a "marvellous prayer! Marvellous in its simplicity and its depth".

The 'miracle' of the Battle of Lepanto in the Mediterranean refers to the belief that the miraculous intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary – driven by the mass recitation of the Rosary by Christians across Europe, secured the underdog Holy League victory over the Ottoman Empire on October 7, 1571.

Catholics often seek rosary beads to carry on their person. We often choose to give children rosary beads celebrating special occasions like First Holy Communion. This should not be a superstitious habit as though the beads have power in themselves, but they are a to be used as guidance as we go through the meditations.

When Mary appeared to Bernadette in Lourdes, she was seen holding rosary beads in her hand and was reciting the prayer. In all the places of pilgrimage in honour of Mary, of which there are many throughout the world such as Walsingham (in Norfolk), Fatima and Medjugorje, processions take place whilst the rosary is recited. Let us continue to celebrate this powerful devotion, individually and as groups.

It is so characteristic of the Catholic Faith that many traditionally recite at least once each day in various places. As children as a family with our parents, before ending the day, we recited the rosary together every evening, and at seminary all the students gathered daily in the college chapel at 5.15pm to say this prayer together. It was a good foundation in our preparation for the priesthood.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

Cardinal Newman Catholic High School are looking to recruit additional Exam Invigilators for the forthcoming exam period, in January and February 2027 and again in May, June and July 2027, and then as and when required, as determined by the school examination timetable. The appointments are offered on a casual basis. The role involves ensuring correct exam procedures are followed, distribution and collection of examination papers and monitoring students during the examination periods.

Variable hours on a casual basis. Rate of pay £12.35 per hour which includes holiday pay.

Previous experience of working in a school environment/or as an Invigilator is desirable, but not essential as full training will be provided.

How to apply

Application forms can be found on the school's website:

<https://www.cardinal-newman.org.uk/vacancies.php>

Closing date for applications is Friday, 6 November 2026.

Completed application forms should be sent to Mrs. M. Walker (PA to the Headteacher) at mwa@cardinal-newman.co.uk

Saints for the Week

12 October : Saint Wilfrid, Bishop. Born in Northumbria and educated in the Celtic tradition at Lindisfarne but after a visit to Rome became a protagonist of Roman customs. As Bishop of York, he was the first English bishop to appear to the people, after his diocese had been divided without reference to him. He is remembered for his forceful personality and apostolic spirit, as a founder of churches and monasteries and as a patron of the arts.

13 October : Saint Edward the Confessor. From the House of Wessex, Edward became the last Anglo-Saxon king of England. His death precipitated the Norman invasion of 1066 – he appears on the Bayeux Tapestry. Commonly titled 'the Confessor' he was regarded as a saint during his lifetime, renowned for his generosity to the Church and to the poor, and on account of the readiness with which he listened to his subjects' grievances. His relics were translated to Westminster Abbey, whose foundation he had richly endowed and he was canonised by Pope Alexander III a century later.

14 October : Saint Callixtus I, Pope and Martyr. A Roman ordained deacon by Pope Zephyrinus, whom he succeeded as pope, Callixtus was appointed superintendent of the first landed property owned by the Church, the extensive cemetery on the Appian Way where many popes and martyrs were buried, which later took his name. He died in the year 222.

15 October : Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church. Born Teresa Sanchez de Cepeda Davila y Ahumada, at Avila in Spain, she joined the Carmelite Order. The first female Doctor of the Church she wrote books are renowned for the depth of their doctrine, reflecting her own spiritual experiences. She died at Alba in one of her reformed Carmels, during the night that Catholic Europe switched from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar.

16 October : Saint Hedwig, Religious.

16 October : Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

17 October : Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr. The 3rd bishop of Antioch and a disciple of St John, he was sentenced to death by being thrown to wild beasts and for this purpose he was sent to Rome and martyred under the emperor Trajan. He wrote 7 letters to the various churches and was the first to use the term 'the Catholic Church'. He is included in the Roman Canon.

Mass Intentions for week commencing 11 October 2026

	Sacred Heart	Saint Alban	Saint Joseph	Saint Paul of the Cross
Sunday 11 October	8.00 am Syro Malabar Mass 11.00 am Jose & Linta	9.30 am George Michael Antony (RoS)	8.30 am Kevin Thompson 4.00 pm Thomas Moore (RoS) (5 th Anniversary)	10.00 am
Monday 12 October			9.30 am Len Bate (Birthday & Anniversary)	
Tuesday 13 October		9.30 am Thanksgiving		9.00 am
Wednesday 14 October			6.00 pm David Boyd (RoS)	9.00 am
Thursday 15 October		9.30 am Mark Burgess		9.00 am
Friday 16 October	9.30 am Reece Nelson		9.30 am – Thanksgiving Amal Jojo & Abel Jojo	
Saturday 17 October	5.15 pm People of the Parish			6.00 pm
Sunday 18 October	11.00 am Tony Purcell (RoS)	9.30 am Martin Mather (RoS)	8.30 am Laura Spreadbury (RoS) (Birthday) 4.00 pm Angelina (Birthday)	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 Tuesday & 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
Special Intentions

Sacred Heart - John Blomley

St Joseph
Private Intentions

St Joseph's Marian Candle
Prisoners

Please remember in your
prayers the following who
have died recently :
Joe Fagan, Marvin Reaney,
Henry Naden, Mary Ann
Murray, Doreen Richards &
Christopher Ainscough
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.

FUNERALS

Week commencing 19 October

Requiem Mass for Joseph Paul Fagan on
Wednesday, 21 October at 12.45 pm at
St Joseph's

Requiem Mass for Doreen Mavis Richards on
Thursday, 22 October at 2.00 pm at
St Joseph's

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

Week commencing 26 October

Funeral Service for Christopher Ainscough on
Wednesday, 28 October at 11.00 am at
St Joseph's

May they rest in peace.

St Joseph's Bonus Ball - 7/10/26

No 39 Winner : Michelle Harrison
Proceeds to Mary's Meals..

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday

The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio
(his charity for world mission) through a special
collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving
unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News
of God's love which has the power to transform lives
and heal our world.