



PARISH OF ST JOHN XXIII, PRESTON

St Joseph's and English Martyrs' Churches

Incorporating the districts of St Augustine, English Martyrs, St Ignatius, St Joseph & St Teresa

Sunday 16th November 2025

Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year [C]

	Time	Church	
Sunday 16th November <i>33rd Sunday of the Year</i> <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>For the Sick</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Thomas Murphy</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	<i>With the Sacrament of Confirmation</i>
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	5.00pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>] Mass <i>Emily Rose Leen</i>
Monday 17th November <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>Annie Moore</i> <i>Exposition and Mass in the Memorial Chapel</i>
Tuesday 18th November <i>Dedication of Sts Peter & Paul, Rome</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
	1.00pm	SJ	Funeral Service <i>Noel Sutton</i>
Wednesday 19th November <i>Red Wednesday</i>	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>For Persecuted Christians</i>
Thursday 20th November <i>of 33rd week of the year</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Bernadette Benson</i>
Friday 21st November <i>Presentation of BVM</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Patrick McCarvill</i>
Saturday 22nd November <i>St Cecilia</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Molly Farrell</i>
	10.00-10.30am	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	1.00pm	SJ	Baptism <i>Martin Gavin</i>
	5.20pm	EM	<i>First Confession Preparation [1]</i>
	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>Bill Davies</i>
Sunday 23rd November <i>Christ the King</i> <i>World Day of the Youth</i> <i>Special Collection: Youth Services</i>	10.15am	SJ	<i>First Confession Preparation [1]</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Eddy Curzon</i>
			<i>With the Sacrament of Confirmation</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>Sarah McCormack</i>
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]		SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]	

OUR CATHOLIC GRAVES

Living so close to a large public cemetery means we have great opportunities to visit the graves of many different people, perhaps loved ones, perhaps not. The gravestones of those buried in Preston cemetery are many and varied, some quite plain, one with the essentials and occasionally a whole family history. One thing we notice when passing through the cemetery is that there is, traditionally, quite distinct sections. Catholic sections and non-Catholic sections. Passing through the non-Catholic graves the common lead phrases on the headstones may be, 'in loving affection...', 'in loving memory...', 'treasured memories of...', 'precious to the memory...', 'in memory of...' Or perhaps with some Protestant sentiment, 'sacred to the memory of...', or the rather nice phrase 'called to higher service... !' All of which are nice, good, and noble, however they lack something that the traditional Catholic grave captures.

The Catholic graves, by contrast, have lead phrases like, 'Pray for the Soul of...', 'Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on the soul of...', '[Saint's name] pray for the soul/repose of...', 'Jesus Mercy, Mary, Help,' Mary, Mother of God commend to your Son...' We may more likely find a cross or a statue to accompany it. Of course, these boundaries, have blurred, but perhaps there is something for us to consider. The traditional Catholic inscriptions tell something of a living relationship with the dead, not merely speaking of a memory. The Church teaches that we are still united to the dead. By prayer, we seek the Saints' intercession, and we hasten the mercy of God for them. On passing our Catholic graves we should find a call, as from the departed, to lend them our aid by prayer. Perhaps we may want to consider this for our graves and our departed loved ones!

OUR PRAYERS

We pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners and those who care for them. We also pray for all the lately dead: Noel Sutton, Rosamond Sutton, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Neals Joseph, Brian Drake, Bernadette Benson, Duncan Hosker, and Winifred Beardwood.

CONFIRMATION

Sunday 16th November 2025

This weekend, at 11.15am Mass on Sunday, at St Joseph's, we welcome Bishop Swarbrick to our parish to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 13 parishioners.

Please pray for those being Confirmed today. Pray also for your Bishop and our communion with him. Thank you to candidates for your participation in preparation, to catechists and families for accompanying these candidates.

A reception to celebrate will be held in the Lancaster Room after Mass, in place of the usual tea and coffee, Many thanks!

Confirmation in 2026

In anticipation of this Sacrament being celebrated around the Easter Season next year, young parishioners who are school year 6+ and who are not confirmed should complete an enquiry form from our church porches and return this to our priests by Sunday 7th December (slightly extended deadline).

N.B: Fr Etienne will be in contact with registered families once it has been established if we have enough requests to invite the Bishop to Confirm.

FIRST CONFESSION & HOLY COMMUNION

Our first sessions of preparation will take place before Masses **next weekend**, 22nd/23rd November. All preparation dates are on the sheet given at our recent meeting and sent to registered families by email. Please pray for these children.

NOVEMBER LISTS

Completed November Lists can be placed in our 'Holy Souls' boxes, at English Martyrs on St Joseph's Altar and now in the memorial chapel at St Joseph's. We continue to pray for all these souls, and the souls who have no one to pray for them, throughout November. Any money enclosed will be used for Holy Souls Masses.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL [SVP]

For many years, the SVP has performed many, discrete works of charity in the districts of our parish. We give thanks to those who do and have done these works.

Our SVP conference is presently at a crossroads given the death of our SVP Chair earlier this year. Perhaps you could form part of the next generation to renew the SVP within our parish?

On Sunday 30th November, after 11.15am Mass, during tea & coffee, members of the SVP will give a short talk on the Society and to invite parishioners to consider participating in this apostolate.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets are available after weekend Masses, £1.00 a strip. Please support! The raffle will be drawn after Sunday Mass at St Joseph's, on 14th December. To donate prizes [not bric-a-brac] towards the Raffle, please contact the parish office. First prize, £75.00.

BLESSED ULMA FAMILY

The Ulma family (parents and 7 children) were martyred during World War II for sheltering a Jewish family. The whole family were beatified in 2023. Their relics are visiting St Maria Goretti's Church here in Preston next Saturday, 22nd November, beginning with 5.00pm Mass. See the posters in our church porches for details.

REQUIEM MASS FOR

THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE

Bishop Paul Swarbrick will offer Mass for all the deceased clergy of the Diocese on Thursday 20th November at the Cathedral in Lancaster, at 12.15pm. All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to gather with the Bishop to pray for those priests, now departed, who have served us.

THINKING OF BEING A PRIEST?

Young men 16+ are invited to come to a day of recollection and discernment on **next Saturday**, 22nd November [10.00am-4.00pm] at Lancaster Cathedral. Pray for those generous men discerning.

YOUTH 2000 PRESTON RETREAT DAY 2025

Our young people are encouraged to join a one-day retreat of prayer, teaching, friendship, and fun on Saturday, 13th December, 9:00am - 9:00pm at Corpus Christi High School, St Vincent's Road [PR2 8QY]. See Posters in the church porches for details.

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

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