



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 26th October 2025

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year [C]

	Time	Church	
Sunday 26th October <i>Thirtieth Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Special Collection:</i> <i>Sick & Retired Priest Fund</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.40pm	EM	Rosary
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>A Family in Need</i>
	10.55am	SJ	Rosary
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Peter Hussain</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>Hanna Khorishko</i>
Monday 27th October <i>of 30th week of the year</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>For the Sick</i> <i>Exposition and Mass in the Memorial Chapel</i>
Tuesday 28th October <i>Sts Simon & Jude</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>John Barrett</i>
Wednesday 29th October <i>of 30th week of the year</i>			No Public Mass
Thursday 30th October <i>of 30th week of the year</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Sally Short</i>
Friday 31st October <i>of 30th week of the year</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Robin Ferguson</i>
Saturday 1st November <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Margaret Eileen Jeffery Brown</i>
	10.00-10.30am	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.40pm	EM	Rosary
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>Peter Smith</i>
Sunday 2nd November <i>All Saints</i>	10.15am	SJ	Confirmation Preparation (6)
	10.55am	SJ	Rosary
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Brian Hughes</i>
	1.00pm	SJ	Baptism <i>Toby Cogle</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]

SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]

THE ROSARY

St Louis De Montfort once said: “*The Rosary without meditation on the sacred mysteries of our salvation would almost be like a body without a soul; excellent matter, but without form which sets it apart from other devotions.*” It is because of its meditative nature that many popes and saints have been so keen to promote the Rosary. In 1982, when John Paul II visited Fatima he told the people: “*Do you want me to teach you a ‘secret’? It is simple, and it is no longer a secret; pray, pray very much; recite the Rosary every day.*”

The Rosary has the potential to transform our lives if we are willing. Through praying the Rosary we appreciate who Mary is. She is our Mother, she loves us, she constantly prays for us, gently guiding us towards her Son. So we should feel entirely comfortable and at ease in her company. As a nun, St Bernadette used to encourage the sisters to pray the Rosary whilst going to sleep and would say “*you will be like a little child who falls asleep saying ‘Mama, Mama!’*”

John Paul II said that as a young man, praying the Living Rosary helped him realize that not only does Our Mother Mary direct us towards Christ, but Christ also directs us towards His mother. Christ is saying ‘look what marvels I have worked for my mother.’ Devotion to the saints and especially to Our Lady, is so important because it marks out why our faith is so special. God’s grace is not something superficial, but penetrates the core of our being. God has promised to make us like Himself. Our Lady is the first in whom this promise has been fulfilled, and so she is worthy of the highest of praise.

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 and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Gabriel Fisher, Joseph Holden, Clair Crewe, Stella Buck, Pauline Horsfield, Brian Hughes, Ian Dawson.

FIRST CONFESSION & HOLY COMMUNION

Thank you to those families who have returned enquiry forms and those who met with Fr Etienne last Sunday. If there are any outstanding forms, please return them by next Sunday at the latest. Our first sessions of preparation will take place before Masses on 22nd/23rd November. All preparation dates are on the sheet given at last week's meeting, if you did not attend but need a list of dates, speak with our priests.

CONFIRMATION

Sunday 16th November

Bishop Swarbrick will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, within Mass, on Sunday 16th November. This will be the regular 11.15am Mass at St Joseph's. Please pray for those preparing for this Sacrament. A reception to celebrate will be held in the Lancaster Room afterwards, please could we invite Confirmation families and parishioners to contribute and sign up on the sheet in the church porch. 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 23rd November.

THINKING OF BEING A PRIEST?

Young men 16+ are invited to come to a day of recollection and discernment on Saturday 22nd November [10.00am-4.00pm] at Lancaster Cathedral. The day will include Mass, Adoration, guided prayer, talks to assist discernment and lunch. Speak with our priests if you are interested.

READERS AT MASS

Could those who read at Mass stay for a brief time after Masses this weekend for a little formation and housekeeping. You are welcome to stay if you would like to start reading at Mass!

'SOUL LIGHTS'

Our November custom is to have a candle lit for deceased loved ones on All Souls and for this candle to be kept burning for the following five days. These 'Soul Lights' can be purchased from St Joseph's Holy Shop for £2.50 each and will be lit at the St Joseph's Altars in our churches.

NOVEMBER LISTS

November List Envelopes, completed and placed in our 'Holy Souls' boxes, will be moved to the Sanctuary on All Souls Day [Monday 3rd November] and remain there throughout the month of November. Any money enclosed will be used for Holy Souls Masses.

N.B: For Mass to be offered specifically for your deceased loved ones please use the regular Mass envelopes provided.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD & THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

You are invited to join our priests at this year's prayers for the Dead, this will include the blessing of graves:

- Monday 3rd November, 2.00pm at Preston Cemetery (Meet at the gates on Miller Road). Blessing the graves of our priests and families.
- Tuesday 11th November, at 10.45am at the War Memorial outside St Alphonsa's Cathedral [formally St Ignatius], with school children.
- Tuesday 11th November, at 2.00pm at Preston Cemetery [By the Cemetery Office], with school children.

ST JOSEPH'S HOLY SHOP

Do visit the 'Holy shop' when at Mass at St Joseph's, Christmas items are now available. Christmas Cards will also be available at Tea & Coffee at English Martyrs in November and December.

CHURCH CLEANING

Thank you to all those cleaning our churches. Individual arrangements are made with the priests for English Martyrs. At St Joseph's we meet as a group on Saturday mornings once a month, our next meeting Saturday 15th November, 10.30am.

COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED

Non-perishable food goods for those in need can be placed in the buckets found in the porches of our two churches. Thank you!

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

www.stjohnxxiiipreston.com

St. Joseph's Presbytery, Caroline Street, Preston, PR1 5UY

Email: stjohnxxiii.preston@lrcd.org.uk Telephone: 01772 796053

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel Etienne | Email: daniel.etienne@lrcd.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Stuart Chapple | Email: stuart.chapple@lrcd.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Anthony Sudell: anthony.sudell@lrcd.org.uk t. 07948 493237

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