



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 9th November 2025

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica/Remembrance Sunday [C]

	Time	Church	
Sunday 9th November <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>War Dead</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>War Dead</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>
Monday 10th November <i>St Leo the Great</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>War Dead</i> <i>Exposition and Mass in the Memorial Chapel</i>
Tuesday 11th November <i>St Martin of Tours</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Charlie McLoughlin</i>
	10.45am	SI	Remembrance Service with school children <i>War Memorial at Preston Cathedral</i>
	2.00pm		Remembrance Service with school children <i>At the War Memorial by the cemetery office</i>
Wednesday 12th November <i>St Josaphat</i>			No Public Mass
Thursday 13th November <i>of 32nd week of the year</i>	11.15am	EM	Mass <i>Anna Mallon</i> <i>With children from St Ignatius' School</i>
Friday 14th November <i>of 32nd week of the year</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Sr Philomena Kelly</i>
Saturday 15th November <i>St Albert the Great</i>	1.00pm	EM	No Public Morning Mass & Confessions Baptism <i>Isabelle Gardner & Ruairi Kerr</i>
	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>For the Sick</i>
Sunday 16th November <i>33rd Sunday of the Year</i> <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Thomas Murphy</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>Emily Rose Leen</i>
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]		SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]	

THE BASILICA OF ST JOHN LATERAN

As you approach the basilica in Rome, you will see an inscription across the base of the front columns that reads: “*The sacred mother and head of all the churches of the city and of the world.*” That bold claim explains why we celebrate this feast universally. The very Basilica itself teaches us so much as Catholics.

The size of the basilica is itself a lesson. When Constantine legalized Christianity in 312–313 AD, he made it possible for Christians to worship publicly, a basilica was built at the Lateran, the same size as the basilica today. Temples in the ancient world were typically small, even the Temple in Jerusalem had a small sanctuary. When Constantine asked Pope Sylvester how big a temple he wanted, Pope Sylvester replied, “*How big can you build it?*”—it was revolutionary. The idea that people would all be present and participate in worship was new. St. John Lateran was the first place built for public Christian worship in Rome. It is not just the cathedral of Rome; it sets the standard for all Christian Churches. The building itself teaches us that the Mass, where heaven touches earth, is a place we are invited into, to meet God. Jesus drives the money changers out of the temple, in some way to make space for the people of God to gather, a new place for His Body, the Church to assemble, communicate, and worship once He had Risen, Ascended, and then sent the Holy Spirit.

Let us rejoice in this distinct sign of our Christian life, a feast that calls us into unity with the Bishop of Rome, the Pope, whose Cathedral it is. The Basilica, and in turn each and every Church, is to be beautiful and solely given to worship, the sacred. Let us heed Christ’s call to ensure the Sacredness of our Churches, calling us to the Holiness herein contained.

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: Dorothy Roberts (nee. Hornby), Peter Cross, Noel Sutton, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Maureen Cardwell and Uriah Hypolite.

FIRST CONFESSION & HOLY COMMUNION

Our first sessions of preparation will take place before Masses on 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.

CONFIRMATION

Sunday 16th November 2025

Bishop Swarbrick will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for us, within Mass, *next* Sunday, 16th November. This will be the regular Mass at St Joseph's at 11.15am. Please pray for those preparing for this Sacrament. A reception to celebrate will be held in the Lancaster Room afterwards, so, 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.

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.

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 – to include Mass, Adoration, lunch, guided prayer, and talks to assist discernment. Speak with Fr Etienne if you are interested.

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 to purchase at Tea & Coffee at English Martyrs in November and December.

NOVEMBER LISTS

Completed November Lists can be placed in our 'Holy Souls' boxes, which are found on the St Joseph Altar in both our Churches. We continue to pray for all these souls, and souls who have no one to pray for them, throughout 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 usual Mass envelopes provided.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD & THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

You are invited to join our priests at this year's blessing of graves on Tuesday 11th November:

- 10.45am at the War Memorial outside St Alphonsa's Cathedral [formally St Ignatius], with school children.
- 2.00pm at Preston Cemetery [by the Cemetery Office], with school children.

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 quietly keep this apostolate going and to renew it within our parish? If interested contact Fr Etienne.

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, 14th December. To donate prizes [but not bric-a-brac] towards the Raffle, please contact the parish office. First prize is £75.00.

YOUTH 2000 PRESTON RETREAT DAY 2025

Following the success of last year's day 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 [PR2 8QY]. See Posters in the porches.

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

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