



# PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN

## **LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

For the current week's readings and Saints please look at Liturgy Office [www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk), *Universalis* (Liverpool/IOM) and *The Liverpool Ordo*. You can find additional Saints' information on [https://www.catholicireland.net/saints\\_category/saints/](https://www.catholicireland.net/saints_category/saints/)

## **REFLECTION**

As we approach the local May elections, and the general election gets closer, let us pray for all those working for democracy, those putting themselves forwards as candidates and those preparing to vote:

Loving God, we face a choice.

Be with us as we consider the options  
weigh the arguments  
and assess the claims and the candidates.

Prompt us to listen  
to the voices on the margins,  
to the cry of the earth,  
and to those who reach a different conclusion to us.

God, we pray that you would  
stimulate our minds  
stir our hearts  
and sanctify our choosing.

Help us also to remember  
your command to love our neighbours  
both during and after this election.

***Amen***



**Pastoral Development Department:** St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA T: 0151 522 1040  
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## UPDATE FROM THE LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE

### • AN INTRODUCTION TO VATICAN II

An in-person study retreat day exploring Vatican II is being offered in collaboration with the Light of Truth Dominican Sisters who will introduce us to the Second Vatican Council, the outcomes of Vatican II and its impact on the world today. This would be perfect for anyone who is looking to explore this important event for the first time, as well as for anyone who is looking to reflect on and revisit the year of the Council. This event is free. If you have any questions, please contact [e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk) To book your place, please register here: <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/jaujdgxs>

### • CATECHIST COURSE – MODULE 3

The final stage of our journey in Catechesis continues on **Wednesday 24 April at 7pm at the St Margaret Clitherow Centre**, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA.

These five sessions will help identify key principles to develop a culture of ongoing catechesis, formation, and discipleship. Ideal for those more experienced catechists or anyone who would like to take their parish catechesis further. (*You do not have to have attended the previous two modules to join us.*) Topics include:

- Family Focused Catechesis on 24 April
- Catechesis for those with Special & Additional Needs on 1 May
- Morality & Catholic Social Teaching on 22 May
- Leading a team of catechists and creating your own resources on 29 May
- Ongoing Formation and Discipleship on 5 June

Please contact [training@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:training@rcaol.org.uk) for more details.

### • FACILITATION TRAINING

We are now offering training for people in our parishes who lead groups. Whether they are for praying, liturgy, or volunteering this 2-hour workshop will provide an opportunity to come together to discuss the format of your group and share new ideas to support the facilitation of your group moving forward. If you are interested in arranging a workshop for your parish or deanery, please contact [e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk)



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- **HOLY COMMUNION BADGE**

A big thank you to all the children who entered our Holy Communion Badge Competition. I'm pleased to announce our winner was Michalina Grabowska! Congratulations to her and we look forward to sharing the design with you. If you want to order any badges for children going through their First Holy Communion, please email [badges@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:badges@rcaol.org.uk).

- **CARDS TO THE HOLY LAND**

The current list of names and addresses of parishes in the Holy Land and essential information is available for those parishes or groups in the archdiocese wanting to send greetings cards this Easter. Available here <https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/ministries/commissions/justice-peace>

- **TRAINING for Priests, Religious and Deacons: Friday 10th May 2024, 10.30-4.00. Love the Stranger: Asylum, Refugee and Trafficking workshop Venue: St Margaret Clitherow Centre. Delivered by Santa Marta Group and Archdiocese**

Following the Catholic Bishops' Conference publication of "Love the Stranger," you are invited to learn more about asylum seekers, refugees, and trafficked people. This training is aimed at Priests, Religious and Deacons, and will: explore the reality behind the myth; give you a confidence of understanding; and action plans for your parish. Register here <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/rck6jbaq>

- **MUSIC AT THE MET 2024**

During 2024 the Metropolitan Cathedral are celebrating the return of their restored grand organ with a series of concerts and events that will demonstrate the versatility of the instrument.

- **Choral Evening Prayer with the Rededication of the Grand Organ, followed by the Opening Organ Recital by Martin Baker**, Sunday 12 May, 15.00
- **Two Cathedrals' Messiah**, Saturday 18 May, 19.30
- **Organ Recital by Katherine Dienes-Williams**, Monday 27 May, 11.15
- **Organ Recital by Matthew Walters**, Saturday 1 June, 19.30
- **Two Cathedral Choirs with Ian Tracey**, Sunday 7 July, 15.00

For more information, please call 01517087283 or email [music@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:music@metcathedral.org.uk)

- **RCIA THE MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS**

We are celebrating the Mass for New Catholics on **Thursday 20 June at the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral at 7pm and will be celebrated by Archbishop Malcolm.**

Anyone received into the church, both this year and previous years are welcome to attend with their families, friends, and Catechists.



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## **RESOURCES AND EVENTS**

- **GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FOR PARISHES: A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER.**

**Thursday 25 April @6.30pm and Saturday 4 May 11am – 1pm.**

CAFOD and the SVP have launched the General Election campaign for parishes called *A Year of Encounter*. Building on the 70,000 who signed Salina's letter in the Fix the Food System Campaign last year, this is exciting as we're trying to get a strong Catholic voice out ahead of the election, focusing on domestic and international issues. Join CAFOD for 2-hour briefing on the campaign aimed at parish volunteers from SVP and CAFOD:  
<https://cafod.org.uk/encounter>.

- **COME AND SEE, THE POWER OF THE SACRAMENTS - Led by Fr. Pat Collins, Saturday 4 May 2024**

For more information, please contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 01519491199. Suggested donation of £10. Please bring a packed lunch.

- **POUR OUT YOUR GRACE AS AT A NEW PENTECOST, with guest speaker Michelle Moran, Saturday 11 May 2024, 10am-4pm**

Event hosted at the Irenaeus Centre. For more information, please contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 01519491199. Suggested donation of £10. Please bring a packed lunch.

- **WOMENS WEEKEND AT IRENAEUS: MARY IN A WORLD OF MARTHA? 14-16 June 2024**

Limited residential spaces available. For more information, please contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 01519491199. Suggested donation of £10. Please bring a packed lunch.

- **VACANCIES AT THE ARCHDIOCESE**

We are currently advertising several vacancies. If you're interested in working for the Archdiocese, you can find an up-to-date list of vacancies available here:  
[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers)



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## **CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) DEPARTMENT TEAM**

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*PD Administrator*      Jonathan McGuirk      [j.mcguirk@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:j.mcguirk@rcaol.org.uk)      0151 522 1040

*Training Coordinator*      Elizabeth Parsons      [e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk)      0151 522 1023

*CSA\* Coordinator*      Pablo Guidi      [p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk)      0151 522 1042

*\*Catholic Social Action*

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**Episcopal Vicar**      Fr Gerard Callacher      [g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk)

**Bishops' Delegate for CSA**      Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ

**The Irenaeus Project**      <https://www.irenaeus.co.uk/>

**Youth Ministry: Animate**      <https://www.animateyouth.org/>

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