

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST 2026

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

For the current week's readings and Saints please look at *The Liverpool Ordo*, Liturgy Office

www.liturgyoffice.org.uk and **Universalis** (Liverpool/IOM).

GOOD NEWS

- **FAITH IN THE CITY:**

We've seen some exciting developments this week for and faith and civic engagement! You might remember that in 2025, faith communities across Liverpool and the wider region came together through CTMR's Faith in the City project to discern a shared response to emerging social needs. Last Wednesday, Liverpool City Council approved a motion to take forward the Manifesto for Hope's recommendations, including plans for an internal Council working group and a 2027 interfaith forum to discuss findings and future action. This is a great achievement for the faith communities that have contributed to the Faith in the City 40th Anniversary work so far, and we are sending our great appreciation to all our faith communities and civic leaders involved in this important work.

- **ST FRANCIS: A SAINT FOR OUR DAY (RETREAT DAY)**

Last Saturday, fifty people from across the Archdiocese gathered at St Joseph's Prayer Centre in Formby for a day of prayer, reflection and fellowship. Led by Hazel Bradley from the L'Arche Community, the day explored the life and spirituality of St Francis of Assisi, inviting participants to reflect on how his charisms continue to speak to our lives today.

Particular attention was given to St Francis' call to encounter "the other" with openness, compassion and respect, and to deepen our care for God's creation as a precious gift entrusted to us. Through a balance of personal reflection, small-group discussion and shared prayer, those present were encouraged to consider how Franciscan spirituality can inspire a more faithful and compassionate way of living the Gospel in today's world. It was a prayerful and enriching day, offering participants both practical insights and renewed inspiration as they seek to follow Christ in the spirit of St Francis.



Pastoral Development Department:

St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA T: 0151 522 1040

pd@rcaol.org.uk

Subscribe: <https://mailchi.mp/e8bb057375db/sign-up-form>

CARE FOR CREATION

- **SEASON OF CREATION / ST FRANCIS JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE WALK AND MASS**

Saturday 5th September

Join Archbishop John on this event to celebrate these two special events. The 3.6 mile walk will begin at St Francis of Assisi Church, Garston at 10.00am, take us through Sefton Park and end at St Anthony of Padua Church, Mossley Hill. Mass will be celebrated at 12.30pm followed by pack lunch in the hall. To sign up for the walk please use the QR code on the poster and the link: archdioceseofliverpool.org/creation. More information from Chris – c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk

ADOREMUS

- **SAVE THE DATE: ADOREMUS**

10th October at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

Join us on the 10th of October for this year's Adoremus. The event itself is free and available to all. Come and join us to adore the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. At the Metropolitan Cathedral, there will be Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day, Holy Mass, opportunities for confession, a variety of workshops to be confirmed and a shared time of prayer during the day for all.

ACCOMPANIMENT

- **SAVE THE DATE: ADVENTUROUS ACCOMPANIMENT DAY WORKSHOP**

19 September at St Margaret Clitherow Centre

"In the relationship of accompaniment, [we] are provided a space in which [we] can come to deeply know the love of Jesus Christ through friendship, guidance, and authenticity..." Whether you are new to the concept of accompaniment, or regularly incorporate it, this workshop is for you. There is no cost and we would just ask that you bring your own lunch.

Sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/9zxSLAndhm>

For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

FORMATION

- **ALTER SERVERS COURSE**

The Guild of St Stephen for Altar Servers and the Maryvale Institute run an annual 6-month course for adult Altar Servers, exploring the history of liturgy, the sacraments, scripture, communication, leadership and people skills and the theology of service. There are no pre-requisite education requirements, and it is delivered online in 1-hour monthly evening sessions, with an optional one day in-person session **at Oscott College, Birmingham** at the end of the course. The **deadline** for registration for the next cohort is **15th September 2026**. For more information see the attached flyer or the Guild of St Stephen website guildofststephen.org/certificate.



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YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- **YOUNG ADULT MASS AND DINNER WITH ARCHBISHOP JOHN (3 October 2026)**
Archbishop John Sherrington is going to celebrate Mass with young adults on **Saturday 3 October**, at **5pm** at **St Philip Neri Church**, Liverpool L8 7NL, followed by dinner at the **Blackburne House**. Anyone aged 18-35 are most welcome. There is no cost for the event, please book your place for dinner if you want to join us <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/AQk11BHckq?origin=lpLink> For enquiry please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk
- **LAST CHANCE PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI FOR YOUNG ADULTS (DISCOUNT AVAILABLE)**
These are the final few weeks for you to sign up for this wonderful opportunity to visit Assisi during the anniversary year of St Francis.
Organised in partnership with McCabe Travel, the Archdiocese is organising the pilgrimage to Assisi for young adults aged 18-35, taking place from **29 November to 2 December 2026**. For the first 15 people from Liverpool Archdiocese to book, there is a discount price of £799 (the full price is £990). <https://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk/pilgrimages/st-francis-and-st-carlo-acutis-with-the-archdiocese-of-liverpool/> For enquiries, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.
- **PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING YOUNG ADULTS PRAYER GROUP**
All Portuguese-speaking young adults are welcome to join a monthly gathering for prayer, friendship, and faith at **St Michael and All Angels Church, Kirkby, L32**. For enquiries, please get in touch by jovenscatolicosemliverpool@gmail.com.
- **LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS**
A lectio prayer group for young adults meets every **Friday at 18:00** at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN. For more information, please contact James: djmoroney@cantab.net or call 07546667394. To join the WhatsApp community please follow the <https://chat.whatsapp.com/H7vBavJ4Jlm2spPNI9d2DT>.
- **FLAME 2027 THE UK'S LARGEST CATHOLIC YOUTH CONGRESS – SATURDAY 6TH MARCH 2027**
We are arranging for tickets and coaches to go to Wembley for FLAME - where 10000 young Catholics come together for praise, worship and talks. You can find out more here [FLAME 27 – CYMFED](#)
If you are interested in possibly bringing a group of young people then please contact Sarah McGeehan (Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator) for more information on s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk or 07415099048



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CONTACTS

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult and feel they are in immediate danger, please call the police. If you wish to report any non-urgent concerns, please contact your local social services or our safeguarding team direct at



or Mark Robson 0151 522 1013 / 07585761965 Claire Newton 0151 522 1043 / 07384643237 or safe-guarding@rcaol.org.uk

CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (PD) TEAM

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Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Organisation & Synod Implementation Rev Mgr Philip Inch p.inch@rcaol.org.uk

Bishops' Delegate for Catholic Social Action Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ l.baron@rcaol.org.uk

The Irenaeus Project www.irenaeus.co.uk/

Youth Ministry: Animate www.animateyouth.org/

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