

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 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

- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE LAUNCHED**

We're pleased to announce that another marriage preparation course has just begun from 9 September. 12 engaged couples who are going to get married in the church will be accompanied by the team of catechists on their journey of preparation. May the Holy Spirit open their heart and guides them to reflect on the true meaning of Christian marriage.

- **ARCHBISHOP MEETS WITH THE PRISON CHAPLAINS**

The Catholic prison chaplains in the archdiocese were delighted to gather with Archbishop John on Friday 11th September. Chaplains from Liverpool, Altcourse, Risley, Wymott, Garth, and Jurby (IoM) were present. They all agreed that they would continue to meet regularly to support each other and to keep in close connection with the diocese. The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Maury Buendia, greeted them and strongly emphasised the importance of the ministry to those held in prison. We are grateful to +John for inviting us to gather and for his support.

NEW & UPDATED

- **ARCHBISHOPS CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS (APPLICATIONS FOR 2026-2028 ARE NOW OPEN)**

This two-year online training course aims to equip and support catechists and lay leaders in evangelisation and formation. For more details, please visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool>

MARRIAGE PREPERATION COURSE

- Are you planning to get married in a Catholic church? The archdiocese is now offering the marriage preparation course for engaged couples. To be led by trained lay facilitators, the 4-session course will help the couples develop skills which could facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of sacramental marriage within Catholic faith.

The next course will be available on **Monday 26 October, 2 November, 9 November and 16 November** (for 4 consecutive Wednesday), at **St Anne's Church, Prescott Road, Ormskirk, L39 4TG**. There is a non-refundable cost of **£50 per couple** to help towards materials and other



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>

expenses. If you are interested to join, please book online here <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/cMQ1fpza3G?origin=lprLink>

More information about upcoming courses for this year, please refer to the archdiocesan website <https://tinyurl.com/mr6p8vne>

- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION CATECHISTS NEEDED**

Would you like to accompany the engaged couples in their journey of marriage preparation? The archdiocese is now recruiting catechists to join the marriage preparation team. The catechist training will be provided at St Joseph's Church, Penketh, Warrington WA5 2BB and consists of 5 sessions:

- o Thursday 1 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 8 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 15 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 22 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 29 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)

Upon completion of training, the catechists will be asked to offer marriage preparation course taking place across the archdiocese. If this is something you are interested in, please sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/5c52zbbz>

For more information, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

ADOREMUS

- **ADOREMUS LIVERPOOL – HOW WE ARE EUCHARIST**

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. The day starts with mass at 9am, followed by Adoration throughout the day, opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation and several workshops exploring a variety of spiritualities (to be confirmed next week). Celebrated with Archbishop John Sherrington, this is an event not to be missed. Sign up here [Adoremus Liverpool \(10-Oct-2026\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- **ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP**

Anyone aged 18-35 is welcome to join the Archdiocesan Young Adult Group, meeting fortnightly at the **Pauline Book Centre (L1 3AY)**. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 29 September**. Fr Peter McGrail is going to talk to us about 'The Hope Within You'. Light refreshment will be served at **6.30pm**, followed by prayer meeting at **7pm**. For enquiries, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

- **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 a **SOLD-OUT** dinner at the **Blackburne House**. Anyone aged 18-35 are most welcome. There is no cost for the event, please sign up with this link if you would like to be added to the waitlist and we will be sure to contact you if any



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>

spaces become available for the meal! <https://tinyurl.com/3x875uzd> For enquiry please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING YOUNG ADULTS

The Portuguese-Speaking Young Adults Group from Liverpool warmly invites all Portuguese-speaking young adults (up to 28 years old) to a weekend retreat from 13–15 November 2026 at St Joseph Prayer House, Formby, Liverpool, L37 1PH. The retreat will be conducted in Portuguese language and will feature a special programme led by Fr Adriano Zandoná. For more information or to reserve your place, please get in touch via Instagram @jovens.catolicos.em.liverpool or by email at re-tirogrupodejovensliverpool@gmail.com

- **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://tinyurl.com/53brpbz>

- **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



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>

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 safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (PD) TEAM

pd@rcaol.org.uk <https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development>

<i>Director of Pastoral Development</i>	Liz Parsons	e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1023
<i>Pastoral Plan Administrator</i>	Ian Parrott	i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1044
<i>Training Coordinator</i>	Moses Mui	m.mui@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1047
<i>Catholic Social Action Coordinator</i>	Lucy Rauer	l.rauer@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1042
<i>Catholic Social Action Coordinator</i>	John Sargent	j.sargent@rcaol.org.uk	
<i>Youth Ministry Coordinator</i>	Sarah McGeehan	s.mcgeeahan@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1041
<i>Parish & Deanery Development Adviser</i>	Chris Higgins	c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1046
<i>Pastoral Development Administrator</i>	Zachary Wallace	z.wallace@rcaol.org.uk	0151 522 1040

Episcopal Vicar for Parish Development Rev Gerard Callacher g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk

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/

Do you know someone who would like to receive to our bulletin? Please forward this bulletin to them, or send them this hyperlink to subscribe: <https://mailchi.mp/e8bb057375db/sign-up-form>



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>