

Newsletter Extra

NOVEMBER 2026

St Benedict's Men's Breakfast Group

Saturday 14 November

St Benedict's Men's Breakfast Group is marking twenty-five years on Saturday 14 November. All past and present members, as well as families of those members who have died, are invited to a Mass in church at 9.00 am with Fr Tony Slingo (who founded the group), followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre. For catering purposes, please let Deacon David know if you will be attending (07925 014707). Many thanks.



Marriage Preparation Course

The Archdiocese is now offering a marriage preparation course for engaged couples. Led by trained lay facilitators, the 4-session course will help couples to develop skills to facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of the sacrament of marriage within the Catholic faith.

The next course is available on **Monday 26 October, 2 November, 9 November and 16 November** at St Anne's Church, Prescott Road, Ormskirk L39 4TG. There is a cost of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses. Please book online here: forms.cloud.microsoft/e/cMQ1fpza3G?origin=lprLink



Are you interested in becoming a Deacon?

Information Evening on Tuesday 24 November at 7.00 pm at St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith Canon's Hall, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield WN4 9NP.

A Deacon embodies the spirit of service and compassion in the Church, a man who is dedicated and humble, uniquely ordained to help both the spiritual needs and the practical needs of a community. Candidates for the diaconate are typically mature men between the ages of 30 and 65. If they are married, they must be in a stable sacramental marriage.

The journey to discern if you have a calling to the diaconate involves asking yourself whether you have a genuine desire to serve God and his Church in this capacity.

We invite you to attend our enquirers' event to learn more about the role of deacons, their ministry in parish life, and to support your prayerful discernment.



Scan me!

Youth Sunday 2026



FREE

Archdiocese of Liverpool

Youth fest 2026 TAKE COURAGE!

GUEST SPEAKERS · WORKSHOPS · MASS · MARKETPLACE
ONE HOPE PROJECT

LACE, CROXTETH DRIVE,
SEFTON PARK, L17 1AA
22ND NOVEMBER
10AM - 6PM

BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH
OPEN TO PUPILS YEARS 7 TO 13 - MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY
CHAPLAIN, TEACHER OR YOUTH LEADER
CONTACT SARAH (S.MCGEEHAN@RCAOL.ORG.UK)

QR code

Come and join us for our Youth Sunday Celebration at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA on Sunday 22 November.

The fabulous 'One Hope Project' will be hosting the day with inspiring talks and workshops on Courage to Listen, Courage to Pray and Courage to Act.

The day will start at 10.00 am and finish with Mass together with Archbishop John Sherrington at 5.00 pm.

Please bring a packed lunch.

The day is free and open to all young people in High School, but they must apply for tickets and attend with a chaplain, teacher, or youth leader/catechist.

Sign up here:

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

NB. Parents must give young people permission to attend and give leaders permission to share young person's information with the Archdiocese.

Discerning in a Digital Age

Workshops on Wednesdays 18, 25 November, 2 December, 7.30 – 8.30 pm. A new series of workshops considering the pressures on us as we try to be attentive

to God's Spirit among all the things that clamour for our attention. Join us as we look at the challenges of discerning in an age of noise. Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/Bt21usn13c8tObk17>



Archdiocese of Liverpool

Advent Retreat for Young Adults

Saturday 28th November 10AM – 4PM
St Basil's Church, Widnes, WA8 4SZ

Free of charge
Please bring your own lunch

Book now:

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

QR code



**Christmas
Wreath Making Workshops**

Join us for a festive wreath-making event and help raise money for Mary's Meals, bringing hope and daily meals to children around the world.

Saturday 28th November 2026
Two Sessions Available
10am - 12pm or 2pm - 4pm

Limited Spaces Available - book now to secure your spot!
£35 per session - includes tutor, all necessary materials and refreshments

Please bring own scissors / secateurs / apron

Free Parking - Christmas Cards - Festive Music

Venue - Our Lady Help of Christians Church Hall, Portico Ln, St Helens, Prescot L34 2QT

Buy tickets on Eventbrite using the QR code or ring our office 0800 698 1212.

Please note there is an additional booking fee on Eventbrite

mary's meals
a simple solution to world hunger

QR code



Join our Christmas remembrance services across the Archdiocese of Liverpool and dedicate a star to a loved one.

Wednesday 25th November | 6.00pm
St Mary's Church, Leyland. Led by Fr Joseph Bibby, followed by refreshments.

Thursday 3rd December | 12.00pm (12 noon)
Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool. Led by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Right Rev Thomas Williams, followed by refreshments.



Scan the QR code to go to our website for more details



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retreat will explore mindfulness, psychology and the Christian spiritual life. The weekend will include talks, contemplative prayer, Mass, Adoration and time to walk, rest and reflect in the peaceful surroundings of the Stonyhurst estate. Find out more and book:

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/>



Make the Cathedral Blossom

You can help make our Cathedral bloom for the Flower Festival next year by making a £30 donation to sponsor an orchid for a pew-end display. As a thank you for your generosity, you will be invited to write a short personal message, dedication, or remembrance. Your note will be beautifully attached to one of the orchids creating a meaningful and personal part of the festival display. Whether your message celebrates a loved one, marks a special occasion, or simply offer words of hope and gratitude, your support will help create a stunning floral celebration for everyone to enjoy, and best of all you can take it home once the festival is over. To register your interest, please contact Claire Hanlon at c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk



The Archdiocese is organising a trip to **FLAME** – the largest Catholic Youth Event in the country where 10,000 young people will gather together at Wembley Arena to listen to speakers, pray and praise. It is open to young people in Year 9 and above. If you're interested in bringing a group of young people, please contact Sarah McGeehan on 07415 099048 or email: s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk Please note: Young people must be accompanied by a teacher, youth leader or chaplain: <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame>

Be Still and Know that I am God

20 –23 November 2026

Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst

Step away from the noise and rediscover the stillness in which we become attentive to God. Led by Fr Roger Dawson SJ, Liz Lord and Steve Noone, this residential

Lectio for Young Adults

A lectio prayer group for young adults meets every Friday at 6.00 pm at St Vincent de Paul Church, Liverpool L1 5JN. For more information, please contact James: djmoroney@cantab.net or call 07546 667394. To join the WhatsApp community, please follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/53brpbz>



CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL



We are welcoming donations of:
New, unopened, age-appropriate toys and gifts
For primary-aged children (4 -11)
For secondary-aged young people (11 - 16)
Suitable for both girls and boys

 Donation Drop off Period 1st November - 1st December 2026	 Drop-Off Location LACE - Liverpool Archdiocesan Conferences & Events, Croxteth Dr, Liverpool L17 1AA
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Make a difference this Christmas



Corporate Trustee: Nugent Care 2019 Ltd. Registered Charity 180702.
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Fatima Pilgrimage 2027



A pilgrimage to Fátima is planned for 11-14 September 2027, comprising four days and three nights. The group will travel from Manchester to Lisbon on 11 September and return on 14 September. Accommodation will be at the Hotel Genesis, which is situated close to the Sanctuary, with half-board included throughout the stay. The pilgrimage package includes return flights, airport and local transfers, a guided visit, and the services of a McCabe tour manager. The cost is £1,090 per person based on two people sharing a twin room, with a single room supplement of £200. For further information and booking details, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhc>



Check out what's going on in the Archdiocese:

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/events

Pastoral Development Newsletter:

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral:

<https://liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk>

Irenaeus Centre for Spirituality:

www.irenaeus.co.uk

Animate Youth Ministries:

www.animateyouth.org

Catholic Church in England & Wales:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

FREEDOM OF RELIGION & BELIEF

Bishop James Curry, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster and Lead Bishop for Freedom of Religion and Belief, writes:

"International Freedom of Religion and Belief day, on 27 October, falls at a time when an increasing number of people around the world face persecution for their religious beliefs.

"Jesus told his apostles: 'Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations.' As Christians, we have a duty to proclaim the Gospel and make the faith known to others. Just as Christians were persecuted in the early Church, today nearly 400 million Christians live in tangible fear of persecution for living the faith. Nor can we be indifferent to the plight of other people of faith and beliefs who are also persecuted for their sincerely held convictions.

"The Church teaches that people need to be free in matters of religion. As *Dignitatis Humanae*, one of the documents of the Second Vatican Council, stated: 'No one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs, whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits. The council further declares that the right to religious freedom has its foundation in the very dignity of the human person as this dignity is known through the revealed word of God and by reason itself. This right of the human person to religious freedom is to be recognised in the constitutional law whereby society is governed and thus it is to become a civil right.' (*Dignitatis Humanae*, 2)

"What can we do in the face of such wide-ranging persecution of people for their faith? As Lead Bishop for Freedom of Religion and Belief, I would like to offer three suggestions. Firstly, you can sign *Aid to the Church in Need's* petition which makes the following plea: 'We, the undersigned, raise our voices to call for the urgent protection and continued promotion of the fundamental right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion worldwide, as enshrined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.'

"Please also pray for persecuted Christians around the world, especially between now and Red Wednesday on 18 November, as well as for the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* which was commended by the Holy Father on his recent visit to France. Parishes could also include prayers for persecuted Christians in their intercessions over the next two weeks.

"Finally, we can give thanks to God for all those who remain steadfast in their faith despite the threat of persecution and for all those who have been martyred as a consequence of their witness to the Good News revealed in Christ and of God's loving kindness."