



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

24th May 2026

Pentecost [A]

Upcoming Masses and Services this week:

	Time	Church	
Sunday 24th May <i>PENTECOST</i>	5.30-5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	SJ	Vigil Mass <i>Gabrielle Sudell [b/day Ann 100]</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Thanksgiving/Sick/Souls</i>
	12.45pm	SJ	Baptism <i>Matilda Weyer</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 25th May <i>Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>War Dead</i>
Tuesday 26th May <i>St Philip Neri</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Private Intention</i>
Wednesday 27th May <i>ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY</i>	9.00am	SJ	Mass <i>St Augustine Foundation [4]</i>
	10.00am	SJ	<i>Secondary Patron of the Parish</i> Funeral Service <i>John Doway</i>
Thursday 28th May <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest</i>	9.00am	SJ	Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
Friday 29th May <i>Votive of the Holy Cross</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Catherine (Kit) O'Hara</i>
Saturday 30th May <i>Our Lady on Saturdays</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Kelly Family</i>
	10-10.30am	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	5.30-5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>Mary Davies</i>
Sunday 31st May <i>MOST HOLY TRINITY</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Brigid Deane</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>

EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]

SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]

PENTECOST

At Christmas, God became incarnate; He came to share with us His participation in the divine life and in the grace of God. Easter is the feast of the resurrection of the soul from sin and of the incorporation of man in the mystical body of the glorified Christ through the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. Pentecost is the feast of the visible mission of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, to the Church, to each Christian family, and to each individual soul. Now that Jesus is in heaven, He prays for and effects the coming of the Holy Spirit, that we may grow in grace and holiness, that we may be strong and firm in faith, that we may reach perfection and share in the inheritance of Christ.

Pentecost is the complement and the completion of Easter. Easter gives us the beginning of supernatural life and incorporation in Christ. But this new life must unfold; it must be strengthened and enkindled into a burning fire which can resist all things; it must be imbued with a love which is stronger than death, so that we are prepared to suffer all things for Christ, even the sacrifice of our life. This effect is visible in the apostles, who "went from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were accounted worthy to suffer reproach for the name of Jesus" [Acts 5, 41].

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church and of Christianity. Man, having been touched by the Spirit, no longer lives according to the flesh, according to fallen human nature; he lives in the Spirit. He is of a new generation that now sees all things in their proper place in the plan of divine providence, and in their relationship to eternity. We being this new generation are called to act for good and with upright motives, to do what is pleasing to the Father. "The fruit of the Spirit is charity, joy, peace, gentleness, goodness, endurance, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity" [Gal 5, 22].

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; Canon Seamus Flannery, John Doway, and all whose anniversaries occur: Adrian Southworth, Pat Smith, Peter Biene.

SHRINE CHURCH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

The Vigil Mass [on Saturday evening], continues to be celebrated at St Joseph's. Monday evening Adoration and Mass, however, are being celebrated in the War Memorial Chapel at English Martyrs.

REQUESTING BAPTISM

Catholic parents, who desire to bring their children up in the practice of the Faith, should make their request for Baptism to Fr Etienne, in person, immediately after attending one of our weekend Masses. After returning the enquiry form you will be contacted to arrange for preparation.

ADULT CONFIRMATION & CONVERTS

The Easter Season is all about the Sacraments, the bringing forth souls to the saving font of rebirth in Baptism and the Holy Spirit being set upon us, descending in Confirmation. The question remains; how will I encourage my family to return to the faith; how can I bring others to Christ?

THINKING OF BEING A PRIEST?

A day of recollection and discernment for single men 16 years+ considering priesthood: Saturday 30th May: 12.15pm – 2.30pm at St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster LA1 3BT. Starting with 12.15pm Mass, followed by lunch and meeting with Bishop Paul. Contact: Heather.Watts@lrcd.org.uk or Vocations Director, Canon Rusculo, luiz.rusculo@lrcd.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, National Shrine of Our Lady, 28th Sept to 1st Oct 2026. Pick up and return from Preston. For info contact: Deacon Charlie Conner at Charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk

LARK HILL ASSOCIATION

The 125th Anniversary Celebration will take place at Cardinal Newman College on Saturday June 27th from 11.30am. To find out more please contact Janet Metcalf on 07713300192 or email janet.metcalf53@icloud.com

“Unfurl the sails, and let God steer us where He will.” – St. Bede the Venerable

DEANERY CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

On the Sunday of Corpus Christi, 7th June, our annual deanery [Preston] Procession will take place at St. Walburge's Church, beginning at 2.00pm, concluding with Benediction. The children receiving their First Holy Communion this year are especially encouraged to join to strew petals before the Blessed Sacrament in an Act of Thanksgiving.

N.B: No Benediction at St Joseph's that Sunday.

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA

The relics of St Gerard Majella will be visiting Preston in June. This is part of the nationwide tour to celebrate the 300th anniversary since St Gerard's birth. He is popularly known as the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. Indeed, his intercession is known to have had success in our own parish! On Friday 19th June the relics will come to us at St Joseph's and will be available for veneration between 5.30pm-6.20pm, followed by a votive Mass, with Sermon, at 6.30pm. After Mass, there will be an opportunity to be blessed with the relics. Do spread the word and even a poster or two.

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

Each parish needs the generosity and talents of parishioners for various forms of service. These include: Care of the Church, Hospitality, Sharing our Faith, Liturgy and Worship, Community Service, and Parish Administration. All these areas in our parish involve the work of parishioners [thank you!] however, each area needs much strengthening. Fr Etienne would like to hear how you will help.

OPENING CHURCH

One essential responsibility is to open church before Masses, especially at weekends. If you can assist on a rota, do let Fr Etienne know. A short meeting for volunteers will take place after the 11.15am Mass on Sunday 31st May.

PASTORAL COUNCIL &

FINANCE & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Thank you to those who served in the past. If you feel able to practically continue in this service, we will meet on the following dates, at the Presbytery:
Fabric & Finance Council – Tuesday 26th May, 7pm
Pastoral Council – Thursday 11th June, 7pm

*Please note the change of date

If you have skills to assist, do speak with Fr Etienne.

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

www.stjohnxxiiipreston.com

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