



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

18th October 2026

Twenty-Ninth Week of the Year [A]

	Time	Church	
Sunday 18th October <i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year</i> <i>[World Mission Sunday]</i> <i>Special Collection: World Missions</i>	5.30-5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	[Sat 17 th] Vigil Mass Margaret Davies
	11.15am	SJ	Mass Brian Hughes
	12.45pm	SJ	Baptism Amara & Rayan Kiyami-Sawicka/i
	4.30-4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass Pro Populo
Monday 19th October <i>Canadian Martyrs</i>	6.00-6.20pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass John Steven
Tuesday 20th October <i>Votive of the Holy Angels</i>	6.30pm	SJ	Mass Eddy Curzon
Wednesday 21st October <i>Votive of St Joseph</i>			No Public Mass
Thursday 22nd October <i>St John Paul II</i>	9.00-9.20am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass Fred Cavies <i>followed by veneration of relic</i>
Friday 23rd October <i>St John of Capistrano</i>	6.00-6.20pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass Special Intention
Saturday 24th October <i>St Anthony Mary Claret</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass Xavier Etienne – Thanksgiving
	10.00-10.30am	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	5.30-5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Vigil Mass Pro Populo
Sunday 25th October <i>Thirtieth Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Special Collection:</i> <i>Sick & Retired Priests</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass Eddy Curzon
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30-4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass Thanksgiving <i>**Return of Sacramental Forms Deadline**</i>
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]		SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]	

THE MISSIONS

Christ commanded his first priests and bishops to, “go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matt 28: 19-20) This ‘go’ which the Lord instructs is the Mission, coming from the Latin word “missio,” from “mitto,” that is, “I send.” The missionary is thus someone who is sent, be they bishop, priest, and by extension, a religious or a layperson. The missionary is one sent by the Church in the name of Jesus Christ, whom he represents, to non-Catholic peoples in order to bring them the true Faith. The normal way for a person to be saved consists in being baptized, in believing and professing the doctrine and law of Jesus Christ. To draw souls to the Church is therefore to open the gates of heaven for them. It is to ‘save’ them. This is the purpose of the mission. On this *World Mission Sunday*, we reflect on the Missions, to unite ourselves with those who go to places still to be enlightened by the Gospel and who are still to be arranged into the ordered society of the Church.

Cardinal Robert Sarah, from French Guinea, when beautifully describing the Faith coming to his village and the Church taking root there said; “*I am an African. Let me say clearly: the liturgy is not the place to promote my culture. Rather, it is the place where my culture is baptised, where my culture is taken up into the Divine.*” The Gospel and her missionary endeavour, properly lived, never impoverishes a culture, it comes to understand the good of it, then living in it, the Church raises it to a new dignity. Our own culture was incomplete until England was evangelised, our culture became impoverished through the Reformation and our Martyrs continued to raise our fellow countrymen back to God’s Church and the culture which had made England flourish. The Canadian Martyrs, who we commemorate this week sought to bring this beauty and truth to the Huron people and saw in them the possibility of being saints. Their witness, like so many missionaries comes at a cost, the cost of their lives, but how beautiful it is, what charity it is, to go into the world to teach and baptise a culture, a people, and to bring them to salvation in Christ. We pray for the missions and missionaries!

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: Fred Cavies, Ernest Cousins and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joseph Burrows, Gabriel Fisher, Joseph Holden, and Peter Cross.

PARISH CENSUS

If you are still to complete a new **parish census form**, please do so. These forms are found in the Church porch or on our website. You may share this with neighbours and relations who are lapsed within the parish for them to complete their record on our census, post copies through their doors – a gentle ‘hint’ for Catholics to come home!

REQUESTING THE SACRAMENTS

Speaking to Fr Etienne after Sunday Masses is the best place to start our enquires for Baptism, 1st Holy Communion, Confirmations, Marriage, always rooted in worshipping life of our parish.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027 CONFIRMATION 2027

For those families with children who are currently considering their child/young person’s readiness to continue in their sacramental preparation, the deadline to return application forms to the parish is *next weekend, 25th October 2026*.

- 1st Confession & 1st Holy Communion - for children at least 8 years old [school year 4+].
- Confirmation – for young people aged 10-14 years old [school years 6-8]. The numbers, so far, suggest deferring Confirmation for a year.

OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Being the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, do make a special effort to pray the Rosary. Making time for prayer we say is always difficult, perhaps you could pray it taking a walk, as you drive or do household chores. Perhaps, you could have a gathering with friends or family this month and include the Rosary. The simplicity of the prayer is given to us to bring the mysteries of Christ and the prayers of Our Lady into all that we do.

ROSARY FOR THE FAMILY

Perhaps you could join the on-line Rosary for *Voice of the Family* on Zoom, 7.45pm every evening. Accessed from: www.voiceofthefamily.com

NOVEMBER & THE HOLY SOULS

‘SOUL LIGHTS’

Our important November custom is to have a candle lit for deceased loved ones on All Souls and for this candle to be kept burning for the following five days. These ‘Soul Lights’ can be purchased from St Joseph’s Holy Shop for £2.50 each and will be lit at the St Joseph’s Altar.

NOVEMBER LISTS

November List Envelopes, completed and placed in our ‘Holy Souls’ box, will be moved to the Sanctuary on All Souls Day [*Monday 2nd November*] to remain there throughout the month of November. Money enclosed will be used for Holy Souls Masses. **N.B:** For Masses to be offered specifically for your deceased loved one/s please use Mass envelopes.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD & THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

You are invited to join our Annual Prayers for the Dead; this will include the Blessing of Graves:

- Wednesday 4th November, at 11.30am at Preston Cemetery (Meet inside the gates on Miller Road). Blessing the graves of our priests and or your family graves.
- Thursday 5th November, at 2.00pm – Holy Souls Service at St Augustine’s school.
- Tuesday 10th November, at 2.00pm – Remembrance Service at St Ignatius, with prayers at the War Memorial.
- Wednesday 11th November, at 2.00pm at Preston Cemetery [by the Cemetery Office, off New Hall Lane], with school children.

THINKING OF BEING A PRIEST?

Come to a Day of Discernment, for young single men [16+] to consider the Priesthood: Saturday 31st October 10am – 3.30pm at Lancaster Cathedral [LA1 3BT]. Contact the Vocations Director: heather.watts@lrcd.org.uk.

MATER ECCLESIAE – Multi-Academy Trust

Parents who may be considering applying for places in our parish schools must make sure to complete the school’s Supplementary Information Form (SIF). This enables the school to apply its admissions criteria for admitting Catholic Children. Scan the QR code to visit the Multi-Academy Trust’s admission page which directs you to our various parish schools.



The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

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