



# 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

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Second Sunday of the Year [A]

Upcoming Masses & Services this week:

	Time	Church	
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
<i>Second Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Mass   <i>People of the Parish</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass   <i>Clara-Marie Ints</i>
<i>Day of Prayer for Peace</i>	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
<i>Start Octave of Christian Unity</i>	5.00pm	SJ	Mass   <i>Catherine Lonergan</i>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<i>St Wulstan</i>	6.30pm	EM	Mass   <i>John Steven</i>
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	9:00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<i>St Fabian &amp; St Sebastian</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass   <i>John Mulheron</i>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	<b>SVP Conference Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b>			<i>No Public Mass</i>
<i>St Agnes</i>			
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<i>St Vincent</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass   <i>Margeret Jarvie</i>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
<i>of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the Year</i>	6.30pm	SJ	Mass   <i>Jim McVeigh</i>
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b>	9.30am	SJ	Mass   <i>Peter Smith</i>
<i>St Francis de Sales</i>	10-10.30am	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass   <i>Thanksgiving</i>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	11.15am	SJ	Mass   <i>Stephanie Finnerty</i>
<i>Third Sunday of the Year</i>	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
<i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	5.00pm	SJ	Mass   <i>Kevin O'Rourke</i>
<b>EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]</b>		<b>SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]</b>	

### OCTAVE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

*That all may be one: as thou, Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us. (John 17:21)*

From this Sunday, we begin a short period of prayer known as the "Octave of Christian Unity" as well as the "Chair of the Octave of Christian Unity," which lasts from January 18<sup>th</sup> through January 25<sup>th</sup>. In recent times, this time has become, for many, an informal "Week of Christian Unity." However, returning to its initial purpose this Octave was to pray and work for the conversion of those outside of the Catholic Faith. The different days would have a particular intention for a separated group's conversion. We should use these days to pray for the conversion of so many around us from the atheist, the lapsed, to the reconciliation of ecclesial communities separated from full communion with the See of Rome.

In Rome, to this day, the Octave is primarily used as a time to celebrate the various Rites in full communion with the Roman Pontiff, the Pope. Each day of the Octave a *Particular Church sui iuris* would celebrate with great solemnity their own Rite. The Rite refers to their own ancient way of celebrating the Church's liturgy, and so, other Catholics of our own Rite (the Latin Rite) or other Rites would be encouraged to attend, learn, and immerse themselves in these beautiful celebrations. These celebrations are a good introduction to the great diversity in unity there is within the Church. An example of another Rite/*Particular Church* can even be found within the borders of our own parish by the presence of the Syro-Malabar Cathedral of St Alphonsa [the former church of our parish - St Ignatius]. We should pray for them this week. Pray also for those who have made our parish their home, having migrated here, and are away from their own Rite and ancient way of praying. Think of how the prayer of our faith is such a consolation in this life and how so many among us would pray in different, beautiful and legitimate ways. In our parish, as well as Syro-Malabar Catholics, we all have Syro-Malankara Catholics, Greek Catholics, Syriac Catholics, Maronites, Chaldeans and perhaps more.

### 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: Fr Osmond Aisbitt, Fr Peter Foulkes, Fr Bryan Irving, and all whose anniversaries occur: Rick Baron, Frances Baldwin, Marguerite Warburton, Robert Talbot, Michael Shea, Anthony Brown, Irene Cuniffe, David Johnson, Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue, Linda Ingram, and William McManus.

### FR PETER FOULKES

We continue to pray for the soul of Fr Peter Foulkes who served our parish as a former Parish Priest of St Augustine's [which was succeeded by Christ the King, and then St John XXIII parish], who passed away on 9<sup>th</sup> January. Details of his funeral will be announced once they are made available to us. We thank God for his labours in St Augustine's district of our Parish, and we pray for his happy repose.

*Eternal rest grant, unto him O Lord*

### SUNDAY BENEDICTION: WINTER PAUSE

There is a pause in the celebration of Benediction on Sundays at St Joseph's. Benediction will resume, with Stations of the Cross, in Lent, on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### SHRINE CHURCH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Following the safety concerns at the Church of English Martyrs, the Vigil Mass [on Saturday evening] continues, at this time, to take place at St Joseph's.

To further reflect and consider, faced with the limited options before us, I would like to meet and update those of our parish who regularly attend English Martyrs. A meeting will take place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm, after Mass.

At this time, Mass in the War Memorial Chapel on Monday evenings, will continue. Thank you for your support and understanding! *Fr E*

### EPIPHANY BLESSING OF HOMES

Blessed Chalk and Epiphany Water [bring your own receptacle for the latter] with a small instruction card continues to be available in Church.

This beautiful tradition is a good opportunity to have your priests come and bless your home [again]. If you would like a priest to make a brief visit for a house blessing, please do send us an email and we can make arrangements.

### SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL [SVP]

A New Year brings new resolutions and opportunities for virtue and charity for us all. Perhaps you will **join the Society of St Vincent de Paul** in our parish? We had an encouraging response to rallying our SVP, **now we need to act** and make good on those intentions!

Even if you are not completely sure of how you can help do come to a meeting of the Parish SVP Conference **this Tuesday** [20<sup>th</sup>] at St Joseph's presbytery at 6.00pm.

You can find out more about the SVP from their website: [www.svp.org.uk/](http://www.svp.org.uk/)

### WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

This weekend, 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> January, there is the annual appeal and collection for the **Society for the Protection of Unborn Children** [SPUC]. Please do continue to pray for and support this important work for the protection of life from the moment of conception until natural death.

**Do consider joining our local Preston branch!** Meetings are at St Joseph's on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, 2.00pm. Next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February.

### TEA & COFFEE ON SUNDAYS

A few more **recruits are needed** for serving Tea & Coffee at St Joseph's on Sundays. Any costs incurred can be recouped from donations. Sign up on the sheet in the Lancaster Room.

### CRIB COLLECTIONS

Do still consider contributing to our Crib Collection - this year is for our SVP Conference. This collection continues to be open until the Presentation of the Lord, 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### WEEKEND RECOLLECTION

A weekend delving into St John of the Cross is offered between 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst. Entitled: Love & Beauty in St John's Spiritual Canticle given by Fr Matthew Blake, OCD. For more information follow the link below.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/love-beauty-in-st-johns-spiritual-canticle/>

### COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED

Non-perishable food goods for those in need can be placed in the buckets found in the porches of our two churches. Thank you for your generosity.

## The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

[www.stjohnxxiiipreston.com](http://www.stjohnxxiiipreston.com)

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