



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 18th January 2025

Second Sunday of the Year [A]

Upcoming Masses & Services this week:

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

EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]

SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]

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 18th through January 25th. 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 Cunniffe, 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 9th 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 22nd 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 26th 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** [20th] at St Joseph's presbytery at 6.00pm.

You can find out more about the SVP from their website: www.svp.org.uk/

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

This weekend, 17th/18th 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 2nd Saturday of the month, 2.00pm. Next meeting 12th 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, 2nd February.

WEEKEND RECOLLECTION

A weekend delving into St John of the Cross is offered between 20th-22nd 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

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