



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

8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent [A]

Upcoming Masses & Services this week:

	Time	Church	
Sunday 8th March <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>St Augustine's Foundation [1]</i>
	10.30am	SJ	<i>First Holy Communion Prep [2]</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Lingeswaran Family</i>
	12.30pm	SJ	Baptism <i>Bernadette Donnelly</i>
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>Michael Kelly</i>
Monday 9th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>St Augustine's Foundation [2]</i>
Tuesday 10th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>	9.00am		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am		Mass <i>Richard Rycerski</i>
Wednesday 11th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>			No Public Mass
Thursday 12th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
Friday 13th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>	9.15am	SI	Mass in St Ignatius' School <i>Parishioners welcome</i>
	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Boylan Family</i>
Saturday 14th March <i>of the 3rd week of Lent</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Patricia Long</i>
	10-10.30am	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>Maric Windle</i>
Sunday 15th March <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Laetare Sunday</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Agnes Alfred</i>
	12.30pm	SJ	Baptism <i>Tobenna Chinua Ekediegwu</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Stations of the Cross & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]		SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]	

PROGRESS IN ALMSGIVING THIS LENT

In St Matthew's Gospel [25:31-46], Jesus tells his disciples that when the Son of Man comes, He will separate the sheep from the goats; that the sheep are those who fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, welcomed the stranger, clothed the naked, cared for the ill, and visited the imprisoned, and the unfortunate goats are those who didn't. It's all about the charitable works of mercy.

Well-rooted in our Lenten campaign we should be sincerely trying to live and grow in a deeper relationship with our Lord through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Almsgiving, the charitable and outward looking aspect of the trio, can take a back seat. What can you do to avoid this?

Certainly, you can increase your weekly contribution to the collection basket and let that serve the less fortunate in a variety of ways. You can easily feed the hungry by purchasing non-perishable goods and drop them off at the back of church, or investing a little effort by making an extra meal for a neighbour in need. You can clean out your wardrobe and donate the seldom worn clothing to a charitable organization. You can care for the ill and imprisoned by visiting a nursing home. You can introduce yourself to someone new at Mass and find out a little about them, so they do not remain a stranger but a brother or sister in Christ to witness to and serve them. We can evangelise the stranger first by building a friendship.

Christ desires that we stretch out our arms towards those in need as he did for us upon Calvary.

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: Irene Boylan, and all whose anniversaries occur: Pat Barker, Cynthia Joseph, Christopher Graham, Margaret Gavin, and Oswald Kellett.

SHRINE CHURCH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Following the safety concerns at English Martyrs, the Vigil Mass [on Saturday evening], is currently being celebrated at St Joseph's.

Monday evening Adoration and Mass continue to be celebrated at this time in the War Memorial Chapel. Thank you for your support! *Fr E*

CLEANING/MAINTENANCE ST JOSEPH'S

If you can give some time to cleaning church, polishing brass, preparing the hall, or tidying and weeding the grounds we would be very grateful. All these jobs keep your church open and functioning - thank you. A rota is available in the church porch for individuals and families to volunteer.

EASTER CLEAN OF OUR CHURCHES

A "big clean" of St Joseph's and will take place on Saturday 4th April 10.00am – 11.30am. Brasses can be polished after weekday Masses the week before.

ALTAR SERVERS

Thank you to those who have shown an interest in joining our serving team and those who already serve. It would still be very useful if the older men of the parish, who may have served as boys, or not, would consider serving at weekday Masses, funerals and weekday devotions.

GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

Our new Financial Year begins in early April, so perhaps, if you are in a position to do so, you could consider in Lent the offering you make to your parish. Perhaps, if you pay Tax and make cash offerings, you could start using **Gift Aid envelopes?** Perhaps you could make your offering or part of it by standing order? This can also be claimed against the Tax you contribute, if declared.

If you are no longer paying Tax or want to know more, please contact our priests. Thank you for your continued support!

Setting up a Standing Order: St John XXIII,
Sort Code: 40-27-02 A/C: 71335391 [HSBC UK]

LENT

Do continue to use the opportunities of Lent: try to attend Mass on a weekday, spend time with the Lord in Exposition, donate in our various collections, come to Benediction, participate in the Stations of the Cross, and take up some spiritual reading [some options are available in the Holy Shop].

ROSARY

During Lent, the Holy Rosary is being prayed before Sunday Morning Mass. The Rosary begins about 20 minutes before Mass.

STATIONS & SUNDAY BENEDICTION

During the season of Lent Benediction is celebrated *after* Stations of the Cross. Do consider taking part in this beautiful tradition on Sunday afternoons at 4.00pm. Booklets are provided to assist you.

SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

On Thursday 19th March is the Solemnity of St Joseph, patron of our Parish Church. Children from St Joseph's school will join for 9.30am and a Solemn Mass will be offered at 6.30pm. We are very happy to welcome Fr John Millar back to preach at this Mass. The evening Mass will be followed by a simple reception in the Presbytery.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Maudy Thursday

7.00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

10.00am – Stations & Veneration of the True Cross

3.00pm – Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday

12noon – Blessing of Easter Baskets

7.00pm – Easter Vigil

Followed by a celebratory Easter Gathering

Easter Sunday

11.15am – Easter Mass

5.00pm – Easter Mass

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 contributions.

CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY

You can still give to CAFOD's Lenten campaigns by scanning the QR code on the poster in the Church porch or by visiting: www.cafod.org.uk/give

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