



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 21st December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas - Double Edition [A]

Upcoming Masses & Services the next two weeks:

	Time	Church	
Sunday 21st December	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00pm	SJ	Mass Elizabeth Wignall
<i>O Oriens</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass Wilf Kellett
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
<i>Day of Prayer: Expectant Mothers</i>	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass Andrei
Monday 22nd December	12noon	SJ	Baptism Noah Aurelio Oláh
<i>Monday of Advent IV</i>	5.45-6.20pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
<i>O Rex Gentium</i>	5.45pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass Doreen Davies
Tuesday 23rd December	9:00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<i>Tuesday of Advent IV</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass Safe Delivery: Joshua Andrew Lea
<i>O Emmanuel</i>	6.00-7.00pm	SJ	Holy Hour & Sacrament of Penance
Wednesday 24th December	6.30pm	SJ	<i>Christmas Proclamation & Carols</i>
<i>Wednesday of Advent IV</i>	7.00pm	SJ	Christmas Mass Rosy's Intentions & Canon A Walsh
Thursday 25th December	10.00am	SJ	Mass Maria
<i>Christmas Day</i>			
Friday 26th December	10.00am	SJ	Mass Peter Smith
<i>St Stephen</i>			
Saturday 27th December			No morning Mass & Confessions
<i>St John the Evangelist</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass Richard Wignall
Sunday 28th December	11.15am	SJ	Mass In Thanksgiving
<i>The Holy Family</i>	4.00pm	SJ	No Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass Tommy Traynor
Monday 29th December	12noon	EM	Mass Gwen Watson Ints
<i>St Thomas of Canterbury</i>			<i>Followed by refreshments in the Hall</i>
Tuesday 30th December	10.30am	SJ	Requiem Mass John Galway
<i>Sixth Day of Christmas</i>			
Wednesday 31st December			No Public Mass
<i>Seventh Day of December</i>			
Thursday 1st January 2026	12noon	SJ	Mass John Galway
<i>Mary, Mother of God</i>			
Friday 2nd January	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
<i>St Basil & St Gregory</i>	6.30pm	SJ	Mass Karen Cuchley
Saturday 3rd January			No morning Mass & Confessions
<i>Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass Rita McGarrigie
Sunday 4th January	11.15am	SJ	Mass Dennis Sumner
<i>Second Sunday After the Nativity</i>	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [Confessions]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass Canon A Walsh
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]		SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]	

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: John Galway, Joyce Cooper, and all whose anniversaries occur: Joyce Cocker, James Burke, Richard Samsonowski, Mary Gealis, Julius David, Peter Ainsworth, Rosemary Thomas, Sandra Donnelly, Catherine Lee, and Deborah Rowland.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL [SVP]

We had an encouraging initial response to rallying our SVP, now we need to make good on these intentions! A meeting of the Parish SVP Conference will take place at St Joseph's presbytery on Tuesday 20th January at 6.00pm – all are welcome to attend. You can find out more about the SVP from their website: www.svp.org.uk/

Please do consider joining the SVP!

SUNDAY BENEDICTION: PAUSE

As from Sunday 28th December, there will be a *pause* in the celebration of Benediction on Sundays at St Joseph's. Benediction will resume, with Stations of the Cross, on Sunday 22nd February.

TEA & COFFEE ON SUNDAYS

A few more recruits are needed for 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. Thank you to our volunteers!

SHRINE CHURCH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Following the safety concerns at the Church of English Martyrs and the subsequent short message from Bishop Swarbrick, the Vigil Mass [on Saturday evening] will, temporarily take place at St Joseph's. We require further reflection and consideration about the future, and so, I will get together with those who regularly worship at English Martyrs in the New Year to reflect with them on the limited options before us. I would be pleased to have those who fulfil any ministry at Mass to do so in the same way at St Joseph's. At this time, Mass in the War Memorial Chapel on Monday evenings, will continue. Thank you for your support! *Fr E*

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!

EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

- On Monday 22nd December at English Martyrs [Memorial Chapel], 5.45pm – 6.20pm.
- On Tuesday 23rd December at St Joseph's, 6.00pm – 7.00pm. [Holy Hour]

CRIB COLLECTIONS

Do consider contributing to our Crib Collections, this year the collection will be for our SVP Conference. This collection will be open until the Presentation of the Lord, 2nd February 2025.

SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR CHRISTMAS

Sanctuary Lamps in memory of a loved one will be lit for the Christmas Masses and used beside the Tabernacle throughout the year. Please place a donation of £5.00 in an envelope marked 'Sanctuary Lamps for Christmas' with the name[s] you wish to be remembered.

This weekend, there will be a table in the porch of St Joseph's porch to purchase further sanctuary lamps if you have not done so yet.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Parish Christmas Raffle, which was drawn last Sunday, £335 was raised. There are still a few prizes to be claimed from the Lancaster Room. Winning tickets still to be claimed are: Darius [Yellow Tickets 806-810 & 786-790], Margaret S [Yellow Ticket 846-850], Klara R [Yellow Ticket 521-525], and Sean Deane [Yellow Ticket 426-430].

GUILD OF ST STEPHEN FOR ALTAR SERVERS

On St Stephen's Day [Friday 26th December] Altar Servers who have served for more than a year are invited to enrol in the Guild and receive their bronze medal. Mass, that day, will be at 10.00am at St Joseph's. Renewed thanks to all our Altar Servers for your contribution!

EPIPHANY BLESSING OF HOMES

Blessed Chalk and Epiphany Water [bring your own receptacle for the latter] with a small instruction card will be available from Sunday 4th January. 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 house blessing, please do send us an email and we can make an arrangement.

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

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