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

22nd November 2026 **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe [A]**

	Time	Church	
Sunday 22nd November	5.30-5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance *[Confessions]*
Our Lord Jesus Christ,	6.00pm	SJ	Vigil Mass | *Bill Davies*
King of the Universe	11.15am	SJ	Mass | *Pro Populo*
Special Collection: Youth Service	4.00pm	SJ	*Rosary & Benediction*
	4.30-4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance *[Confessions]*
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass | *Holy Souls – November Lists*
Monday 23rd November	6.00-6.20pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
St Clemont I	6.30pm	EM	Mass | *Canon Doyle*
Tuesday 24th November	**9.00am**	SJ	Mass | *Annie Coulthard*
St Andrew Dung-Lac & Comps			
Wednesday 25th November	**10.45am**	Coop	Funeral Service | *Sarah Callaghan*
St Catherine of Alexandria	**2.00pm**	CtK	Mass | *Yr 10 & Yr 11*
Thursday 26th November	**9.00am**	SJ	Mass | *Bill Jones*
Votive of the Holy Eucharist			
Friday 27th November	6.00-6.20pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
Votive of the Holy Cross	6.30pm	SJ	Mass | *Holy Souls – November Lists*
Saturday 28th November			*Mass celebrated in Preston Prison*
Our Lady on Saturdays			
Sunday 29th November	11.15am	SJ	Mass | *James Turner*
First Sunday of Advent	4.00pm	SJ	*Rosary & Benediction*
Special Collection: Poor Missions	4.30-4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance *[Confessions]*
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass | *People of the Parish*

EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA] **SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]**

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

This past week it was wonderful to witness King Charles visiting Preston; in fact within the boundaries of our Parish! It was lovely also to see a good number of children from a number of our parish schools out to greet and welcome him. The image of our earthly King or Monarch is often what we have in mind when we first think of Christ our King. Though Christian Kings and Queen are to model their leadership on Christ our King, Christ's kingship is still quite different.

In Sacred Scripture, Christ the Universal King is narrated by the prophet Isaiah [9:1-7], and the evangelists in the nativity stories, soon to be read, tell us of a king to rule over Israel, born of the royal line of King David. When this king was born, the whole world was shaken. Wise men from the east came to see him, shepherds were told of his story. King Herod heard of the news which he did not receive with delight. He felt intimidated, he sensed the arrival of a rival. Though for Christ our King, *"his kingdom was not of this world"* [John 18:33-37]. It was indeed long hidden from many minds, even the apostles, that this king was not an ordinary king, not an earthly king but his kingdom and kingship is divine.

Pilate asks Jesus, *"are you the king of the Jews?"* [John 18:33] because he was shocked that the person whom the people were talking about looked very simple. Jesus came to this world to remind us that what is in this world is temporal. Nothing lasts in this world, so many kingdoms here spring up, flourish and decline. However, heaven is the true kingdom, and Christ our true and eternal king. The treasures which we always want to accumulate are nothing. What lasts are the things of heaven *"where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in"* (Matthew 6:20). That is the kind of kingdom which people are supposed to yearn for. A kingdom where there is always justice and peace, love, and happiness. Most beautifully our king wants to be with us always, He presides amongst us in the Holy Eucharist. Do we all welcome Him as our King at Mass? What pleases our king is simple, do his Father's will!

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: Canon David Mahy, Canon Harry Doyle, Sarah Callaghan, Lucy Sandham Ball and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Neals Joseph, Bridget Mellis, Canon A Walsh, Bernadette Benson, Duncan Hosker, Worrel Hurtault, Christine Mellor.

CANON HARRY DOYLE RIP

Our near neighbour at Our Lady & St Michael's, Alston Lane, Canon Harry Doyle recently passed away. We give thanks for his ministry in our Parish and Deanery and pray that he now rests in peace. His funeral arrangements are as follows:

- Thursday 3rd Dec, 7.00pm – Reception of Canon Doyle's body into Church with Mass.
- Friday 4th Dec, 11.00am Requiem Mass followed by burial in the Churchyard.

*If you wish to attend to pray for Canon Doyle, do consider the **evening Mass** on the 3rd given the limited size of Alston Lane church.

Fr Etienne is seeing to the general administration of Alston Lane Parish at this time - this may affect certain routines.

Fr Shiju Sebastian Kalarickal, is assisting Fr Etienne with weekend Masses at this time.

CHANGES TO PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

From **next weekend**, 1st Sunday of Advent [*Saturday 28th November*], the following changes in our parish take effect: **Sunday Masses only at 11.15am & 5.00pm.** *There will no longer be a Saturday morning or evening *[Vigil] Mass*. I thank you for your generosity and support. *Fr Etienne*

PARISH CENSUS

If you are still to complete a new **parish census form**, **please do so.** These forms can be found in the church porch or on our website. You can share this form with neighbours and relations within the parish for them to complete their record on our census. Do post a form through their doors; a gentle 'hint' for Catholics to come home!

ST JOSEPH'S HOLY SHOP

Our 'Holy Shop' is open after 11.15am Mass at St Joseph's with Christmas items now available. Do speak with Fr Etienne if you require something particular from the Holy shop.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2027

Welcome to our children and their families, who today embark upon preparation for 1st Confession and 1st Holy Communion. Today at the 11.15am Mass our children will be enrolled, and we shall promise to pray for them and for their families. May they persevere in the Faith!

If you did not receive an email [*likely a typo*], please email the parish email address below.

NOVEMEBER

"Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice (Job 1:5), why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them." – St. John Chrysostom

NOVEMBER LISTS

Do remember to complete a pious *November List* of your departed souls you. Place the list in a Holy Souls Envelope, found in the church porch or at St Joseph's Altar and place this list in the 'Holy Souls Box' at St Joseph's Altar. Money enclosed in these envelopes will be used for Holy Souls Masses.

N.B: For Masses to be offered specifically for your deceased loved ones please continue to use the regular Mass envelopes.

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS FOR ADVENT

After 11.15am Mass on Sunday 29th November Fr Etienne would like to meet with our children for a short catechesis on the Advent season.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets are available after weekend Masses, £1.00 a strip. Please support! The raffle will be drawn after Sunday Mass at St Joseph's, on 13th December. To donate prizes [not bric-a-brac] towards the Raffle; please contact the parish office. First prize, £50.00.

SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to buy a Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a loved one that will be lit for the Christmas Masses and will be 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.

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

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