



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 31st August 2025

Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year [C]

	Time	Church	
Sunday 31st August <i>Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Special Collection: CaTEW levy</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	6.00pm	EM	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Abigayle Birthday</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Monday 1st September <i>of the 22nd week of the Year</i>	8.30am	CTK	No Public Mass <i>Staff Mass at Christ the King School</i>
Tuesday 2nd September <i>of the 22nd week of the Year</i>	8.30am	SJ	Mass <i>John Rooney</i>
Wednesday 3rd September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>			No Public Mass
Thursday 4th September <i>St Cuthbert</i>			No Public Mass
Friday 5th September <i>St Herbert</i>	10.00am	SJ	Funeral Service <i>Liz Pickering</i>
	6.00pm	SJ	Exposition & Sacrament of Penance
	6.30pm	SJ	Mass <i>Mary Boylan</i>
Saturday 6th September <i>BVM on Saturdays</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	EM	No Public Morning Mass and Confessions Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>] Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
	6.00pm	EM	
Sunday 7th September <i>Twenty-third Sunday of the Year</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Edmund Noblett</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Rosary & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]			SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]

ST CUTHBERT – SECOND PATRON OF THE DIOCESE OF LANCASTER

When entering our Parish Church of St Joseph our attention is immediately grabbed by the towering figures of eight saints on the East wall behind the High Altar. A prominent reminder of the saints in heaven, their abiding closeness to us and their joining us at the Altar, joining us in worshipping God in the banquet of the Lamb. One of those statues is the figure of St Cuthbert, whose influence as a patron stretches across Northern England. According to tradition, Cuthbert was a shepherd boy who became a monk, and later prior at Melrose Abbey. After the Synod of Whitby in 664, he became prior of Lindisfarne and gently winning over his community to more a fullsome love and practice of their life in common with the customs established in the Roman church. He was zealous in preaching the Gospel, which he was called upon to do so across the north of England, though he solely wished to live the life of a hermit. In 676 he left the monastery and lived in solitude on the nearby island of Inner Farne. For the last two years of his life he served as bishop of Lindisfarne, but returned to his island to die, on 20th March 687. His remains were later removed from Lindisfarne to escape Viking raiders and enshrined in Durham Cathedral.

St Bede sums up St Cuthbert's character: *'like a good teacher he taught others to do only what he first practised himself. Above all else he was afire with heavenly love, unassumingly patient, devoted to unceasing prayer, and kindly to all who came to him for comfort.... His self-discipline and fasting were exceptional, and through the grace of contrition he was always intent on the things of heaven.'* He also tells us that *'Cuthbert was so skilful a speaker, and had such a light in his angelic face, and such a love for proclaiming his message... that all confessed their sins to him... they laid open to him the common troubles of humanity ... in the hope of gaining comfort... No one left unconsoled.'* May we go to St Cuthbert with our troubles and temptations and receive the protection and consolation of the saints, our wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ!

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: Elsie Elizabeth Pickering, James Cafferkey and all whose anniversaries occur at this time Elie Charles, Lilian Rishton, Mary Boylan, and Issac Newton.

REDUCED MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

This week, Fr Etienne is returning home for the marriage of his brother and Fr Chapple is away on a Catholic Prisons Chaplains retreat and so weekday Masses have to be altered. **So, please do check the Mass list for this week carefully!**

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES IN SEPTEMBER

Do consider joining with our Bishop and faithful from across our diocese at the following pilgrimages, in honour of Our Blessed Lady:

Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, St Mary, Cleator [CA23 3AB]

This annual pilgrim gathering at the Grotto in Cleator will take place next Sunday, 7th September. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm, followed by the Blessing of the Sick.

Our Lady of Fernyhalgh, Preston [PR2 5RR]

The annual pilgrimage from the Church to Ladyewell shrine will take place on Saturday 20th September. Mass in the Church will be at 11.00am, followed by Procession of the Blessed Sacrament down to the shrine. This shrine is so close and so we should do our best to attend. If you can offer a lift or need a lift please speak with Fr Etienne.

*Both Shrine sites are designated shrines for the Holy Year in the Diocese of Lancaster. At these churches/churches you can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence which the Holy Father has granted for the year. To receive the Indulgence, first go to Confession, receive Holy Communion and Prayer for the Holy Father. Then at the Shrine, pray the Our Father, profess our faith [Apostles' Creed or Nicene Creed], and pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY

Each year parishes are required to pay a levied contribution towards *CaTEW/Bishops' Conference*. This year's levy for our parish is **£590.33**. As always, your help is very much appreciated.

CONSIDERING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Did you know that the word catholic means "*for everyone*"? The Catholic Church is filled with all kinds of people who know and love Jesus Christ. Jesus founded the Catholic Church so that everyone who looks for Him can find Him.

Do you think God might be calling you to follow Him in the Catholic Church? Do you know of others who are curious about our Catholic Faith, or someone lapsed from the Catholic Faith? Speak to a priest to start learning more about what Catholics believe.

In parts of the UK there is a current surge of [especially young] people joining the Catholic Church. We pray for converts and returning souls.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL BACKPACKS

We pray for all who return to schools and colleges this coming week, both students and staff. Next weekend we would like our young parishioners to bring their backpacks to Mass. Backpacks will be blessed at the end of Mass for the coming year!

EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

On 14th September, we have the joy of celebrating the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross on a Sunday. As such, we will offer veneration of the relic of the True Cross after Sunday Masses.

PARISH SOCIALS

After 11.15am on the following Sundays, listed below, you are very welcome to help contribute and/or join us for one of our Parish socials. Sheets can be found in the Lancaster Room to write down the contribution you would like to make:

14th September and 12th October

CASTLERIGG OPEN DAY

The annual Open Day at Castlerigg Manor is on Sunday 14th September. The Manor is open from midday and Mass with Bishop Paul will be at 2.00pm. Come and enjoy!

MARCH FOR LIFE UK

The annual *March for Life* takes place in London next weekend [6th September], a festival and March to testify to the beautiful and gift of human life from conception to natural death. More information can be found at <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/> Pray for parishioners and other locals attending!

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

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