

# ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



## 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SUNDAY 31st AUGUST 2025

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

For the current week's readings and Saints please look at *The Liverpool Ordo*, Liturgy Office [www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk) and *Universalis* (Liverpool/IOM).

### GOOD NEWS

#### • CELEBRATING OUR LOCAL MARTYR – ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH

On Sunday 24 August, a group of approximately 30 pilgrims set out from St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith Church in Ashton to celebrate the life and witness of our local saint and to seek his intercession. Canon John Gorman blessed the pilgrims before they began their journey to Bryn where they then paused in prayer before the Lord at Our Lady's Church. From there, they continued to the Gerard School (once attended by the young Edmund Arrowsmith) crossing the fields until the group made their way back to St Oswald's Church.

Canon Sean Riley presided at Holy Mass and afterwards those gathered had the privilege of venerating the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith. In his homily, Canon Riley reflected that the Hand is not merely a relic of the past, but a powerful reminder of St Edmund's service and sacrifice. It is also a sign of blessing and a missioning hand—sending us out to be living witnesses of faith today. St Edmund Arrowsmith, pray for us.

### SACRAMENT – CATECHESIS - FORMATION

#### • DAY FOR CATECHISTS – FORMATION & REFLECTION

Are you a catechist looking for spiritual refreshment? No matter what kind of ministry you are serving, there is a good opportunity for you to refresh your vocation of being a catechist. On **27 September**, the Day for Catechists will be organised from **9.30-16.00** at **St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA**. With the facilitation of Sr Carino and Sr Hyacinthe from the Dominican Sister of St Joseph, there will be spiritual input and practical discussion on the mission of catechesis. If you're interested, sign up here: [Day for Catechists Link](#). For more information, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

#### • MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Are you planning to get married in a Catholic church? Are you looking for some time out from the busy wedding planning, providing you and your partner with an opportunity to focus on your relationship and to learn more about each other?




**Pastoral Development Department:**

St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA T: 0151 522 1040

[pd@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:pd@rcaol.org.uk)

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The Liverpool Archdiocese is now offering a marriage preparation course for engaged couples. The course will involve four sessions, meeting in group with other couples. To be led by trained lay facilitators, the course will help the couples develop skills which could facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of unconditional love set within a Catholic faith. The course will be available in **September/October**. There is a fee of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses. Please book online here at [Marriage Preparation Course Link](#) For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

Date:	29 September, 6 October, 13 October, 20 October (all Mondays)	
Time:	6.30pm–8.30pm	
Venue:	St Helen’s Church, Alexandra Road, Crosby, Liverpool, L23 7TQ	
<a href="#">Marriage Preparation Course Link</a>		

- **LIGHT OF TRUTH: CHILDREN'S LITURGY TRAINING, Saturday 6 September, 9.00-12.00**

Online morning workshop for everyone involved in Children's Liturgy, looking at the principles and practical tools we can use to help children participate in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/childrens-liturgy-training>

- **THE COUNCIL OF NICAIA 1700<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY: HONEST DISAGREEMENT IN LOVE NICAIA THEN AND NOW, Friday 12 – Sunday 14 September 2025, Blackburn Cathedral**

In partnership with Churches Together, Blackburn Cathedral is honoured to host an Ecumenical conference to celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea.

Bringing together theologians, ecumenical leaders and local participants, the conference will explore how the principles of honest respectful disagreement and loving engagement can help address the challenges we face - with both passion and compassion - and reflect on the enduring legacy of Nicaea. Engaging in meaningful conversations about unity and how faith communities can respond to conflict in the world today.

Please note Blackburn Cathedral has no onsite parking however there are several public car parks close by with a bus interchange and railway station two minutes away. The Cathedral is fully accessible and wheelchair friendly. There is level access into and around the building.

Contact No.	01254 277430
Email:	<a href="mailto:info@blackburncathedral.com">info@blackburncathedral.com</a>
Address:	Blackburn Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Blackburn, BB1 5AA
Website:	<a href="http://blackburncathedral.com/nicaea">blackburncathedral.com/nicaea</a>

- **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS**

The Irenaeus Centre will be leading Eucharistic ministry training days at on **25 October 2025 & 14 March 2026**. Parishes are invited to book places by emailing [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)



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- **LIGHT OF TRUTH: ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS (ONLINE WORKSHOP), Saturday 6 December (ONLINE)**

Join the Dominican Sisters on Saturdays, from **9.00 to 12.00** noon for a short course of 3 sessions, to discover the essential nature and principles of catechesis, the sources of catechesis, and the best ways to prepare and deliver our catechesis. This course is open to everyone involved or interested in any kind of catechesis for adults, young people or children. This course is free, and the Dominican Sisters gratefully accept any donation you may be able to contribute.


<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/essential-training-for-catechists-2025-12-06-09-00>

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION

- **JUBILEE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, Saturday 20 September**

Come together for a celebration of change, equality, and unity at the **Jubilee for Social Justice at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral**.

Holy Mass with Archbishop Emeritus Malcolm McMahon, impactful discussions, and inspiring speakers from within Catholic social action. An opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and communities, coming together to celebrate God's vision for a more just society. Save the date and be part of this empowering experience.

Date:	Saturday 20 September 2025	
Time:	Holy Mass 12:00 to 13:00, Lunch, Reflections, Exhibition 13:00 to 15:30	
Venue:	Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, Mount Pleasant Liverpool L3 5TQ	
<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jubilee-for-social-justice-tickets-1374429849679">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jubilee-for-social-justice-tickets-1374429849679</a>		

*Charities and organisations are welcome to host a stall after Holy Mass. For more information, please email Berna at [bernadette.durcan@csan.org.uk](mailto:bernadette.durcan@csan.org.uk).*

- **DISABILITY AWARENESS SUNDAY, 28 September**

Through the Roof have asked to share information about Disability Awareness Sunday – **28 September**. A short video of disabled Christian author Emily Owen can be played in churches, and Emily has also written the materials for use in services on the theme of 'Made in the image of God'. All the resources are free and include suggested hymns and songs, prayers, etc, as well as Emily's video and ideas for the talk. Here's the link to request the pack: [Disability Awareness Sunday - Through the Roof](#)

## JUBILEE

- **CELEBRATION ON CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS & BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI**

To mark the canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati by Pope Leo XIV on 7 September. A solemn evening prayer, benediction and veneration of the relics



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presided over by Bishop Tom Neylon will take place at **St Stephen's Church, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HS** at **15.00** on **Sunday 7 September**. All are welcome to join. For more information <https://www.st-stephens-warrington.co.uk/>

- **FCJ: WHY HOPE? SEASON OF CREATION, Wednesday 17 September, 19.30-20.30 (ONLINE)**

Continue the journey through this Jubilee Year as the FCJ Sisters celebrate the Season of Creation. Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, repentance, and solidarity. This is an ONLINE event. There will be input and an opportunity for prayer together. This event is offered in collaboration by FCJ Centre St Hugh's in Liverpool and FCJ Spirituality Centre in London. It will also be offered in person in London and Liverpool – for more information, please contact the FCJ Centres for dates and visit the FCJ website: <https://shorturl.at/Ulpoc> to sign up.

- **ARCHDIOCESAN CARE FOR CREATION WALK AND MASS, Saturday 20 September**

Starting at 11am at St Mary's Public Oratory, Aughton (Prescot Road, Aughton, L39 6TA) the 3.5-mile circular route will include 3 prayer stops and will conclude with a celebration of Mass at 1:30pm. We hope to see you there! For more information, please contact [c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk)

Date:	Saturday 20 September	
Time:	11.00am	
Venue:	St Mary's Public Oratory, Prescot Road, Aughton, L39 6TA	
<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/NFy5BuMfke?origin=lpLink">https://forms.office.com/e/NFy5BuMfke?origin=lpLink</a>		

## **RETREATS/SPIRITUALITY**

- **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT, Friday 12 September 10.00-15.00**

The Irenaeus Centre is exploring the ways in which we can support people in a time of grief, consider the stages of grief and what might help people. Hosted at the Irenaeus Centre, Great Georges Rd. Waterloo L22 1RD. Book a place with Jenny Tel: 0151 949 1199 or [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk). Donation £10. Bring a Packed Lunch.

- **SUPPORT FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED**

The Restored Lives course is run over six weeks, one evening per week. The talks cover the key issues to help you to move on and highlight the practical steps and tools to enable you to tackle the issues that arise from separation and divorce. For more information contact Maureen 07967 753471 or Jacqui Sellek 07938 25815.

- **FCJ INTERNATIONAL READING GROUP (ONLINE), 16.00-17.00**



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Join the FCJ's international reading group which looks at current thinking in the Christian churches, ecology, spirituality, theology etc. every Friday at **16.00**, UK Time.

From Friday 5 September the group will be reading ***The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage*** by Richard Rohr. Each weekly session is an hour long and begins with a 5-minute recap of the chapter followed by a 35-minute discussion then a short plenary. No need to attend every week just join when you can. If you haven't done this sort of reading with a group before, give it a go! To join please email [fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com](mailto:fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com) to receive the link.

## YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

### • **PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING YOUNG ADULTS PRAYER GROUP**

Join our monthly gathering for prayer, friendship, and faith at St Michael and All Angels Church, Kirkby L32. All Portuguese-speaking young adults are welcome! For more information please contact: 07752 773037 Tiago and 07857 178601 Karine.

### • **FCJ: VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN, Friday 12 September – Sunday 14 September**

Curious about the vocation to religious life and would like to find out more? Join the FCJ Sisters for a vocation weekend. There will be input, time for prayer and reflection, experience of community life alongside the FCJ Sisters and plenty of opportunity to ask questions. The weekend is open to women 18-40 and will be held the FCJ Centre St Hugh's in Liverpool. For more information, please visit the FCJ website: <https://shorturl.at/4PKfI> or email [FCJCentreStHughs@gmail.com](mailto:FCJCentreStHughs@gmail.com).

### • **LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Every Friday at 6pm at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN, there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There will be a Mass at 6pm, followed by a short time of sharing the Sunday readings at 6.30pm. It's a friendly group and sometimes they also organise trips and retreats. Follow this link to join my WhatsApp community: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FvRR2Q6sIDK83W4KgBIJqU> If you want more information please contact James: [djmoroney@cantab.net](mailto:djmoroney@cantab.net) or 07394 503 911

- [Register here](#)
- [Event details](#)
- [Young people in the ecumenical movement](#)

## IMPORTANT ARCHDIOCESAN DATES – SAVE THE DATE!

<b>Saturday 8 November</b>	Adoremus 2025 – Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King
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## CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (PD) TEAM

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<b>Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Development</b>	Rev Gerard Callacher	<a href="mailto:g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk">g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk</a>
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<b>Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Organisation &amp; Synod Implementation</b>	Rev Mgr Philip Inch	<a href="mailto:p.inch@rcaol.org.uk">p.inch@rcaol.org.uk</a>
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<b>Bishops' Delegate for Catholic Social Action</b>	Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ	<a href="mailto:l.baron@rcaol.org.uk">l.baron@rcaol.org.uk</a>
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<b>The Irenaeus Project</b>		<a href="http://www.irenaeus.co.uk/">www.irenaeus.co.uk/</a>
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<b>Youth Ministry: Animate</b>		<a href="http://www.animateyouth.org/">www.animateyouth.org/</a>
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