

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

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

GOOD NEWS

• RITE OF ELECTION 2026

On Sunday 22 February, 550 people were involved in this year's Rite of Election service at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. It was wonderful to see so many Catechumens and Candidates alongside their friends, families, and Catechists meeting Archbishop Sherrington at the cathedral and being brought into the Catholic Church. Please keep praying for the Catechumens and Candidates during this season of Lent.

NEW UPDATES THIS WEEK

• REVIEW OF YOUTH MINISTRY

We're pleased to announce that the review of youth ministry in our archdiocese has begun! Working alongside the youth ministry coordinator, Sarah McGeehan, Danny Curtin is facilitating a series of one-to-one interviews to hear about the work that is already being done and to find out areas for development. There will be an open-door synodal discussion for anyone interested in the future of youth ministry after Easter, so keep an eye out and come along! For more information, please contact Sarah at s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk

SACRAMENT - CATECHESIS - FORMATION

• ADVENTUROUS ACCOMPANIMENT WORKSHOP

Whether you hold a particular role within the Church or simply share in the life and mission of the Archdiocese, **this invitation is for you**. You are warmly invited to take part in the **Adventurous Accompaniment** formation programme delivered by **Million Minutes**.

The programme takes place over a **six-week journey**, including **three four-hour workshops**, and online resources to explore and offers participants the opportunity to explore the core principles of Adventurous Accompaniment and to reflect on how these can be embedded in everyday encounters and parish life.

Adventurous Accompaniment is not about training people for specialist roles, but about nurturing a **shared culture of accompaniment** across the archdiocese, in response to the Church's call to walk with others.



Pastoral Development Department:

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

pd@rcaol.org.uk

Subscribe: <https://mailchi.mp/e8bb057375db/sign-up-form>

All costs of the programme are covered by the Archdiocese of Liverpool. If you're interested in joining us from the second workshop, please **register online**. Sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/bE7TndtW9p?origin=lprLink>
For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk
You will choose either one workshop for each weekend when you sign up:



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| Second Workshop Saturday 28 February or Sunday 1 March |
| Third Workshop Saturday 21 March or Sunday 22 March |
| <i>*All Saturday workshops will take place at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Liverpool, L17 1AA (10:00-14:00)</i> <i>All Sunday workshops will take place at St Joseph's Church, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BB (12:00-16:00)</i> |

- **ONLINE DISCERNMENT WORKSHOPS**

An online discernment workshop series on Ignatian discernment, will be organised in partnership with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). The three online sessions will run on **Wednesday 11, 18, and 25 March at 7:30pm**. The principles of Ignatian Discernment, how to be attentive to the Holy Spirit at work in our lives; and how we can make good choices which are consistent with our faith will be explored. Participants may attend individual workshops or the full series. If you're interested, please register online

<https://forms.office.com/e/n926SQRKva?origin=lprLink>

For enquiry, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk



- **WE DARE TO ASK – LENTEN RESOURCES (CBCEW)**

Designed for use by individuals or small groups, *We Dare to Ask* is comprised of five sessions which reflect on the Baptismal promises we make or renew at Easter. Our 2026 Lenten resource seeks to encourage an appreciation of what is given in Christian Baptism. God desires what is best for each of us while respecting our freedom to choose. To express our acceptance of the wonderful gift that God offers us, with open hearts and a willingness to change for the better, all we need to do is ask. To download resources, please follow the link:

[We Dare to Ask - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

- **THE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CENTRE AT STONYHURST: MARRIAGE PREPARATION RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND COURSE, 13-15 MARCH 2026**

The CHC's weekend marriage prep course is intended for couples who wish to engage more deeply with the Catholic vision for marriage. Structured around the elements of the marriage rite, couples will reflect deeply on foundational Scriptural texts to gain a deeper understanding of both the natural and Sacramental aspects of Matrimony. The weekend is



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framed by prayer, time for reflection personally and as a couple, group discussion and a social. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation>

- **BLESSED ARE YOU – SCRIPTURE MORNINGS**

You are warmly invited to join the Irenaeus Centre for a series of Scripture mornings reflecting on the theme “Blessed Are You.” These sessions explore Matthew and the Beatitudes and offer a gentle and prayerful space to explore the scripture during the Lenten season.

Wednesdays, 10:30am-11:45am: 18, 25 February and 4, 11 March. For further information please contact centreirenaeus@gmail.com

- **THE IRENAEUS CENTRE: PILGRIMAGE THROUGH LENT**

The Irenaeus Centre would like to invite you to a series of Lenten Evenings held on Tuesdays at 7pm on the following dates: 24 February and 3, 10, 17, 24 March.

For more information and Zoom links please contact: centreirenaeus@gmail.com

- **THE MYSTERY OF SUFFERING AND VULNERABILITY – A GUIDE THROUGH HOLY WEEK**

Join the Irenaeus Centre for a reflective Holy Week retreat exploring the themes of suffering, vulnerability from 6pm, Wednesday 1 April to 10pm Saturday 4 April 2026. For more information please contact: centreirenaeus@gmail.com or call **0151 949 1199**.

- **COME AND SEE DAY: LORD TEACH US TO PRAY: SATURDAY 7 MARCH, 10:00-16:00**

The Irenaeus Centre welcomes Rónán and Joanne Johnston as keynote speakers to lead the next come and see day. Rónán is a lifelong musician and composer, worship leader and international speaker whose music ministry has inspired many. He co-founded the Emmaus Christian music band and community, producing 15 albums of worship and contemporary Christian music. Rónán will be joined by his wife, Joanne, a talented session vocalist and primary school teacher. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation: £10. For further details, contact: jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or call **0151 949 1199**.

- **LIGHT OF TRUTH: SHOWING REVERENCE TO GOD (Online Formation)**

A session to explore the virtue of religion and how to practice it in the liturgy of the Church and in our daily life. Held **Friday 13 March 19:00-20:00**. [Short Courses | Light of Truth](#)

- **FCJ: INTERNATIONAL READING GROUP (ONLINE)**

Join the FCJ's International Reading Group and explore current thinking in Christian churches, ecology, spirituality, and theology. **Every Friday at 16:00 (UK time)** the group will hold a short recap, discussion, and plenary. From Friday 5 September the group have been reading “*Living God's Future Now*” by Sam Wells. No need to attend every week – just join when you can. To receive the link, please email: fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com

- **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS**

The Irenaeus Centre will be leading a Eucharistic ministry training day on **14 March 2026**. For more information, parishes are invited to book by emailing jenny@irenaeus.co.uk



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YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

• LENTEN RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The Archdiocese will organise the Lenten Retreat Day for Young Adults (aged 18 to 35) on **Saturday 7 March** at Carmelite Monastery, Allerton Road, Liverpool, L18 3NU. The Retreat Day is free of charge, beginning at 10:00 and concluding at 16:00. Fr Peter McGrail will be with us and talk about baptismal priesthood. Please bring your packed lunch. If you're interested, please sign up here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/B8jbFyeYzV?origin=lprLink>. For further information please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk



• ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Anyone aged 18-35 is welcome to join the Archdiocesan Young Adult Group. The group meets fortnightly at the Pauline Book Centre in Liverpool City Centre. For enquiries, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk. On **Tuesday 17 March (18:30-20:00)**, the group will be having a Catholic social action activity entitled '*Room at the Inn: Living the Spirituality of Hospitality*'.

• PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING YOUNG ADULTS PRAYER GROUP

All Portuguese-speaking young adults are welcome to join a monthly gathering for prayer, friendship, and faith at **St Michael and All Angels Church, Kirkby, L32**. For enquiries, please get in touch by email.

• LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS

A lectio prayer group for young adults meets every Friday at 18:00 at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN. For more information, please contact James: djmoroney@cantab.net or call 07546667394. To join the WhatsApp community please follow the [link](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

Mission Days

Tuesday 21 April / Thursday 23 April / Saturday 25 April

CONTACTS

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult and feel they are in immediate danger, please call the police. If you wish to report any non-urgent concerns, please contact your local social services or our safeguarding team direct at



or Mark Robson 0151 522 1013 / 07585761965 Claire Newton 0151 522 1043 / 07384643237 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk



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CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (PD) TEAM

pd@rcaol.org.uk <https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/department/pastoral-development>

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| <i>Director of Pastoral Development</i> | Liz Parsons | e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1023 |
| <i>Pastoral Development Administrator</i> | Jonathan McGuirk | j.mcguirk@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1040 |
| <i>Pastoral Plan Administrator</i> | Ian Parrott | i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1044 |
| <i>Training Coordinator</i> | Moses Mui | m.mui@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1047 |
| <i>Catholic Social Action Coordinator</i> | Lucy Rauer | l.rauer@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1042 |
| <i>Youth Ministry Coordinator</i> | Sarah McGeehan | s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1041 |
| <i>Parish & Deanery Development Adviser</i> | Chris Higgins | c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk | 0151 522 1046 |

Safeguarding team

Episcopal Vicar for Parish Development Rev Gerard Callacher g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk

Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Organisation & Synod Implementation Rev Mgr Philip Inch p.inch@rcaol.org.uk

Bishops' Delegate for Catholic Social Action Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ l.baron@rcaol.org.uk

The Irenaeus Project www.irenaeus.co.uk/

Youth Ministry: Animate www.animateyouth.org/

Do you know someone who would like to receive to our bulletin? Please forward this bulletin to them, or send them this hyperlink to subscribe: <https://mailchi.mp/e8bb057375db/sign-up-form>



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