

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 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

- **CARE FOR CREATION WALK**

What a fabulous day we shared for our Care for Creation Walk and Mass, celebrating the Season of Creation and the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi. Eighty-five pilgrims joined the walk, taking time along the way to pray, reflect, enjoy the beauty of creation and share in fellowship together, with many more joining us for the celebration of Mass. It was wonderful to see people from across the archdiocese coming together in such a joyful and prayerful way, reminding us of our shared responsibility to care for our common home and for one another. A special word of thanks goes to Archbishop John Sherrington, who accompanied us throughout the walk and then presided at Mass, bringing our pilgrimage to a fitting and uplifting conclusion. We are also grateful to Fr Gerard Mary Toman for his thoughtful homily on aspects of St Francis's life and the ways in which his example can influence and inspire us today. Thank you to everyone who walked, prayed, sang, helped and joined us along the way – a truly memorable celebration of faith, creation and community.

NEW & UPDATED

- **ARCHBISHOPS CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS (APPLICATIONS FOR 2026-2028 ARE NOW OPEN)**

This two-year online training course aims to equip and support catechists and lay leaders in evangelisation and formation. For more details, please visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool>. If you are interested in the Archbishop's Certificate and would like to know more about the course and what it involves before applying, please join our 'Come and See' evening on Monday 14 September at 7pm on Zoom. Register here <https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/4w7gmxxgi>. For enquiry, please contact training@rcaol.org.uk

UPDATED ADVENTUROUS ACCOMPANIMENT DAY WORKSHOP

19TH September – 10AM-4PM at St Margaret Clitherow Centre

Adventurous Accompaniment is a series of workshops designed to help us explore how, as Christian communities, we walk alongside people through the many different circumstances of their lives. Accompaniment is already at the heart of parish life: it happens when we listen to someone who is grieving; welcome a new family; support a young person; visit someone who is sick; respond to someone struggling with faith or leaning about the faith; or simply give another person our time and attention. The workshops recognise that many people have been doing this instinctively for



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years, while also inviting us to become more intentional, skilled and reflective in the way we accompany others. “Adventurous” accompaniment means being willing to move beyond what is familiar—to encounter people where they are rather than where we might wish them to be, and to journey with them without immediately trying to provide answers or solutions.

There is no cost and we would just ask that you bring your own lunch.

Sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/ysfb7wcn>

For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION

- **SHOWING OF PEOPLES EMERGENCY BRIEFING**

Tuesday 15th September – 7PM

There will be a showing of the film People's Emergency Briefing, in the parish rooms of St Anne's, Overbury Street, Liverpool L7 3HJ on Tuesday, 15th September at 7.00 pm.

The film features footage from last November's National Emergency Briefing which brought together leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, national security and nature. It presents a clear, measured overview of how the climate and nature crisis is affecting everyday life in Britain - and what the evidence says about risks and responses.

The initiative is explicitly non-partisan and has support from a wide range of organisations including National Trust, Church of England, Exeter University, the Royal Meteorological Society, WWF, National Education Union, and many more.

Following the 50-minute film, we will host a 45-minute structured discussion on what this means for our community.

MARRIAGE PREPERATION COURSE

- Are you planning to get married in a Catholic church? The archdiocese is now offering the marriage preparation course for engaged couples. To be led by trained lay facilitators, the 4-session course will help the couples develop skills which could facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of sacramental marriage within Catholic faith.

The next course will be available on **Monday 26 October, 2 November, 9 November and 16 November** (for 4 consecutive Wednesday), at **St Anne's Church, Prescott Road, Ormskirk, L39 4TG**. There is a non-refundable cost of **£50 per couple** to help towards materials and other expenses. If you are interested to join, please book online here <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/cMQ1fpza3G?origin=lprLink>

More information about upcoming courses for this year, please refer to the archdiocesan website <https://tinyurl.com/mr6p8vne>

- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION CATECHISTS NEEDED**

Would you like to accompany the engaged couples in their journey of marriage preparation? The archdiocese is now recruiting catechists to join the marriage preparation team. The catechist



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training will be provided at St Joseph's Church, Penketh, Warrington WA5 2BB and consists of 5 sessions:

- o Thursday 1 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 8 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 15 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 22 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- o Thursday 29 October 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)

Upon completion of training, the catechists will be asked to offer marriage preparation course taking place across the archdiocese. If this is something you are interested in, please sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/5c52zbbz>

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

A TALK ON THE USE OF AI

- **PAULINE BOOK CENTRE – TALK BY MGR PETER FLEETWOOD**

Saturday 19th September – 2PM

Monsignor Peter Fleetwood will be hosting a talk on the use of AI and what it means for Catholics to use AI whilst following the guidelines not only set by the church but also outlined within Pope Leo XIV's recent encyclical "*Magnifica Humanitas*". Please sign up via Pauline Book Centre – Liverpool@pauline-uk.org or call 0151 709 1328.

ADOREMUS

- **ADOREMUS LIVERPOOL – HOW WE ARE EUCHARIST**

10TH October at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

Join us on the 10th of October for this year's Adoremus. The event itself is free and available to all. The day starts with mass at 9am, followed by Adoration throughout the day, opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation and several workshops exploring a variety of spiritualities (to be confirmed next week). Celebrated with Archbishop John Sherrington, this is an event not to be missed. Sign up here [Adoremus Liverpool \(10-Oct-2026\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

FORMATION

- **ALTAR SERVERS COURSE**

The Guild of St Stephen for Altar Servers and the Maryvale Institute run an annual 6-month course for adult Altar Servers, exploring the history of liturgy, the sacraments, scripture, communication, leadership and people skills and the theology of service. There are no pre-requisite education requirements, and it is delivered online in 1-hour monthly evening sessions, with an optional one day in-person session **at Oscott College, Birmingham** at the end of the course. The **deadline** for registration for the next cohort is **15th September 2026**. For more information see the attached flyer or the Guild of St Stephen website guildofststephen.org/certificate.

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- **YOUNG ADULT MASS AND DINNER WITH ARCHBISHOP JOHN (3 October 2026)**



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Archbishop John Sherrington is going to celebrate Mass with young adults on **Saturday 3 October**, at **5pm** at **St Philip Neri Church**, Liverpool L8 7NL, followed by a **SOLD OUT** dinner at the **Blackburne House**. Anyone aged 18-35 are most welcome. There is no cost for the event, please sign up with this link if you would like to be added to the waitlist and we will be sure to contact you if any spaces become available for the meal! <https://tinyurl.com/3x875uzd> For enquiry please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING YOUNG ADULTS

The Portuguese-Speaking Young Adults Group from Liverpool warmly invites all Portuguese-speaking young adults (up to 28 years old) to a weekend retreat from 13–15 November 2026 at St Joseph Prayer House, Formby, Liverpool, L37 1PH. The retreat will be conducted in Portuguese language and will feature a special programme led by Fr Adriano Zandoná. For more information or to reserve your place, please get in touch via Instagram @jovens.catolicos.em.liverpool or by email at retirogrupodejovensliverpool@gmail.com

- **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 jovenscatolicosemliverpool@gmail.com.

- **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 <https://tinyurl.com/53brpbjz>

- **FLAME 2027 THE UK'S LARGEST CATHOLIC YOUTH CONGRESS – SATURDAY 6TH MARCH 2027**

We are arranging for tickets and coaches to go to Wembley for FLAME - where 10000 young Catholics come together for praise, worship and talks. You can find out more here [FLAME 27 – CYMFED](#) If you are interested in possibly bringing a group of young people then please contact Sarah McGeehan (Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator) for more information on s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk or 07415099048



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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

CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (PD) TEAM

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

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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/

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