

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2025

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

• **MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE**

From 25-27 November Marriage & Family Life Coordinators from different dioceses will gather at Hinsley Hall in Leeds for the Marriage & Family Life Conference. The theme for the conference is *"This is the Hour for Love"*. We will share our pastoral experiences in supporting married couples to respond to the call to love in the vocation of marriage and family life. Please pray for the conference attendees. May the Holy Spirit guide us for a fruitful and inspiring reflection.

• **MOCK COP30 CONFERENCES ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE**

Thirty-two secondary schools across the Archdiocese joined forces this month for two inspiring mock COP30 conferences. One at St Margaret Clitherow Centre in Liverpool and the other at Hope Academy in Newton-le-Willows. Organised by Andrew Holt (St Bede's Catholic High School, Ormskirk) and Karen Wynne (Liverpool World Centre) each school sent at least eight pupils to represent different UN nations. Together, they debated global responses to climate change and shared ideas for a sustainable future. The events were themed around the Jubilee Year's call to be *Pilgrims of Hope*, with a focus on:

- Laudato Si and Catholic Social Teaching
- Responding to the Climate Crisis
- Climate Justice and Hope

Archbishop John Sherrington opened the day at Hope Academy with prayer and listened as pupils spoke passionately about the challenges facing their assigned countries and the actions needed to protect our planet. These conferences were a powerful reminder that young voices can lead the way in caring for creation.

SACRAMENT - CATECHESIS - FORMATION

• **WHAT CAN I BRING HIM? ADVENT EVENINGS**



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>

The Irenaeus Centre are hosting several Advent evenings on Wednesday 10 December from 19:00-20:30. For more information and zoom links please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

- **AFTERNOON TEA WITH FRANK SINATRA (DAVE ASHLEY) AND FRIENDS**

The Irenaeus Centre is hosting a 'Songs We Remember (dementia-friendly) Christmas Celebration on Wednesday 10 December, 14:00-16:00. For more information, please contact the Irenaeus Centre.

- **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?

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 next course will be available in **April 2026**:

Date: 30 April, 7 May, 14 May, 21 May (all Thursdays)

Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Venue: St Agnes & St Aidan Church, Huyton, Liverpool, L36 5SQ



There is a fee of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses. Please book online here at <https://forms.office.com/e/hgy2JbUpy3?origin=lpLink>

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

- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION CATECHISTS NEEDED**

Would you like to help engaged couples to prepare for marriage? The archdiocese is now recruiting catechists to join the marriage preparation team. The catechist training will be provided at St Monica's Church, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 9GA and consists of 5 sessions:

- Monday 23 February 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 2 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 9 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 16 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 23 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)

Upon completion of training, the catechists will be asked to offer marriage preparation course for couples twice a year. If this is something you are interested in, please sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/JGbP8AtZwn?origin=lpLink>

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

- **RE-IMAGINING PASTORAL COUNCILS' WEBINAR SERIES**

In our crazy changing world, it's more important than ever that our parishes can respond to people's needs and share the Gospel in our local communities. Pastoral Councils, rooted in



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prayer and driven by mission, can be places of discernment and real creativity – but sometimes they're not quite right. Join us for a series of webinars to explore everything to do with pastoral councils from purpose to membership, and from resolving conflict to letting the Spirit lead.

Would you like to explore a new approach for your Parish Council?

Would you like to set up a Parish Council for the first time?

Would you like support in ensuring your current Parish Council is fruitful, spiritual, and life-giving?

This is a joint project between the RC Archdiocese of Liverpool and the Dioceses of Hexham & Newcastle and Northampton.

Webinars are Tuesday evenings from 19:00-20:00 (UK time).

Registration is free. The registration link is <https://buytickets.at/northamptondiocese/1861328>
A one-time registration for all webinars. A link will be sent on the day to each person.

- **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS**

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

- **RE-IMAGINING BAPTISM**

Reimagining Baptism is a national conversation exploring how baptism shapes our faith and parish life. Join us to renew a baptismal mindset and share the light of hope in today's world. Featuring a keynote by Abbot Hugh Allan O. Praem and workshops led by experienced clergy and catechists, the event takes place on **Friday 28 November 2025 (Clergy) and Saturday 29 November 2025 (All) at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Stockport**. Book your place today by emailing Natalie.Orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. **Cost: £50 including cooked lunch (28 Nov), £10 bring your own lunch (29 Nov)**. *"Baptism is the beginning of hope... the meaning of life"* – Pope Francis.

- **LIGHT OF TRUTH: ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS, from 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>

- **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.



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YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- **ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP**

The Archdiocesan Young Adult Group meet fortnightly at Pauline Book Centre (84 Church Street, Liverpool L1 3AY). From 18:30-20:00 on Tuesday 16 December, Fr Hugh Donleavy will deliver a faith-based talk about 'Is Scripture Outdated?'. There will also a social time with food and refreshment. Anyone aged 18-35 would be most welcome. Please sign up online if you are interested to join us <https://forms.office.com/e/3A8CKHijnD?origin=lprLink> For enquiries, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.



- **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.

- **LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Every Friday at 18:00 at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN, there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There will be a **Mass at 18:00**, followed by a short time of sharing the **Sunday readings at 18:30**. 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/H7vBavJ4Jlm2spPNI9d2DT> If you want more information please contact James: djmoroney@cantab.net or 07546667394

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

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

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Bishops' Delegate for Catholic Social Action	Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ	l.baron@rcaol.org.uk
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The Irenaeus Project		www.irenaeus.co.uk/
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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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