

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SUNDAY 17th AUGUST 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

• CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (CARJ) INTERNATIONAL TABLE OF FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday 10th August, the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) at St Agnes and St Aidan hosted their annual *Shared International Table of Fellowship*- a beautiful celebration of diversity and unity in our community. With plentiful food, blazing sunshine, and an incredibly warm welcome, there was a real spirit of community and inclusion present throughout the day. We thank CARJ for their ongoing efforts to recognise and respond to racial injustice in our region, and we keep their important work in our prayers.

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 **Carmelite Monastery L18 3NU**. 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

• 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 course will be available in **September/October**:



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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	
Marriage Preparation Course Link		

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

- **THE COUNCIL OF NICAIA 1700th 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:	info@blackburncathedral.com
Address:	Blackburn Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Blackburn, BB1 5AA
Website:	blackburncathedral.com/nicaea

Please refer to the corresponding document in your email for details on how to book.

- **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

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



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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	
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jubilee-for-social-justice-tickets-1374429849679		

Charities and organisations are welcome to host a stall after Holy Mass. For more information, please email Berna at 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

- **ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE WALK AND MASS, Sunday 24 August**

A 4.5-mile circular route starting at 12noon from St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith, Ashton-in-Makerfield (Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, WN4 9NP). Or for a shorter route you can join us at Our Lady's Church, Bryn. A celebration of Holy Mass & Veneration of Holy Hand will be offered. We hope to see you there! For more information, please contact c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk

Date:	Sunday 24 August	
Time:	12.00pm	
Venue:	St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, WN4 9NP	
https://forms.office.com/e/jW1cvt20UP?origin=lprLink		

- **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

Date:	Saturday 20 September	
Time:	11.00am	



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Venue:	St Mary's Public Oratory, Prescott Road, Aughton, L39 6TA	
https://forms.office.com/e/NFy5BuMfke?origin=lprLink		

• **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.

• **THE NATIONAL JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE, Saturday 13 - Sunday 14 September 2025**

The Pilgrimage of Hope is a national walking pilgrimage for England & Wales with four main Ways converging at the Cathedral of St Barnabas, Nottingham, on **Saturday 13 September**, the eve of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It is an initiative of the *Hearts in Search of God* project which promotes and develops walking pilgrimage in our nations.

The Ways start at the Catholic cathedrals in Cardiff, Leeds, Norwich and St George's Cathedral, Southwark, London, and will bless our nations with a Sign of the Cross. The routes use established hiking routes and are off road as much as possible. A small group of 'perpetual pilgrims' will walk the full distance of each Way, with up to 20-day pilgrims joining for day stages. There are potential feeder routes to the four main Ways from all the other Catholic cathedrals of England & Wales. Shorter walks have been planned for many stages.

The Main Ways pass through the following dioceses, calling at the Catholic and other churches along the Way.

- St Matthew's Way: Cardiff-Menevia, Birmingham & Nottingham, starts 28 Aug
- St Mark's Way: Leeds, Hallam & Nottingham, starts 6 Sept
- St Luke's Way: East Anglia & Nottingham, starts 4 Sept
- St John's Way: Southwark, Westminster, Northampton & Nottingham, starts 1 Sept

The Pilgrimage will embody the values of the Sisters of the Holy Cross of compassion, faith, prayer and community. [Pilgrimage Walk | The Pilgrimage of Hope](#) – registration is now open for Day Pilgrims **but will close on 21 August!**

For more information and details of the parishes enroute please visit: <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/become-a-pilgrim-for-a-day>



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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. 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**

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. Since Friday 15 November the FCJs have been reading ***Come Have Breakfast by Elizabeth Johnson***. Each weekly session is an hour long and begins with a 5-minute recap of the chapter or section. Followed by a 35-minute sharing and discussion of thoughts 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 to receive the link.

- **LIGHT OF TRUTH: FANNING THE FLAME SUMMER CAMP, Monday 18 – Friday 22 August**

Led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and a team of volunteers, this year's summer camp is diving deep into the Mass. To understand more what is going on and why the Mass is the way it is.

Mass | Teaching | Crafts | Workshops | Sports | Q&As | Praise and worship
Talks | Dramas | Team activities | Adoration

This year we have space for about 70 young people (age 11-21) to come together. It doesn't matter where you are in your relationship with Christ, you are welcome to come and be drawn deeper! Ask questions, spend time with our Lord, receive the Sacraments, have a lot of silly fun, and be renewed in your life and faith!

Please note this year's camp is returning to Kintbury. We still camp, but fewer spaces are available, so please book ASAP to avoid disappointment.
<https://www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp-2025>

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



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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>

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

- **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/4PKfl> or email FCJCentreStHughes@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 or 07394 503 911

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

IMPORTANT ARCHDIOCESAN DATES – SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 8 November	Adoremus – Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King
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The Irenaeus Project		www.irenaeus.co.uk/	
Youth Ministry: Animate		www.animateyouth.org/	

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