

Our Lady Immaculate & St Joseph Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Risley

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1st November 2026 – Solemnity of All Saints

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 31st	**6.00 pm**	May Leach
Sunday 1st	**11.00 am**	Edith Mary O'Brien
Monday 2nd	**12.00 pm**	Pious Lists
Wednesday 4th	**12.00 pm**	Ian Johnson
Thursday 5th	*9.30 am*	*Mass in School*
Friday 6th	**12.00 pm**	Paul & Ann Lowrey
Saturday 7th	**11.00 am**	*Adoration & Confessions*
	12.00 pm	Margaret & Thomas Heneghan
	6.00 pm	Pious Lists
Sunday 8th	**11.00 am**	Pious Lists

Pope St. John Paul II *"The future begins today, not tomorrow."*

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish who have asked for our help and support:
David Thomas, Paula Taylor, Mary Bullen, Stephen Kirkwood

If you would like us to pray for someone who is sick, or in need, who has recently died or whose anniversary is near, please contact the parish office.

Sunday Collection
Loose plate: £162
Gift Aid: £98
Standing Order: £62.50

If you would like to donate electronically you can do so using the QR code or via Contactless in the Sacristy.

November, Month of the Holy Souls - Why pray for the dead?

Praying for the dead might not make sense to nonbelievers but for Catholics it is part of the faith tradition, rooted in Old Testament readings and supported by the Catechism and the Church's funeral liturgy. The clearest Bible reference about prayers for the dead is from the Second Book of Maccabees. When soldiers were preparing the bodies of their slain comrades for burial they discovered they were wearing amulets taken from a pagan temple which violated the law of Deuteronomy so they prayed that God would forgive the sin these men had committed. The New Testament echoes this notion in the second letter of Timothy when Paul prays for someone who died named Onesiphorus, saying: "May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day." The Catechism also teaches us about prayers for the dead, stating: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven" (1030). Today, prayers for the dead begin at the moment of death, often when family members are gathered around the bedside of the person who has died. This continues during the Funeral Rites and yearly throughout the month of November. These are times when the Church gathers with the family and friends of the deceased "to give praise and thanks to God for Christ's victory over sin and death, to commend the deceased to God's tender mercy and compassion, and to seek strength in the proclamation of the Paschal Mystery,"

Pious Lists for November

November, the month of the Holy Souls, is the month when we traditionally pray for the faithful departed, especially our own family and friends. Pious Lists are available at the back of Church for you to fill in. A donation can also be made for the masses offered. These can then be handed in through the collection bag, the basket at the back of church or to Fr Dominic directly. These will be placed on the Altar on the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (Monday 2nd November) and will remain there throughout the month. The Sunday Masses in November will be offered for the names on our Pious Lists.

Remembrance Sunday

There will be two short ecumenical services to mark the Armistice and remember those who have died in war. The first will be Sunday 8th and will begin at the Cenotaph before moving into St Mary's church. The second will be on Wednesday 11th at the War Memorial inside Prescot Cemetery. Both will begin at 10.45 am. All are welcome to attend. Sunday Mass on the 9th will begin at 11.30 am to accommodate. We have been asked to serve tea and coffee after the service on Wednesday so Mass will be at 10am.

Youth Sunday Celebration – Sunday 22 November

Come and join us for our Youth Sunday Celebration at LACE! The fabulous 'One Hope Project' are hosting the day, and there will be guest speakers on the theme of TAKE COURAGE, I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD. The workshops will be on Courage to Listen, Courage to Pray, and Courage to Act. The day will start at 10am and finish with Mass together with Archbishop John Sherrington at 5pm. There will be a marketplace of information and groups to get involved with. Please bring a packed lunch. The day is free and open to all young people in Secondary school, but they must apply for tickets and attend with a chaplain, teacher, or youth leader/ catechist. We look forward to seeing you there!

Advent Retreat for Young Adults

Led by Fr Derek Lloyd, we will organise the Advent Retreat for Young Adults on Saturday 28th November at St Basil's Church, Widnes, WA8 4SZ. The Retreat Day will start at 10am and aim to finish at 4pm. The event is free of charge, but please bring your packed lunch. For further information please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

Journey in Faith

A few people have asked to join the Church through RCIA. The first of the monthly meetings will be on Thursday 12th November at 7pm at the back of church, anyone is welcome to come along.

Christmas Raffle

If anyone has items they could donate to the Christmas Raffle, bottles, chocolates, gift sets etc, please hand them in at the back of church. Thank you.

Piety Stall

Christmas stock has arrived in the Piety Stall. Along with our own unique and custom Christmas Cards, there are ornaments, nativities, calendars, gift bags and more.

Church Cleaning – Wednesday at 10 am. All are welcome.