



Our Lady Immaculate & St Joseph Catholic Church

1 West Street, Prescot, L34 1LE

olisj.prescot@rcaol.org.uk

0151 426 6462

www.ourladystjoseph-prescot.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Risley

Sunday 4th May 2025 Third Sunday of Easter (C)



*This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed
to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.*

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon Easter Message 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During Lent and throughout my preparations for Easter, one word that I always refer to is hope. We are now over four months into the Jubilee Year, which as I'm sure you're aware, has the theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope', so this year it is a word I have reflected on more than ever.

So far this year, the archdiocese has been privileged to celebrate an original pilgrim of hope, Jack Traynor. In February, thousands of people from across the archdiocese and beyond joined together for a Mass filled with joy and hope to mark his miraculous cure in Lourdes from 1923. Despite the severity of his illness and the obstacles he faced to even travel to Lourdes, Jack never gave up hope. There had been an attempt to declare it a miracle in 1993, but the archdiocese didn't give up hope to get an official ecclesiastical declaration.

The annual feast of Easter provides us with hope. When Jesus was betrayed and consequently crucified on Good Friday, his followers were surrounded in darkness and had lost all hope.

Three days later, on Easter morning when they had discovered that the tomb was empty, Mary Magdalene stood outside the empty tomb weeping and asked where the body of Jesus had been taken to. She then recognised the triumphant news that the Lord had risen. Their darkness had turned into light, war into peace and despair had turned into hope.

During our Easter celebrations in 2025, we are surrounded by hope. We have seen an increase in RCIA candidates being welcomed into our Church. We have also the wonderful news that Pope Francis has appointed my successor Bishop John Sherrington. This gives me great hope for a vibrant future for the Catholic Church in Liverpool. During this great feast of Easter, may we welcome the hope from the Risen Christ into our lives. May the Risen Lord touch our hearts and lives with His peace, light and hope.

Conclave

The conclave to elect a new Pope will begin on May 7 according to the Holy See Press Office. The Cardinals present in Rome made the decision on Monday at their fifth General Congregation. The College of Cardinals has requested that all Catholics pray for them, so that

they may listen the Holy Spirit as they discern whom to choose as the next Pope.

Prayer for the Election of a New Pope

Lord Jesus Christ, by entrusting to St. Peter and his successors the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, thou didst establish the office of the papacy. Grant to thy Church, we beseech thee, a pope who, in his dedication to the Sacred Tradition of the Church, will seek to govern the Church according to the Deposit of Faith and for the salvation of souls.

Immaculate Mary, Mother of the Church and Queen of Confessors, we consecrate to thee the conclave and the election of the Holy Father. Blessed Mother, look not upon our sinfulness or upon the infidelity of many Catholics who do not accept the teaching of thy Son, but upon the Church which is the spotless Bride of thy son, so that we do not get the leader we deserve, but a Holy Father who will guide the Church for the glory and honour of thy Son. Amen.

Catholicism Series

Starting on Thursday 22nd May, we will show the groundbreaking new series 'Catholicism' led by Bishop Robert Barron. Across ten episodes, the series explores the faith of the Catholic Church and presents it in a way that is exciting, engaging and rooted in Scripture and Tradition.

Foodbank Volunteer

It is always great to see the Foodbank box full, and the Salvation Army are grateful for the support this outreach receives from the parish. We are in need of a volunteer to deliver what has been donated to the Foodbank when it is open on Wednesdays. If anyone is able to do this on a weekly/regular basis, please see Fr Dominic.

May Crowning

At the beginning of this month of special devotion to Our Lady, this Sunday we will crown the statue of Our Lady in a short service at the end of Mass, recognising her as the Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Second Chance

Second Chance is a new second hand/vintage shop which has opened on High Street near St Helens Road. The stock includes many religious and devotional items, well worth a look.

Third Sunday of Easter (C) Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 3rd	6.00 pm	Prayers Answered
Sunday 4th	11.00 am	William Maloney
Monday 5th	12.00 pm	Eileen Duffy
Wednesday 7th	12.00 pm	Derek Eves
Friday 9th	12.00 pm	Christopher Boden
Saturday 10th	11.00 am	<i>Adoration & Confessions</i>
	12.00 pm	Paul Lowrey
	6.00 pm	Michael Glennon
Sunday 11th	11.00 am	Edith & Jack Banks

Please remember the members of our parish who are sick and those who have asked for our prayers:

Derek McEgan, Sandra Johnson, Helen Clarke, Anita Potts, Steve Potts, Kerry Scott, Anna Pemberton, David Gerrard, Mary Davis, Ann Davey, James Williams, Enid Jones

Departed: *John Frank Whelan*

