



PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

For the current week's readings and Saints please look at Liturgy Office www.liturgyoffice.org.uk, *Universalis* (Liverpool/IOM) and The Liverpool Ordo. You can find additional Saints' information on https://www.catholicireland.net/saints_category/saints/

REFLECTION

Pope Francis published this prayer in *Laudato Si'* and is meant for sharing with all who believe in our Creator God.

A Prayer For Our Earth, by Pope Francis

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this Earth,
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the Earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize
that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.
Amen.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY

For the gift of diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2024>



UPDATE FROM THE LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE

• VATICAN II LECTURES

The **third** Vatican II lecture will take place on **Wednesday 17th January** with Prof. Peter McGrail on *Sacrosanctum Concilium: Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*.

The **seminar begins** at **3pm** at **Liverpool Hope University** and the **lecture starts** at **5:30pm**.

The lecture can also be attended online through Zoom. Places are limited, so please book your **free tickets** here <http://bit.ly/3Ql4e5R>

• CATECHIST TRAINING

Beginning on **Wednesday 24th January 2024** until June, we will be offering 3 modules over 13 weeks of training for Catechists. Whether you are considering being a catechist, or are an existing catechist, looking to refresh your knowledge, this course could be for you. The first four sessions will explore key principles of Catechesis to build confidence.

The first module, on Encountering Catechesis will cover the following topics:

- o 'What is the Kerygma (Gospel)'
- o 'What is Catechesis?'
- o 'How do I choose and use catechetical resources and programmes?'
- o 'What do I need to know about safeguarding and leading a group.'

This course is initially being offered on Wednesdays at the **St Margaret Clitherow Centre** at **7pm – 8.30pm for free**, and we are hoping to confirm an alternative location soon. To register your interest for this course, please email training@rcaol.org.uk

• WELCOMING PEOPLE WITH SIGHT LOSS INTO OUR PARISHES, WITH THE RNIB (ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BLIND PEOPLE)

According to the RNIB, "more than two million people are estimated to be living with sight loss in the UK"

On the **29th January** at **St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA** at **7pm**. The RNIB will be running a workshop helping us to learn about some of the challenges for those affected by sight loss and to explore methods and strategies that could be helpful to support people with sight loss in our parish communities. This workshop is **free** and is for anybody looking to support people with sight loss. For those working in our parishes and ministries, you would particularly benefit if you're a Parish Priest, a Parish Secretary, part of the Welcome Ministry, Chaplaincy or a Catechist. To book a place, please visit tinyurl.com/3ny3ddxc and complete the booking form.

• LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION: COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT MEMBER?

The Commission exists to stimulate awareness of the need for justice and peace; understand these needs in the light of the Gospel and the Church's social teaching; and encourage action. It meets 6 times a year and contributes towards the social action work of the Archdiocese through conferences and events. Read this month's NW J&P newsletter, and find out more about becoming a Commission member by contacting p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk

Pastoral Development Department: St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA T: 0151 522 1040
pd@rcaol.org.uk

Subscribe: <https://mailchi.mp/66a35fdcea58/pd-bulletin>

- **RCIA – RITE OF ELECTION RUN-THROUGH**

On **31st January**, we will be having a run-through of the Rite of Election with all Catechumens, Candidates and Catechists from RCIA. All are welcome. It will run from **7pm** at the **Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King**.

- **FACILITATION TRAINING**

We are now offering training for people in our parishes who lead groups. Whether they are for praying, liturgy, or volunteering this 2-hour workshop will provide an opportunity to come together to discuss the format of your group and share new ideas to support the facilitation of your group moving forward. If you are interested in arranging a workshop for your parish or deanery, please contact e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk

- **VACANCIES AT THE ARCHDIOCESE**

We are currently advertising several vacancies. If you're interested in working for the Archdiocese, you can find an up-to-date list of vacancies available here:
www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers

RESOURCES AND EVENTS

- **PEACE SUNDAY MASS, LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL - Sunday 14th January 2024, 11am**

Join Archbishop Malcolm and Pax Christi Liverpool for solemn mass at **11am** to mark Peace Sunday.

- **LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL MEMORIAL LECTURE - 14th January 2024 at 1:30pm, Gibbard room at the Metropolitan Cathedral**

Andrew Jackson CEO of Pax Christi England and Wales will speak on 'The challenges of non-violence in 2024: being non-violent in a violent world.' For more details contact p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk

- **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (WPCU) 18th to 25th January 2024**

This special week provides an opportunity to focus our prayers on Christian unity, as well as speak about and experience Christian unity personally, in our village, town or county as well as engage with what happens at a national level.
Resources here <https://cte.org.uk/wpcu2024/>

- **HOMES, HOUSING AND LAND: Archdiocese Social Action Network Event Wednesday 7th February 7-8.30pm online**

In partnership with SVP, Liverpool Archdiocese is running its next workshop. Hear from Housing People Building Communities on their refit of 2 disused Archdiocesan churches and discuss the current housing shortage affecting refugees.
Book: <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/g3wy7lpj>

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- **LOVING FOR LIFE**

- **RETREAT OFFERING ONGOING FORMATION FOR MARRIED COUPLES**

Shrewsbury Diocese are offering a retreat for married couples. On offer are presentations on both the relational (scientific findings) and spiritual (the Good News of Jesus Christ) aspects of marriage. **There is no group sharing.**

The next event will be on **9th-11th February 2024 (Friday evening to Sunday afternoon)** at **the Wistaston Hall Retreat Centre**, 89, Broughton Lane, Crewe CW2 8JS

Booking is essential - Go to the website at www.loving4life.co.uk or Contact: Jane Deegan
jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435

- **A WEEKEND WITH ST TERESA OF AVILA - Led by Fr Matthew Blake, OCD**

The Christian Heritage Centre is offering this retreat, which explores the life and faith of Teresa of Avila (also called Teresa of Jesus), one of the great Spanish mystics who, with Saint John of the Cross, established the Discalced Carmelites.

Please note there is a cost for this event:

- Single room: £210 p.p.*
- Twin room (sharing): £150 p.p.*
- Non-residential (includes lunches and dinners): £90

For more information, please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/praying-with-saint-teresa/>

CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) DEPARTMENT TEAM

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

PD Administrator Jonathan McGuirk j.mcguirk@rcaol.org.uk 0151 522 1040

Training Coordinator Elizabeth Parsons e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk 0151 522 1023

CSA Coordinator* Pablo Guidi p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk 0151 522 1042

*Catholic Social Action

Episcopal Vicar Fr Gerard Callacher g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk

Bishops' Delegate for CSA Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ

The Irenaeus Project <https://www.irenaeus.co.uk/>

Youth Ministry: Animate <https://www.animateyouth.org/>

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/66a35fdcea58/pd-bulletin>

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