**FOURTH sunday of EASTER sunday 11th may 2025**

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

*For the current week’s readings and Saints please look at The Liverpool Ordo, Liturgy Office* [*www.liturgyoffice.org.uk*](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk) *and* [*Universalis*](http://www.universalis.com) *(Liverpool/IOM).*

**GOOD NEWS**

* **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BADGE COMPETITION**

A big thank you to all the children who entered our First Holy Communion Badge Competition this year. We are pleased to announce the winner is Jessica Caulfield, aged 8, from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Leigh. She will be presented her award on 7 May. Badges are now available for collection from the Pastoral Development department at the Saint Margaret Clitherow Centre. If you are a parish yet to order badges for those going through their First Holy Communion, please contact us at pd@rcaol.org.uk

NEW UPDATES THIS WEEK

* **PRAYER FOR THE NEW POPE**

The Holy See released a statement on 30 April, in which the Cardinals preparing for the conclave ask the faithful to pray for them. ‘’The College of Cardinals gathered in Rome, engaged in the General Congregations in preparation for the Conclave, wishes to invite the People of God to live this ecclesial moment as an event of grace and spiritual discernment, listening to the will of God.’’ For the full statement, please refer to [Comunicato della Santa Sede](https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2025/04/30/0290/00515.html)

As we join the Church in praying for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis, we also pray for the election of a new Pope:

O God, Eternal Shepherd,

Who govern Your flock with unfailing care,

Grant in Your boundless fatherly love

a pastor for Your Church

who will please You by His holiness

and to us show watchful care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son

who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

 *- The Roman Missal, Prayer for the Election of a New Pope*

SACRAMENT – CATECHESIS - FORMATION

* FAMILY PICNIC – Saturday 28 June 2025

St Annes, Prescot Rd, Ormskirk, L39 4TG, time to be confirmed. If you are interested, please sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/jBYLYUyBtt> and for more information please contact Ian at i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk

* **CONFIRMATION 2025 (ANIMATE)**

**2025 registration to receive the sacrament of confirmation has now closed.**

For those registered and/or interested please join the Animate team and special guests live for the **Sacrament of Confirmation Online Preparation Sessions** on **Thursday 15 May** from **16.30-18.00** on the Animate Youth YouTube channel. No log in required. This session will offer a reminder of some of the work done in schools on Gifts of the Spirit, Saints, Rite of Confirmation. You will also hear how Confirmation has affected different people in the Archdiocese. **This is to run alongside your Local Parish/Deanery preparation**.

* **GENERAL CATECHIST COURSE**

Are you an existing catechist looking to refresh your knowledge? The Archdiocese will organise the training module called ‘Missionary Catechesis’ in June. The module will help participants identify key principles to develop a culture of ongoing catechesis, formation and discipleship. Topics including family focused catechesis, catechesis for those with special & additional needs, leading a team of catechists, and ongoing formation will be covered. The module will be held on **4 June**, **11 June**, **18 June** and **25 June**, **19.00 – 20.30** at **St Mary’s church, Broadfield Walk, Leyland PR25 1PD**. If you’re interested, sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/efjAZbJUrZ?origin=lprLink>

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

**JUBILEE**

* ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE WALK (1) – ST ANNE & BLESSED DOMINIC, SUTTON, ST HELENS – Saturday 17 May 2025

The first of our three Jubilee Pilgrimage Walks will take place on Saturday 17 May. This will be a circular walk of 5 miles based around the Jubilee Church of St Anne and Blessed Dominic in St Helens. The walk will begin 10:00 from the church car park (WA9 3ZD) and will end with a short procession through the grounds at 11:50. Those who do not feel able to complete the 5-mile walk may join us for the procession. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 12:00 and there will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and visit to the Shrine of Blessed Dominic Barberi. Refreshments will also be available after Mass in the Parish Centre. To allow us to plan accordingly please sign up for the walk using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/11DnmnWWC5>

For more information contact Chris: c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk

* VISIT OF FATIMA STATUE AND RELICS – Monday 2 June 2025

The Centenary Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the relics of Ss Jacinta and Francisco are coming to the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Monday 2 June. On the day, there will be Holy Mass at 10:00, followed by Holy Rosary, act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. At 13:00, there will be Fatima talk & film, followed by enrolment & investiture of the Brown Scapular and Holy Hour. The event will conclude with benediction at 16:00. For enquiry, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

* ‘PILGRIMS OF HOPE’ PENTECOST WALK – Sunday 8 June 2025

This year’s walk will start at the Anglican Cathedral and move to the Metropolitan Cathedral along Hope Street. The theme this year is our Jubilee theme: ‘Pilgrims of Hope’. There are lots of exciting things planned for the day – save the date. Parishes and groups are invited to come along with banners which can be carried in the procession.

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

The Pilgrimage of Hope is a national walking pilgrimage with four main Ways converging at the **Cathedral of St Barnabas, Nottingham**, on **Saturday 13 September 2025**, for shared prayer and celebration. The Pilgrimage will culminate with Solemn Mass for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross at **11:15 14 September 2025** at St Barnabas' Cathedral. 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](https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/national-pilgrims-of-hope-walking-pilgrimage) – registration opens **April 2025**

RETREATS/SPIRITUALITY

* **IRENAEUS: GLIMPSES OF RESURRECTION: 14 & 21 May**

An exploration of the Resurrection stories. Chris Thomas will share on the resurrection stories in the Gospels and how it challenges us today, followed by Mass, at the **Irenaeus Centre, L22 1RD. 10:30-12:00 noon**

* **IRENAEUS: DEMENTIA AWARNESS: 19 May**

An exploration of the Resurrection stories, followed by Mass, at the **Irenaeus Centre, L22 1RD. 14:00 – 15:00** This session, led by Sr. Moira on behalf of the Alzheimer's Society, will focus on raising awareness of dementia. We will discuss ways to recognize and support individuals living with dementia

**YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS:**

* **FCJ YOUNG ADULT NETWORK – UPCOMING EVENTS**
* **Friday 23 – Sunday 25 May:** FCJ Vocations Weekend <https://bit.ly/FCJVocationWeekend>
* **Sunday 8 – Sunday 15 June** Volunteering Catholic Social Action – Liverpool fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com
* **Monday 23 – Sunday 29 June**: Urban Gardening & Ecology – London info@fcjhouse-somerstown.co.uk
* **Monday 28 July – Sunday 3 August**: MAGIS Pilgrimage to Rome <https://bit.ly/MAGIS-Rome2025>
* More information from [Young Adults - Faithful Companions of Jesus](https://www.fcjsisters.org/who-we-are/where-we-are/europe/young-adults/)

**IMPORTANT ARCHDIOCESAN DATES – SAVE THE DATE!**

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| --- | --- |
| **Thursday 15 May** | Animate Confirmation – Catholic Schools |
| **Saturday 17 May** | Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk and Mass – St Anne & Blessed Dominic, St Helen’s |
| **Monday 2 June**  | Visit of Fatima Statue and Relics at the Cathedral |
| **Sunday 8 June** | ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ Pentecost Walk - Cathedrals |
| **Sunday 22 June** | The Mass for new Catholics |
| **Sunday 24 August** | Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Walk and Mass – St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith, Ashton |
| **Saturday 20 September** | Care for Creation Walk and Mass – St Mary’s, Aughton |
| **Saturday 27 September** | Retreat Day for Catechists |

CONTACTS: PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) DEPARTMENT TEAM

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

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**Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Organisation** Rev Mgr Philip Inch p.inch@rcaol.org.uk

**& Synod Implementation**

**Bishops’ Delegate for CSA** Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ

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

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

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