



Timetable and Intentions for Sundays and Weekdays Masses



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	INTENTION	CHURCH
Sun. 23 rd Nov.	9 am	Solemnity of Christ the King	Parishioners Pius List	Holy Family
Sun. 23 rd Nov.	11.15 am	Solemnity of Christ the King	Pius List	Our Lady V
Mon 24 th Nov.	9 am			The Church is closed
Tue 25 th Nov.	9 am	St Catherine of Alexandria	Mary Musker Nanna (LD) St: Michael Kelly	Our Lady V
Wed 26 th Nov.	9 am	Weekday of O.T.	Pius List	Our Lady V
Thu 27 th Nov.	9 am	Weekday of O.T.	James Hayes (A)	Our Lady V
Fri 28 th Nov.	9 am	Weekday of O.T.	Pius List	Our Lady V
Sat 29 th Nov.	12 noon	Our Lady on Sat.	Pius List	Our Lady V
Sun 30 th Nov.	9 am	First Sun of Advent	Pius List	Holy Family
Sun 30 th Nov.	11.15 am	First Sun of Advent	Pius List	Our Lady V
Sun 30 th Nov.	5 pm	Wedding of Raquel & Pedro Magalhaes		Holy Family

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions: Tue 9.30am to 10am; Sat 11am to 12
Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Devotion: Tuesdays 9.30 am OLOV.
Baptisms, Weddings: by appointments. [Wednesday Club:](#) / [Tuesday Nursery:](#) You are welcome!

IT IS AN ACT OF MERCY: The Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of November to the Holy Souls. The practice of praying for the dead during this time is a long-standing tradition, and the phrase "pius list" likely refers to the list of deceased loved ones that Catholics submit to their parish for special prayers and Masses throughout the month. This is considered a "pious practice" or work of mercy. The term "pius list" is not an official, universal Catholic term, but a common colloquial reference to the practice of creating a list of the names of deceased family members and friends whom the faithful wish to be remembered during the November Masses. This is a "pious" act of charity and solidarity with the departed within the communion of saints.

We pray for all who are sick and elderly:

Marie Tyrer, Ray Sherwood, Betty Maurey, John Evans-Freeke, Henry Henderson, Anne and Mike Quinn, Ronnie Baybut, Geoff Morrissey, Michael Hyland, Paul Blackford, Harry Caine, Sophie Caine, Christine Watts, Deacon John and Ann Crooks, Joan Callaghan, Natalie Kavanagh, Sue Swift, Hannalor Mainey, Betty Costello, Pauline Hayes, Irene Halsall, Mark Fieldsend, Sister Laura (Ince Blundell Hall)

We pray for those whose Anniversary occurs at this time: Jim Baybut, Patricia Ware, Richard Brown, Sandra Doyle, Robert Anderson.

The Parishes of Holy Family Ince Blundell

Our Lady of Victories, Hightown

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Presbytery: Sandy Lane, Hightown, L38 3RP

Parish Priest: Fr Sergio Haro

Archdiocese of Liverpool, Reg. Charity Number 1199714

OLOV, Hightown: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 01544993

Holy Family: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 71545094



Solemnity of Christ the King: Sun 23rd Nov. 2025



Today we honour Christ as our king, but he reigns not from a throne but from the wood of the cross. God, who was to be the protector and strength of the king, seems to have abandoned him as he faces death. Like the suffering servant of Isaiah 53, he is despised and rejected by those who pass by.

As the last reading from Luke's Gospel in Cycle C, the crucifixion sums up Luke's themes. Announced to the shepherds as saviour, Jesus does this from the throne of the cross. One of the criminals hanging near him calls him simply "Jesus", a gesture of intimacy but also the promised name given at birth for one who would reign as king (Luke 2:31-33).

Jesus, who chose to follow Isaiah's words as one who proclaimed salvation to the poor and the marginalised (Luke 4:18) and who came "to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10), promises salvation to the criminal near him who, like himself, is marginalised and rejected.

Luke's Jesus preaches reconciliation and love of enemies and dies with a prayer to his Father for the forgiveness of his executioners (Luke 23:34).

The reign of Jesus from the cross is a different vision of power from that which we see in our world today. Paul, in his letter to the Christians at Colossae, tells us that now we are brought into the "kingdom of God's beloved Son", who reconciled "all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross".

The reading in the Second Book of Samuel about David being invited to be king goes on to speak of him establishing himself in Jerusalem. He settles neither with the tribes of the north or the south, but decides on a new place all his own, unencumbered by Israel's old memories. That new home is Jerusalem, given him by God. This will be David's city.

Our psalm today, Psalm 121, speaks of Jerusalem with the joy of the pilgrim on approaching it and the prayer for its peace. Sadly, we do not read the lines where peace is prayed for, not just once, but three times, playing on the word of "Jerusalem" itself, relating it to "shalom": "For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace!" Part of the messianic hope, spoken of in Isaiah, is, indeed, rich peace. But, as we know, it would prove costly, just as being the "shepherd king" was to prove costly – "when he made peace by the blood of his cross".

Christ the King Sunday also marks World Youth Sunday, a day to celebrate the young people of our church. **National Youth Sunday** is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance. of young people in the Catholic Church in England and Wales today. It provides an. opportunity to focus on the role of young people in the Sunday Liturgy and in the life. of the parish. Each parish is also asked to pray for our young people and the important youth ministry happening in our parishes and schools. **World Youth Sunday** is a celebration established by Pope Francis to recognise the important role of young people in the life and mission of the Church. It is marked locally each year on the Solemnity of Christ the King, bringing together parishes and communities to celebrate the faith, energy and witness of young people. As he prepares to celebrate the 11am Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King at the Metropolitan Cathedral, Archbishop John Sherrington reflected on the hope that young people bring to the life of the Church: “What gives me hope is seeing the path, energy and generosity of young people in our parishes and schools. You bring the light of Christ to the world. I saw this especially in Lourdes this year when 400 young people in their yellow shirts were in Lourdes helping the sick and those with disability. They were a wonderful sign of hope to the world, shining out, bringing love to others.” As Pope John Paul II once encouraged: “*Dear young people, aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less. Then you will see the light of the Gospel grow every day, within you and around you.*”

Dear young people,

As I begin my first message to you, I would like to say thank you! Thank you for the joy you brought when you came to Rome for your Jubilee and thank you to all the young people who were united to us through their prayer from every part of the world. It was a precious moment for renewing our enthusiasm for the faith and sharing the hope that burns in our hearts! Rather than being an isolated event, I hope the Jubilee encounter marks for each of you a step forward in Christian life and a strong encouragement to persevere in witnessing to your faith. That same dynamic is at the heart of the next World Youth Day, which we will celebrate on 23 November, Solemnity of Christ the King, with the theme: “You also are my witnesses, because you have been with me” (Jn 15:27). As pilgrims of hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we prepare ourselves to become courageous witnesses of Christ. Let us begin a journey that will lead us to the international World Youth Day in Seoul in 2027. With this in mind, I would like to focus on two aspects of witness: our friendship with Jesus, which we receive from God as a gift, and our commitment to be builders of peace in society.

Friends, therefore witnesses

Christian witness arises from friendship with the Lord, who was crucified and rose for the salvation of all. Let us consider the message the Apostle John gives us at the end of the fourth Gospel: “This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true” (Jn 21:24). The entire preceding account is summarized as a “testimony,” full of gratitude and wonder, from a disciple who never reveals his name, but calls himself “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” This title reflects a relationship: it is not the name of an individual, but the testimony of a personal bond with Christ. That is what really matters to John: being a disciple of the Lord and feeling loved by him. We understand, then, that Christian witness is the fruit of a relationship of faith and love with Jesus, in whom we find the salvation of our lives. What the Apostle John writes also refers to you, dear young people. You are invited by Christ to follow him and sit beside him, to listen to his heart and share closely in his life! Each one of you is a “beloved disciple” for him, and from this love comes the joy of witness.

Another courageous witness to the Gospel is the Precursor of Jesus, John the Baptist, who came “to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him” (Jn 1:7). ... From John the Baptist, we learn that Christian witness is neither a proclamation of ourselves nor a celebration of our spiritual, intellectual or moral abilities. True witness is recognizing and pointing to Jesus when he appears, as he is the only one who saves us. John recognized him among sinners, immersed in common humanity. To that end, Pope Francis insisted so often that if we do not go beyond ourselves and our comfort zones, if we do not go to the poor and those who feel excluded from the Kingdom of God, we cannot encounter Christ and bear witness to him. We lose the sweet joy of being evangelized and of evangelizing.

Dear friends, I invite each of you to continue to individuate Jesus' friends and witnesses in the Bible. As you read the Gospel, you will find that they all discovered the true meaning of life through their living relationship with Christ. Indeed, our deepest questions are not heard or answered by endlessly scrolling on our cell phones, which captures our attention but leaves us with tired minds and empty hearts. This search will not take us far if we keep it closed within ourselves or in narrow confinements. The fulfilment of our authentic desires always comes through going beyond ourselves.

Witnesses, therefore, missionaries

In this way, dear young people, with the help of the Holy Spirit, you can become missionaries of Christ in the world. Many of your peers are exposed to violence, forced to use weapons, separated from their loved ones, and compelled to migrate or flee. Many lack education and other essential goods. All share with you the search for meaning and the insecurity that accompanies it, the discomfort of growing social and work pressures, the difficulty of dealing with family crises, the painful feeling of a lack of opportunities, as well as the remorse for mistakes they have made. You can stand alongside other young people, walk with them and show that God, in Jesus, has drawn close to each person. As Pope Francis often said, “Christ shows that God is closeness, compassion and tender love” (Encyclical Letter *Dilexit* nos, 35). ...

Fraternity as a bond of peace

From friendship with Christ, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit within us, there arises a way of life that bears the character of fraternity. Young people who have encountered Christ bring the “warmth” and “flavour” of fraternity wherever they go, and anyone who comes into contact with them is drawn into a new and profound dimension, made up of selfless closeness, sincere compassion and genuine tenderness. The Holy Spirit enables us to see our neighbour with new eyes: in the other person there is a brother, a sister! ...

Dear young people, in the face of the world's sufferings and hopes, let us fix our gaze on Jesus. As he was dying on the cross, he entrusted the Virgin Mary to John as his mother, and John to her as her son. That ultimate gift of love is for every disciple, for each of us. I invite you to welcome this holy bond with Mary, a mother full of affection and understanding, and to cultivate it in particular by praying the Rosary. That way, in every situation of our life, we will experience that we are never alone, for as children we are always loved, forgiven and encouraged by God. Bear witness to this joyfully!

From the Vatican, 7 October 2025, Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Holy Rosary. **LEO PP. XIV**

First reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

In those days: All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, 'Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.'" So, all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel.

The word of the Lord

Second reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Brothers and Sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord

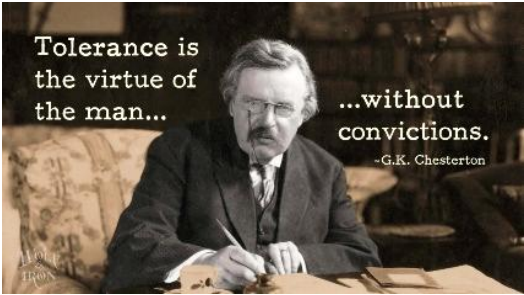
Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

At that time: The rulers scoffed at Jesus, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord Source: Universalis App – New Lectionary



Responsorial Psalm: Ps 122(121)

R:/ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD

I rejoiced when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R:/**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD. As it is decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. There were set the thrones for judgement, the thrones of the house of David. **R:/**

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

“ The Catholic Church is the only thing which saves a man from the degrading slavery of being a child of his age

G.K. Chesterton, **The Catholic Church and Conversion**