

St. Joseph's and St. Peter's

The Roman Catholic Parishes of Ansdell & Lytham

Clergy: Parish Priest Fr. Peter Clarke, Deacons Michael Harrison, David Pope & William Riley (Retired)

Parish Hub: 16, Woodlands Road, Ansdell FY8 4EP; Telephone 01253 737037; Email sjsp.lsa@lrcd.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: SJ's M.Gregory 07711698195, K.Godden 07932048793 SP's T.Mallabone 07843151914

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 'A' 25th/26th July 2026

"O Lord, how I love your law!"

Weekend 25th/26th July: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 'A'

Saturday 25th 6pm St. Joseph's Mass L.S.A. Catenians, Members and Families

Sunday 26th 9:15am St. Joseph's Mass People of the Parishes and Niamh Garnett

10:30am St. Peter's Mass Jimmy McGettigan

Monday 27th 9am St. Peter's Mass Joan Woodcock

10am Holy Family Warton Requiem Mass for Yvonne Rayton

Tuesday 28th 10am St. Joseph's Mass Thomas and Nora Johnson *preceded by Exposition and Confessions till 9:55am*

Wednesday 29th 9am St. Peter's Mass Nellie and William Holland

Thursday 30th 11am St. Joseph's Requiem Mass for Margaret Plant

Weekend 1st/2nd August: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 'A'

Saturday 1st 6pm St. Joseph's Mass Pat Ormond

Sunday 2nd 9:15am St. Joseph's Mass People of the Parishes

10:30am St. Peter's Mass In Loving Memory of Norah Shortt

Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition this week: Tuesday 9:30-9:50am at St. Joseph's

Confession is also available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel. 737037

This Sunday's Readings: We are reminded today that the kingdom of God brings both great joy and eternal life, but first we must seek to obtain it.

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 God bestows on Solomon a heart as wise and shrewd as no one before him.

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30 God intended us to become true images of his Son.

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52 Jesus describes the kingdom of heaven in a series of parables.

Message from Father Peter: as you can see overleaf, this Friday is the Feast of Saint Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order. Here in our Diocese we still have Jesuit Priests at St. Wilfred's in Preston, and until not so long ago they occupied Sacred Heart in Blackpool. There have been many famous Jesuits throughout history, including the Poet and Priest, Gerard Manley Hopkins. Currently there is a movement to have Hopkins canonized, though I'm not sure whereabouts in the process he is. Born at Stratford in Essex on July 28th, 1844, Hopkins is regarded as one of the Victorian era's greatest poets, even though none of his poems were actually published in his life time. He was received into the Church by none other than St. John Henry Newman, no slouch in writing religious poetry himself, of course, and after becoming a Jesuit he vowed to 'write no more...unless it were by the wish of my superiors.' Hopkins burnt all of the poetry he had written to date and would not write poems again until 1875. He was ordained Priest in 1877, teaching at Stonyhurst College, just over the Ribble Valley, among other places. In 1884, he became a Professor of Greek at the Royal University College in Dublin, and died five years later from typhoid fever. One of his most famous poems appears in the Divine Office, the Priest's devotions each day, to be used instead of a hymn, praising God for all creation, and wonder and beauty of nature around us. It's rather beautiful.

Glory be to God for dappled things -

For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;

For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;

Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;

Landscape plotted and pieced - fold, fallow, and plough;

And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;

Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)

With swift, slow; sweet, sour; a dazzle, dim;

He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change: Praise Him.



St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Ansdell

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Clarke.

St. Joseph's Presbytery, Woodlands Road, Ansdell,
Lytham St Anne's, FY8 4EP. Tel: 01253 737037

Website: www.st-josephsansdell.net Email: sjps.lsa@lrcd.org.uk



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 25th/26th July 2026

School Uniforms Needed During August: Fylde Food Bank in partnership with Lytham Rotary Club is collecting good quality, clean school uniforms for secondary and primary schools. There is a big box at the back of church for contributions. Thank you for your support.

The Food Bank: Contributions are most welcome, and still most necessary. Please bring stuff to Masses or the Presbytery any time.

This Saturday 25th July, Lytham Catenians will celebrate their annual President's Mass at St Joseph's at 6pm. The Catenians are a Catholic men's social organisation which aims to strengthen family life through friendship and faith. As well as enjoying themselves they also support vocations, charities, and young people financially and developmentally. For further information about the Catenians contact Tony Godden after Mass or email tonygodden@btinternet.com

Burkino Faso 2026: the collection continues and envelopes are available at the back of Church.

Songs of Praise and Strawberry Tea: many thanks to everyone who was involved in the lovely celebration. It was wonderful to see so many people, and for everyone to enjoy the scones and tea afterwards. Special thanks to all our musicians, organists and singers who led the celebration, and everyone involved in the hall afterwards, not least Eileen for making the scones, and the Ukulele Orchestra for leading the festivities. I think it could become an annual event!

School Holidays: and so our schools complete another lovely year, and we thank them and bless them for all their ministry with our children. It's been a joy and a privilege for me to celebrate weekly class masses as well as whole school masses for HolyDays and other festivities. Mrs. Gilli-Ross, our indefatigable Head Teacher writes to us: *As another wonderful school year comes to an end, I would like to thank God for the many blessings we have received. Our children have achieved so much and embraced a wealth of enriching experiences, growing not only in their learning but also in faith, confidence, and kindness. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated and caring staff team, whose commitment makes our school such a special place. We are also so grateful for the strong relationship we continue to share with our parish, where God's love and His Word are lived out so beautifully. Thank you to everyone for always making us feel so welcome, and a special thank you to Father Peter for his kindness, encouragement, and the genuine care he shows to both our children and staff. We wish our whole parish community a happy, peaceful, and restful summer. And Amen to that!*

Friday 31st July is the Feast of St Ignatius Loyola. This is a big feast day for the Jesuits, as St Ignatius was their founder. He was born in 1491 in northern Spain. He worked in the castle and in the army. While he was convalescing after being shot in the leg, he read the lives of the saints. As a result he was converted to a life of holiness. He tried to set up a mission in Palestine, but was thrown out. Back at home he was regarded with suspicion by the Church authorities. Eventually, he studied theology in Rome and later formed the Society of Jesus. The Jesuits put themselves directly under the Pope, becoming known as 'the Pope's Army' and did much work in the reform of the Church. Ignatius died in 1556, aged sixty-five.



Ignatius

Save the Date(s)! Up and Coming Social Events for our Two Parishes

Family BBQ: Sunday 6th September in SJ's Grounds
Preston band Concert: Saturday 19th September at 7:30pm at SP's
Race Night: Saturday 3rd October at 7:430pm at SJ's
Sunday Lunch at the Bedford: Sunday 1st November
Christmas Fair: Sunday 6th December at SP's
Fr. P.'s Family Nativity: Sunday 20th December at 3pm SJ's



COLLECTION COUNT: for May: *with grateful thanks*
Gift Aid £159 Non Gift Aid £675:21 SO £2973
St. Joseph's Care £128:11 Burkina Faso £165

Please pray for all who have died recently, especially Margaret Plant, Jack Gledhill, and Yvonne Rayton, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Anne McKenna, Christopher Shaw, Thomas Johnson, Rena Lee, Sr. Betty Cahill, Sr. Kathleen Standish, Joan Dean, Catherine Mckelvey, Lillah Ogden, Alice Margaret Harman and Deacon John Stanning

Please pray for the sick and housebound of the Parish, especially: Paul Bunyan, Michael Cookson, Andrew Cox, Damian Crean, Ann Cullen & The Cullen Family, Theresa and Denis Flannigan, Rosaline Fox, Cathy Gaughan, Patrick Gilligan, Pat Gleason, Pat Heeny, Christopher Hunter, Peter Jones, Sr Kay, Caroline Ledward, Margaret Long, Maureen Lundy, Pat Marion, Joan McCombe, Zoe Mc Laughlin, Paul Meskell, Anne Meyer, George Morgan, Pat Moss, Molly Murphy, Zivile Petraviute, Bob Osachuk, Paul Robinson, Val Sunderland, Alison Singleton, Margaret Spillane, Susan Standing, Mandi Taylor, Sr Michaela Toulmin (Hynning), Alan Watkins, Brenda Wilmot, Phil Winstanley, Kath Woods, Albert Zammit.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY at Sunday Morning Mass!

COFFEE & BACON BUTTIES after 9.15am Mass this week. (*No scones till this afternoon.*)

ST JOSEPH'S CARE: Do you know of anyone in our community who is in need or might need a little more support, and would like either a friendly a visit, or Holy Communion at Home? Please let St. Joseph's Care Visiting Team know by emailing or phone the Parish on the above contact details.

BELL RINGING PRACTICE every Thursday from 7-8.30 pm. If you are interested in learning to ring the bells at St Joseph's, please get in touch with Tower Captains James (07743684900) and Stacey (07921032390) and they'll show you the ropes!

REPOSITORY: Cards and gifts for different occasions available, including first communion cards and Rosary beads. **Children's Prayer Books available!** Orders for other items can be taken, too. If you are interested in joining a rota for either of the weekend Masses please contact Margaret on 07711698195

LECTIO DIVINA Scripture prayer and discussions in the hall on Wednesdays at 10am.

THE HOLY ROSARY: every Thursday after 10am Mass in Church, for this beautiful prayer. All welcome. **Thursday at 10:30am** in Church.

Rotas for weekend 1st/2nd August

Readers Sat 6pm: Mary Wren Hilton Sun. 9.15am: James Wormleighton

Meet and Greet Sat 6pm: M & D Ghee

Sun 9.15am: M Skene and M Lehman

9:15am Minister Wanda