



Parish of St Anne and St Joseph

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Facebook St Anne and St Joseph, Accrington
Website: www.stanneandstjosephaccrington.org.uk

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

25th October 2026

Monday 26th October

(Saint Chad & Cedd)

NO Holy Mass at St Anne's

Tuesday 27th October

(Weekday)

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

Wednesday 28th October

(Saints Simon & Jude)

9:00am Mass at St Anne's

Thursday 29th October

(Weekday)

6:30pm Holy Mass at St Anne's

Friday 30th October

(Weekday)

8:45am Confessions at St Joseph's

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

Saturday 31st October

(Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

11:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
and Confessions

12:00 Noon Holy Mass at St Anne's

5:30pm Vigil Mass at St Anne's

Sunday 1st November

ALL SAINTS

9:00am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's

11:00am Sunday Mass at St Anne's

READERS' ROTA

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In St Anne's

Saturday 31st October 5:30pm

Marie Roberts & Anne Anderson

Sunday 1st November 11:00am

Tony Yates

In St Joseph's

Sunday 1st November 9:00am

Anne Bradshaw

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Helen Hyndman, Joan Gallagher, Margaret Coyne, Stephanie Reid, Davy Lightbody, Sheila Young, Martin Moxham, Sheila Winterbottom, Theo Ralph, Peter Crossley, Fr J P Coulon, Maureen Grady, Adrian Melling, Sr Mary Colette, Tommy McMullan, Janet Flood, Shirley Higginson, Annette McGuinness, Michael Cronin, Benjamin Franklin, Assunta Christiano; Kathleen McGuinness; Martin Flood; Brid Fitzgibbon

Anniversaries: Mary Entwistle;
Antonio Cristiano; Pat Havlin

Birthday: Margaret Starkie

Confessions in St Anne's

Saturdays: 11:00am - 11:45am
4:45pm - 5:15pm

At St Joseph's

Fridays 8:45am to 9:20am

NO CASH? NO PROBLEM!



You can make donations to the parish using our new card machine in St Anne's located near the collection baskets. There is also an option to Gift Aid your donation. Or, you can make donations to the parish by scanning this QR Code on your mobile and it will direct you to a website where you can donate money to the parish.



POLISH MASS

Fr Robert Pytel, the Chaplain to our Polish community, will be celebrating Mass on Sunday, 1st

November at 2:00pm. Please pass on the message to anyone you know who might be interested.



ST ANNE'S LADIES

Our next meeting will be Monday, 2nd November. We will be going to Mr Gatty's Tea Room. Meet on St

Anne's carpark at 12:30noon for lunch at 1:00pm.

ST JOSEPH'S LADIES

St Joseph's ladies meet every Wednesday, apart from the 1st Wednesday of the month, in the church hall at 1:00pm for chat, games, quizzes, tea/coffee, cake, occasional meals out and good company.



IN IT TO WIN IT!!! WEEK 8

Saturday Night's winning number was: 50 – Rollover

Wednesday Night's

winning number was: 25 –

Bill Gallagher

It is time once again to collect church lottery money. Please either post your lottery money through the presbytery door or, leave in the collection basket at the back of church. Please ensure that you place your money in an envelope with your name written on.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year's Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday, 29th November after 10:00am Mass at St Joseph's. As we approach our Christmas fair we would be grateful if parishioners could donate the following items: bottles, toiletries, fancy goods, chocolates and baked goods (brought in on the day). **No bric a brac please.** Items can be left at the back of either church or dropped off at St Anne's Presbytery during office hours (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings).

We will shortly be selling raffle tickets for our grand draw. The prizes on offer are:

1 st	£200
2 nd	£175
3 rd	£150
4 th	£100
5 th	£ 75

Please do take some tickets and sell them far and wide! The raffle is one of our main fundraising events and there is some fantastic prizes on offer

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the fair, there will only be one Mass on Sunday, 29th November, at 10:00am. This will be at St Joseph's Church. There will be no 11:00am Mass at St Anne's.

SEPTEMBER 2027 APPLICATIONS.



If any parent/carer of a year 5/6 child would like a personal tour of the school, please contact Susan Fielding on 01254 233458 to arrange.

As we are currently full or oversubscribed in all year groups, we strongly advise parents who want a place for their children to put us down as first choice or it is unlikely that you will be awarded a place. Deadline for applications for a place at secondary schools is **31st October** and all applications are to be made online

If your child is a baptised Catholic, please let school have a copy of their baptism certificate to ensure that they are placed in the correct admission category.

MOUNT CARMEL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mount Carmel are once again hosting their annual Community Christmas Party. Sign up sheets will be at the back of both churches from next weekend

JEWELLERY STALL

At the Christmas Fair we will be running a jewellery stall. If you have any jewellery that you would like to donate, please can you pass it on to Catherine Devenport as soon as possible so that it can be cleaned up and valued. Thank you

ROMAN HOLIDAY

As you can see I am safely back from my little trip to Rome this past week. It was very enjoyable. Much pasta was eaten and the odd glass of vino taken. I have also put a few bits and bobs on the parish Facebook page. Please be assured you were remembered in prayer at the tomb of the Apostles and at the tomb of St John Paul II, particularly on his feast day on Thursday.



On Wednesday I took part in the Papal Audience in St Peter's Square. This was the first Audience with Pope Leo after being discharged from hospital after his surgery for cancer. I managed to get quite close to the Holy Father as he came round the square in his popemobile. Unfortunately, not close enough to shake his hand. Let us continue to keep Pope Leo in our prayers.



Christmas Meal with Entertainment

Mount Carmel R.C. High School
Monday 30th November 2026



Pre-bookings only. Telephone: 01254 233458
or email cmunroe@mountcarmelhigh.lancs.sch.uk
Arrival time 12.30 for a 12.45pm meal. Expected finish time 2.15pm



Father's Musings...



My time as your Parish Priest draws to a close this weekend as I celebrate my final Masses with and for you. I want to thank you for your kindness to me during my five years in Accrington. I cannot thank you enough for the privilege of serving here as your Parish Priest.

As your PP I have been with you in the joys & sorrows of your family life. I have welcomed new members to our parish family in the waters of Baptism, fed them and you with the Bread of Eternal Life in Holy Communion. I have had the privilege of assisting the dying on their final journey and of being with you as I have presided at their funerals.

All of this has been a great blessing. I only hope and pray that my presence brought you joy or consolation at those times when you needed it most. I shall always be grateful for the trust you placed in me.

My thanks also go to our schools and to our dedicated staff. Your support, advice and friendship have meant so much to me. I hope I have helped, in some small way, in forming future generations in the Catholic faith.

Bishop Kelly, when Bishop of Salford, used to say that for about half the priests and people of the Diocese he was the wrong Bishop. For some he would be too “traddy”, and for others not “traddy” enough!

I am conscious that, in my own way, I too may have been the wrong priest for some people in this parish because of the way I have gone about my duties. To anyone whom I may have upset during my time here, I am genuinely sorry, and I ask your forgiveness for any offence I may have caused. It was never my intention to upset anyone. Please pray for me, that I may learn from my mistakes and avoid making the same ones in the future. And, in true parish

tradition, I shall leave you to decide which of my many faults you think I still need to work on!

Please pray for me as I prepare to take up my duties at Holy Family in Denton. I ask you to pray also for Fr Peter Hapgood-Strickland, who will follow me here. May his time with you be one of blessing for him and for the whole parish. I hope that you will give him the same kindness, friendship and support that you have shown to me.

As I leave, I do so with a grateful heart. Five years is a significant part of a priest's life, and this parish will remain part of my priestly story. I shall remember with affection the people I have met, the celebrations we have shared, the difficult moments through which we have walked and the many ordinary moments that, in the end, are often the ones we remember most.

The life of a parish does not belong to any one priest. It belongs to Christ. Priests come and go, but the Lord remains, the Mass continues to be celebrated, and the work of building His Kingdom goes on. My prayer is that whoever the priest may be, you will always keep Christ at the centre of your parish life and continue to support one another in faith.

I will certainly pray for you, as I ask you to pray for me. And so, rather than thinking of this as a final goodbye, I prefer to think of it as simply saying, “Until we meet again.” In the words of St Thomas More, may we indeed meet again “merrily in heaven.”



May Our Lady keep us all in her maternal care, draw us ever closer to her Son, and continue to bring out the best in each of us.

With my prayer and blessing.

Francis