

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HOLY CROSS, ST MATTHEW AND ST GILBERT, ECCLES

Services held at: Holy Cross, Patricroft and St Matthew's, Winton  
Parish Office: Holy Cross Presbytery, 370 Liverpool Road, Patricroft, M30 8QD

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR A

Morning Prayer Week 2

### The Sermon on the Mount

St Matthew, in his Gospel, gathers together Our Lord's teachings to the crowds in one great sermon. Maybe different parts were actually spoken on different days, maybe some teachings were delivered in different places, but so much of Jesus' public speaking was out in the open, on the hills and mountain-sides of Judaea, that the popular title: "Sermon on the Mount" sums it all up perfectly.

Picture the scene. Can we put ourselves into the shoes of a Jewish listener, and hear the words as though for the first time? Jesus is so eloquent, so charismatic. His words seem to speak to our very soul. The ancient Law suddenly sounds new again - vibrant and relevant. It is the same, yet different. But we feel troubled by what we hear.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

**The sick:** Sheila, Alex, Michael, Martin, Joanne, Aidan, Desmond, Eamon, Maureen, John, Stefa, Joan, Janice, Bill, Monica, Audrey, Annie, Jackie, Ann, Malcolm, Harvey, Claire, Louise and baby Maisy, Lewis (12 yrs. old), Caitlin (age 11), Loren (age 17), Marie, Paddy, John, Martin, Kenneth, Vera, Lilly, Billy, Dennis and Gerald, May, Louise, Lily, Peggy, Matthew, Evelyn, Margaret, Anthony, Debbie, Pam, Elizabeth, Mary, Peter, Theresa, Sylvia, Joseph, Martin, Ishrat, Elaine, Jayne and Christian, Mavis, Antony, Maureen, Johnny, Robin and Steven, Bernard, Vera, Jack and Joan, Kevin, Pat.

**Latently Dead:** Agnieszka Cecot, Tony McMillan, Rose Winifred Kelly, Megan Harrison, John Francis Martin, Ronald Dixon, Donna Millett, Cecelia Jackson, Mary Margaret Ruddle, Josefa Cao Veira, Christine Westoby.

**Anniversaries:** Harry Banks, Agnes Geeney, Anne Delaney, May Fagan, Sheila Tighe, Eddie Davenport, Patrick McElhinney, Mary Richardson, Roy Hall, David Collinge, Kathleen Brehony, Tom Roddy.

**Remembrance:** Charles Geeney, Tony McMillan, Scanlon and McLernon families.

**We also pray:** in thanksgiving, for world peace, for Bishop John and the restructuring of our diocese, for the housebound and those in hospital, nursing and residential homes, and for a number of special intentions.

"You have learnt how it was said..." Of course we have! Every word planted deep in our memory by Rabbis from the days of our youth. Moses proclaimed these words on another mountain-side; and Moses was the greatest prophet of all time. "But I say this to you!" Jesus expands on the ancient teaching and challenges us to pay more than just lip service, to be renewed once again in the words of the Psalm: "They are happy who follow God's Law!" And how will we be happy? By following the words not from the pages of a book, but from the deepest intentions of our heart. "I say this to you": murder is wrong, but so too is the mind-set of anger which leads to violence and hatred. Adultery is wrong, but so too is the unchecked thought that devalues another person to a mere object of unfulfilled desire. Lying under oath is wrong, but so too is the culture built upon dishonesty and mistrust that prevents a simple "yes" or "no" being the final word in truth...

Noble sayings, every one. Yet still, as we remain in the shoes of the Jewish follower, we feel uncomfortable. It is those very words: "...but I say this to you." Jesus seems to claim that his word has greater authority than that of Moses himself. Such clear truths spoken - yet they sound almost like blasphemy. Only God himself can surpass the words given through Moses. Only God walking amongst us could speak in such a way. So, do we back away and close our ears? Or could it really be true?

*"The Word was made flesh, and dwelt amongst us" (Jn 1:14). As Christians today, we have no difficulty accepting that Jesus did indeed surpass Moses because he is, in truth, God made man. But let us not become too comfortable with the concept, lest we miss out on the challenge of Jesus' message, to live our Faith from the very depths of our being.*

### READERS THIS WEEKEND

**6.30pm:** Daniel, Jessica  
**9.00am:** Please log in or see list in Church  
**10.30am:** Christina, Jennifer

### OFFERTORY

**Collection:** Please see printed version. Thank you

### RETIRING COLLECTIONS

No retiring collections this week or next

- New to the parish?
  - Know someone who is sick or in hospital?
  - Like a visit from the priest?
  - Think the parish may be able to help you, or you us, in any way?
- Please speak to Fr Martin, after Mass or at any convenient time

## MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday (Vigil Mass):</b>	6.30pm at Holy Cross
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	9.00am at St Matthew's 10.30am at Holy Cross (with Children's Liturgy)
	<i>Tea and coffee are served after both morning Masses</i>
<b>Weekdays:</b>	See Weekday Calendar below
<b>Holydays:</b>	11.00am at Holy Cross 7.00pm at St Matthew's

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Friday: 6.30-6.50pm at Holy Cross  
Saturday: 11.00am-11.50am at St Matthew's  
and 6.00pm-6.20pm at Holy Cross  
(or at any reasonable time on request)

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

by arrangement

*At least 6 months' notice is required for weddings, and a time of preparation is also required before Baptisms. Please speak to Fr Martin or Sr Jenny after Mass*

## WEEKDAY CALENDAR (Week beginning Monday 13th February)

<b>Monday:</b>	9.00am Morning Prayer at <b>Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>10.30am Funeral Mass</b> at <b>Holy Cross</b> for the late Anthony Kenny. <i>May he rest in peace</i>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	8.45am <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> at <b>Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	9.00am Morning Prayer at <b>St Matthew's</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	6.30pm <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> at <b>Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>7pm Mass</b> and Divine Mercy
<b>Saturday (daytime):</b>	11.00am <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> at <b>St Matthew's</b> followed by <b>12 noon Mass</b> and Novena

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Today (Sunday) at Holy Cross, a small number of children from the Sacramental Programme will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism (or being formally received into the Catholic Church if their baptism was in a church of a different denomination). Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

## THE 'CATHOLIC UNIVERSE' NEWSPAPER

Copies of the Universe are now **on sale at £1.30** each, as the free promotion is now over. It would be helpful if anyone wishing to place a regular order would do so on one of the sheets at the back of church.

## READERS AND MINISTERS AT HOLY CROSS

Would you like to consider becoming a reader, particularly on a Saturday evening, or a Minister of Communion? If you are interested in knowing more about these valuable ministries please ask Fr Martin or Mike Denton.

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This global ecumenical day of prayer takes place on the first Friday in March (which this year falls on March 3rd). The service in our area will take place on that day at 1.00pm at Monton Methodist Church, Grange Drive, Monton, M27 4FP. More details are available on the noticeboard at the back of church.

## IRISH NIGHT

With Irish band 'Celtic Vibes' and Irish Dancers in Holy Cross Church Hall on Friday 10th March 2017 at 7.30pm. Refreshments, bar and raffle. Adult - £7.00 : Children £2.00. Tickets are now available.

## FRANCIS HOUSE EASTER CHICK APPEAL

Knitters are needed to produce large numbers of knitted chicks which will each be filled with a chocolate egg and sold in aid of the children's hospice. The pattern for the chicks can be found online at [www.franchishouse.org.uk/easter-knit-a-chick-appeal](http://www.franchishouse.org.uk/easter-knit-a-chick-appeal) or can be obtained by calling 0161 443 2200.

## PERMANENT DEACONS

Following on from Bishop John's first consultation document, it is proposed to establish a "permanent Diaconate" within the diocese. Permanent Deacons are men who combine family life with ordained ministry, and are able to serve their parish communities in a wide variety of ways. The diocese is now seeking volunteers aged between 35 and 55 who may be interested in embarking on a programme of vocational discernment, which might lead on to formal training and ordination. Leaflets giving more information are available at the back of church or from Fr Martin.

## LOURDES 2017

The 85th Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 28th July—3rd August 2017. It will be led by Bishop John Arnold. Please see poster at the back of church.

## PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Fr Martin A Collins GTCL  
*Telephone:* 0161 789 4424  
*Mobile:* 07502 633383  
*Email:* frmartin@ourparishcommunity.co.uk  
or via contact form on the parish website.

**Parish Secretary:** Mr Paul Boardman  
*Telephone:* 0161 789 4424 (Mon & Wed, 10am-4pm)  
*Email:* secretary@ourparishcommunity.co.uk  
or via contact form on the website.

**Parish Website:** [www.ourparishcommunity.co.uk](http://www.ourparishcommunity.co.uk)

**Parish Sister:** Sr Jenny (Franciscan Missionary of St Joseph)  
*Telephone:* 0161 789 4424 (Wednesday 10am-4pm)  
0161 707 9537 all other times  
*Email:* srjenny@ourparishcommunity.co.uk

**Community Hall:** All enquiries to Mrs Anne Benyon  
*Telephone:* 07580 571839

### Holy Cross RC Church

Liverpool Road  
Patricroft  
Eccles  
M30 8QD

### St Matthew's RC Church

Worsley Road  
Winton  
Eccles  
M30 8BL

### Parish Safeguarding Rep:

*Email:* Sharon Devlin  
sharon@ourparishcommunity.co.uk

### Schools:

Holy Cross and All Saints: 0161 789 4386  
St Gilbert's: 0161 789 5035  
St Patrick's High School: 0161 921 2300

*SRCDT Registered Charity No 250037*  
[www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

*Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey*