

# 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

## 7th Sunday of Easter

YEAR B

Morning Prayer Week 3

### FINDING OUR TRUE PATH

Picture an overgrown pathway in a wild, unfamiliar place. You have a map, and many old writings from people who have gone that way in the past, and you seek to find what they were looking for. You want a share in what led them on, in the experience that made their journey worthwhile. But you know there may be pitfalls along the way, and so your research is meticulous - everything must be planned and checked to minimise the risk. But once your journey begins, the way forward is still so unclear. Time and again, you check and re-check your guides, but there is no escaping the fact that to achieve your goal you will have to take risks along the way. What if the terrain changed over the years? There is only one way to know for certain. Step out, and hope.

Perhaps the Church might have seemed like such a path to the disciples, meeting together in today's first Reading. Their Lord and Master has returned to heaven, and they must check and re-check the evidence he has left behind. Their goal? The place where he has gone, not just for themselves but also for all who will follow afterwards in their footsteps. And so they examine the Scriptures to see what they should do to replace Judas and restore the

number of disciples Jesus chose. Anything - any obscure text might hold the key, and guide them to make the right move. So Peter takes a psalm as his cue, and two friends are nominated to stand in Judas's place. Everything checked - and now must come the risk. They pray, and they draw lots. Who will God's choice be? The lot falls to Matthias. The risk follows the research, and now they can but hope that God's plan will be fulfilled through him.

Today, the pathways of the Church in the world are not so unfamiliar. We know where our forefathers have travelled before, and meekly we try to follow the crowd. But a path well-trodden is sometimes as hard to follow as one that is overgrown. The crowds have widened it so much in their race to reach the goal first, that now we see nothing but trodden earth and wonder - which way is best? Which is the true path, the way Jesus and the apostles first laid out for us?

We are so used to traditions growing up around us - traditions that after just five or ten years we feel cannot be changed because "we've always done it that way." But where is the risk? It is only when we step out into the dark in Faith that we really learn to distinguish God's plan from our own. In a time when the Diocesan plans for the future will challenge the very way we see "Church" in our lives, let us listen anew to Our Lord calling us in today's Gospel to go out into the world, and to be consecrated in the truth - His truth - the truth mapped out for us on our real pathway home.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

**The sick:** Rita, Mary, Stephen, Sheila, Ellen, Sr Cecily, Caroline, Lynne, Joe, David, Angela, Jackie, Christopher and Clifford, Mary, Gemma, Rosa, Daniel, John, Sheila, Michael, Martin, Joanne, Desmond, John, Joan, Janice, Bill, Harvey, Marie, John, Martin, Kenneth, Vera, Lilly, Dennis and Gerald, May, Louise, Peggy, Matthew, Evelyn, Margaret, Anthony, Debbie, Mary, Peter, Theresa, Sylvia, Martin, Elaine, Mavis, Maureen, Johnny, Robin and Steven, Vanessa, Lyndsay, Stephen, Bernard, Jack and Joan, Kevin.

**Lately Dead:** Sr Meir Montiel FMSJ, Peter Vernon, Andrew Neilan, Patrick McLernon, Roisin Dunne, Janet Thompson, Beatrice Farrington.

**Anniversaries:** Kevin Murray, Mary Kelly, Bridie, Catherine and Patrick Curran, John McGrath, John McPhillips, Bernard Collins, Mary Croft, Helen Shannon.

**Remembrance:** Brian and Martin Platt, Charles, Agnes and Ann Geeney, Marie Payne.

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

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME EVENTS

- **TODAY** (Sunday 13th May), Baptisms, during 10.30am Mass at Holy Cross.
- **THIS WEDNESDAY** (16th May), 6.30pm at Holy Cross, **meeting for ALL PARENTS AND CHILDREN**, preparing for First Holy Communion.

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AT HOLY CROSS

- Social Outreach Committee - date still to be rearranged.

### READERS THIS WEEKEND

**6.30pm:** Jennifer, Veronica  
**9.00am:** Please log in or see list in church  
**10.30am:** Alvin, Jaine

### OFFERTORY

**Collection:** 5th/6th May See printed version

### RETIRING COLLECTIONS

**This week:** World Communications

**Next week:** No retiring collection next week

- *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 available only after Mass at St Matthew's this week</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: 11.00-11.50am at St Matthew's  
6.00-6.20pm 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 14th May)

<b>Monday:</b>	9.00am Rosary at <b>Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	10.15am – 12.30pm Knitting Club at St Matthew's <b>11.00am Funeral Mass at Holy Cross</b> for the late Patrick McLernon. <i>May he rest in peace</i>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	8.45am <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	9.00am Rosary at <b>St Matthew's</b> followed by <b>9.15am Mass</b> 7pm Churches Together in Eccles—meeting for Church Representatives—Patricroft URC
<b>Friday:</b>	6.30pm <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross</b> followed by <b>7pm Mass</b> and Divine Mercy
<b>Saturday (daytime):</b>	11.00am <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Matthew's</b> followed by <b>12 noon Mass</b> and Novena 7.30pm (after Evening Mass) Pentecost Shared Table—Party for the Church's Birthday. <i>Please join us in the Community Hall—see separate entry for details</i>

## WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST!

The priest's vestments for Pentecost Sunday **next week**, the Church's Birthday, will be red. Could we identify ourselves as a part of this great Christian celebration by **each of us wearing something red too?** The red theme is at all Masses next weekend.

## PENTECOST SHARED TABLE

We speak of the Church's 'Birthday' as we celebrate the apostles leaving the Upper Room and beginning their mission in Christ's Name. As part of our parish celebration, we would like to invite you to a Parish Sharing Table at Holy Cross Community Hall **this Saturday** (19th May) at 7.30pm (after evening Mass). Just bring along your favourite food — bought or home-made — to share with others. This does not have to be anything extravagant: if your favourite food is a piece of cheese or a trifle, just bring it along! We will provide tea, coffee and soft drinks, and you are welcome to bring your own alcoholic drinks with you.

## ALTAR SERVERS' GUILD

To celebrate the wonderful commitment and dedication of our Altar Servers, **next Sunday** they will be invited (during all Masses) to enrol as members of the 'Guild of St Stephen' and will be awarded medals and certificates. Any eligible servers who have not yet returned an application form are invited to do so this week. Thank you!

## EMBRACE PROJECT

Thank you to all those who signed up for the project at the recent meeting. We are aware of a number of others who missed the meeting but had expressed a real interest in becoming involved. Please see Fr Martin for full details and an application form.

**12th/13th May 2018**

**We pray, as one Diocese united in prayer, for the people of the parish of :**



- St. Stephen's, Droylsden, and Fr. Bernard Wilson, their parish priest.
- St. Anne's, Openshaw, and their parish priest, Fr. Chris Lough.
- We pray for the Presentation Sisters and for the primary schools serving these parishes.

**May we all pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.**

## YOUTH UPDATES

Following our own Pentecost celebrations on Saturday 19th May, Salford Cathedral is hosting a Youth Service (2pm) and Mass (5:30pm with Bishop John) on Sunday 20th May to celebrate the Church's birthday. There will be plenty of activities for all ages on the theme of 'RECEIVE' e.g. DVDs, arts and crafts and games for primary age and workshops and talks for 11+ led by Fr Ged Kelly and the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal. And of course, no birthday would be complete without cake! If any young people would like to serve or read at this event, just let Rachel know.

## ROSARY AT HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS' SCHOOL

The "GIFT" Chaplains at Holy Cross and All Saints' school would like to invite you to their before-school Rosary sessions during the month of May. The sessions are continuing at 8.30am in their school chapel on Tuesdays: 15th and 22nd May.

## LOURDES AT HOME

Following Lourdes model, continues each Thursday during May, 7.30pm, at Wardley Cemetery Chapel. All welcome.

## PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Martin A Collins GTCL
<i>Telephone:</i>	0161 789 4424
<i>Mobile:</i>	07502 633383
<i>Email:</i>	frmartin@ourparishcommunity.co.uk or via contact form on the parish website.
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Mrs Marie Twemlow
<i>Telephone:</i>	0161 789 4424 (Mon & Tue, 10am-3pm)
<i>Sec. Email:</i>	secretary@ourparishcommunity.co.uk
<i>Office Email:</i>	office@ourparishcommunity.co.uk
<b>Parish Website:</b>	www.ourparishcommunity.co.uk
<b>Parish Sister:</b>	Sr Jenny (Franciscan Missionary of St Joseph)
<i>Telephone:</i>	0161 789 4424 (Wednesday 10am-4pm) 0161 707 9537 all other times
<i>Email:</i>	srjenny@ourparishcommunity.co.uk
<b>Community Hall:</b>	Enquiries to Steve Jackson
<i>Telephone:</i>	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 Reps:

Katrina Foster/Tara Higgins  
*Email:* safeguarding@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

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*Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey*