



CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN PAUL II, ECCLES

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

12th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
YEAR A
Morning
Prayer
Week 4

REOPENING of CHURCHES for PRIVATE PRAYER

Phase 1 of the reopening of churches seems to have gone well—our sincere thanks to those who have attended training and served as stewards at Holy Cross, which was a part of this phase. Some other churches will be opening in a similar way soon as parts of Phase 2 in the diocese. Unfortunately, we will not be opening St Mary's church just yet, but it has been good to see parishioners from St Mary's end of the parish praying at Holy Cross. This week we will aim to continue the schedule we began last week, opening on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3-6pm, but this will be kept under constant review. Details will be available on the website and, if you are signed up for our [Email Updates](#), this will be another way for you to know of any changes. Full details of churches open in Salford Diocese can be found [HERE](#).

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Carole, Phil, Carol, Sarah, John, Vincent de Paul, Alan and Mary, Molly, Brenda, Anne, Patrick (age 7), David, Peter, Kevin, Helen, Lynn, Pam and Derek, Pauline, Shannon, John, Chris, Ann, Patrick, Sister Jenny, Clifford, Mrs Wood, Frances, Marian, Bridget, Iris, Pauline, Sharon, Fr Mullin, John, Joan, Paul, Peter, Maureen, Pat, Patrick, David, Sister Maureen, Yvonne, Terry, Betty, Betty, Kathleen, Colette, Stanley, Win, Catherine, James, Alan, Betty, Evelyn, Elizabeth, Anne, Mary, Joan, Amanda, Pat, Billy, David, Evie, Mary, Chamari, Sheila, Monica, Clare, John, Eileen, Kathleen, Joyce, Margaret, Christine, Jean, Margaret, Deborah, Patrick, Fr Connelly, Jean, Vincent, Maureen, Eleanor, Margaret, Robert, Ken, Catorina, Michaela, Tony, Bernard, Elaine, Ellen, Glenes, Sheila, Caroline, Lynne, Joe, Jackie, Gemma, Sheila, Martin, Joanne, John, Joan, Janice, Bill, John, Kenneth, Vera, Lilly, Gerald, May, Louise, Matthew, Evelyn, Margaret, Anthony, Debbie, Mary, Peter, Theresa, Sylvia, Maureen, Johnny, Robin and Steven, Sister Alphonsus, Sister Regina, Nijole, Ken, Stephen, Arthur, Kevin.

Lately Dead: Lucy Chukwu, Joan King, Janus Coucill, Camilla Hanley, Bill Kershaw, Marjorie Shepley, George Boland, Anita Powell, Harvey Ratcliffe, Joan Mannion, Fr Peter Gooden, Fr Colmcille Murphy OFM Conv, Eileen Gavin, Helen Gantley, Pam Wood.

Anniversaries: Bernard Crowley, Mary Croft.

Remembrance: Thomas Scanlon, Felix McLernon, John McGuinness Snr, Charles, Agnes and Ann Geeney, Marie Payne, William and Lilian Hindley, Ethel Francis, Joseph Francis, Tom Finnegan, Paul Flynn.

A special mention: for Fr Patrick McIntyre and Fr Frank Austin (former parish priests of the former Holy cross parish) who are celebrating their Diamond Jubilees. We give thanks for their ministry, and wish them good health in their retirement.

We also pray: for an end to racism in all its forms and for our schools and all our families whether they choose to send their children in to school or to keep them at home. We pray for Dominic and all fathers on Fathers' Day. We pray that human life at every stage will be given the respect which is its God-given due, for all our healthcare workers, for world leaders, for God's guidance and support throughout the Covid-19 crisis and for all those suffering from the disease, for Sr Annie and her projects in Syria, in thanksgiving, for the housebound and those in hospital, nursing and residential homes, for NHS and Care Home workers and a number of special intentions.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

After all the weeks of lockdown and gradual, partial emergence from it, we come to the weekend when our First Communion celebrations would have begun. None of us could have imagined, when the programme started in September and the children began to demonstrate their commitment to the family of God as they gathered in the front benches at each Mass, that everything would come to such an abrupt halt on 23rd March, 13 weeks ago on Monday. Of course, though all church services are suspended and all the obligations associated with them, we are still the same family of God coming together in prayer and worship in new and different ways that again we had never imagined.

Whilst the five scheduled First Communion Masses planned over this weekend and next are all postponed and we currently have no idea when or in what form they may be reinstated, we will still mark the occasion at our online Mass and encourage families to join us either live on Saturday evening, (5pm on [Facebook](#)), or any time from 9am onwards on Sunday morning for Rick's edited and captioned recording via the [website](#), [YouTube](#) or Facebook. (These links will not, of course, work properly until the scheduled times are reached).

Our readings for this week express something of the reality of belonging to the Family of God. It is not even in normal circumstances, but especially during the current pandemic, an easy journey through life—but it is worthwhile. Jeremiah, in our first reading, experiences all manner of difficulties standing up for God's message, but he will not give in. St Paul points out in the second reading that sin and evil are alive in the world—but that Jesus has the power to overcome them. Then, in the Gospel, Jesus tells us to "fear no-one." There are as we know people in the world today who hate what we stand for as Christians. We can even be portrayed as extremists, when we do not jump to embrace every political change to morality, and maintain our stand for the family as the seat of God's love. Let us not be tempted, especially on this day designated as "[Day for Life](#)," to abandon the teachings of Christ but rather, by God's Grace, let us stand by them always with love and kindness in our message, and without fear because Christ is with us at every step. Let us not expect an easy ride, but receive from Him the strength to persevere, and the certain rewards of His Grace.

LETTER FROM BISHOP JOHN

Last week's pastoral letter from Bishop John Arnold to all the people of Salford Diocese is still available via [THIS LINK](#), or you can listen to the Bishop [HERE](#).

PRAY WITH THE CHURCH

(courtesy of Universalis)

Scanning these QR Codes with your smartphone will take you to the key prayers of the Church, and the readings for Mass.

They will always take you to the current day of the week.



Morning Prayer



Evening Prayer



Night Prayer



Mass Readings

MASS TIMES WHEN WE BEGIN AGAIN

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 6.15pm at Holy Cross
Sunday Morning: 9.30am at St Mary's
11.00am at Holy Cross
(usually with Children's Liturgy throughout the academic year)
Refreshments are normally served after Sunday morning Mass at both churches
Sunday Evening: 6.15pm at St Mary's
Weekdays: See Weekday Calendar below
Holydays: As announced beforehand

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Usual times: Friday: 6.30-6.50pm at Holy Cross
Saturday: 11.00-11.45am at St Mary's
and 5.45-6.05pm at Holy Cross
(again, these are currently suspended)

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

by arrangement
At least 6 months' notice is required for weddings, and a time of preparation is also required before Baptism. Please speak to Fr Martin or Sr Jenny when we begin again

Calendar for This Week

Monday—Friday: We will continue to stream our **weekday Masses at 10.00am** each day on our [Facebook Live](#) page

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: Holy Cross Church will be open for private prayer from **3.00-6.00pm**

Saturday (daytime): We will aim to stream 11.00am **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** followed by **12 noon Mass**

Saturday (evening): At **5.00pm** we will stream **Sunday's Mass**, and a higher quality video of the recording will be available on our [YouTube channel](#), and via the "[Daily Mass](#)" page of our website from 9.00am Sunday morning.

REVERSE SIDE of the NEWSLETTER

One side of our parish Newsletter was, as you know, pre-printed by the Redemptorists with the readings of the day and interesting articles to reflect upon before Mass and at home afterwards. This reverse-side is now available online [HERE](#) and also the "Look" leaflet for your children can be found [HERE](#).

THE BIG SLEEP-IN

Another change prompted by the strange times in which we live at present. The "Big Sleep-Out" has been run for a number of years by the Cornerstone Day Centre, with volunteers sleeping out, showing empathy with the homeless and learning something of the difficulties they face as they raise money to help them. For this year, there is no outdoor gathering, and volunteers on Friday 10th July will remain in their own homes—but not in the comfort of their own beds. How does the floor sound? Or a corner under the stairs? It will not be comfortable—it's not meant to be—but why not find out more from Cornerstone, by clicking [HERE](#)?

NO BANK HOLIDAY MASS at WARDLEY CEMETERY

The usual Mass at Wardley which would have taken place on August 31st has been cancelled for this year, because of the uncertainty around restrictions on gatherings.

CALLING for VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS

Thank you to those who have expressed an interest since this appeal began. We are still seeking volunteer Catechists to work with Sr Anna Yeo on our programme of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation once we can arrange gatherings again (and possibly before then, using the means offered by modern technology).

20th/21st June 2020



This week we pray for: the people of the parish of St. Catherine, Didsbury, for Fr. John Hitchen, their parish priest, and for Fr. Michael Deas. We pray for the parish primary school, the Barlow High School, the priests of Opus Dei, the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph and for Francis House.

SUPPORTING the PARISH and OTHER CHARITIES

For those who are able and who wish, the Diocese has set up a simpler way for donations to be made to any **parish** or to any of the **diocesan charities**, by following [this link](#) on the [Diocesan website](#). **Thank you** to all those who have already sent in envelopes or set up new standing orders—this is greatly appreciated. Once again, **please do not look upon this as any form of pressuring you for money**. It is simply given so that those who wish to donate can do so more easily. For those who would like to support the **CAFOD** Coronavirus appeal, please visit: cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal.

BAPTISMS and WEDDINGS

Now we have embarked upon a programme of phased reopening of churches for private prayer, several people are asking about Baptism for their children and about new arrangements for weddings. At the moment, the terms of the reopening specifically prohibit any form of service being held and we are no nearer to knowing when or how public Masses and celebration of the Sacraments will resume. There is good reason for this, as any form of service would concentrate the arrival of a significant number of people at the same time and expose them to danger. The journey towards a new normal has just begun—please let us be patient a little longer.

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS *(Please note that email addresses below can NOT be clicked as links)*

Parish Priest: Fr Martin A Collins GTCL
Telephone: 0161 789 4424
Mobile: 07502 633383
Email: martin.collins@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or via contact form on the parish website.

Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Twemlow
Telephone: 0161 789 4424 (Mon & Tue, 10am-4pm)
Sec. Email: secretary@ourparishcommunity.co.uk
Office Email: office@ourparishcommunity.co.uk

Parish Website: www.ourparishcommunity.co.uk
Facebook: [@ourparishcommunity](#)

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

Parish Halls Hire: Enquiries *after reopening* to Steve Jackson
Telephone: 07580 571839
Email: hall@ourparishcommunity.co.uk

Holy Cross RC Church
370 Liverpool Road
Patricroft
M30 8QD

St Mary's RC Church
Oxford Street
Eccles
M30 0LU

Parish Safeguarding Reps: Katrina Foster/Tara Higgins/Ged Dale
Email: safeguarding@ourparishcommunity.co.uk

Schools:
Holy Cross and All Saints: 0161 789 4386
St Gilbert's: 0161 789 5035
St Mary's: 0161 789 4532
St Patrick's High School: 0161 921 2300

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Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey