



CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN PAUL II, ECCLES

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

28th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 4

Giving Thanks

We hear two stories, in today's readings, of outsiders being cured by God of their affliction with leprosy. Naaman, the Syrian army commander, was more used to entering Israel to take slaves—but now it is his wife's Israelite slave who tells him in his sickness that a prophet in Israel can bring about his healing. He seeks out Elisha, and at first is angered by the simple message he receives merely to bathe seven times in the Jordan. It's too easy! And what's wrong with the water in Syria, anyway? Yet as we hear, he is cured by this simple action and seeks out the prophet once again, to offer thanks.

In the Gospel, it is a Samaritan caught up with nine Israelite lepers who is central to the story. For St Luke, the fact that the man is a foreigner is of particular significance. His Gospel is written, first and foremost, for the Gentiles, and any opportunity he can find to show the power of Jesus at work in foreigners will help his readers understand that they are as much a part of God's plan for the future as are the Jews. Jesus shows no partiality to Jew over Samaritan—all equally are cured of their illness. But it is only the Samaritan who returns to give thanks to God. At a time when racial tensions ran high between the Jews and the Samaritans, the thought that a Samaritan could not only be healed but also be seen to show superior courtesy to that of the Jews was

challenging in itself. But for Luke's first readers it shows how Christ will share the favours of God, not based upon ancestry or noble birth, but freely to all—and all that is asked in return is to give the thanks to God.

But why did the other nine lepers, of Israelite birth—able now to take their place ritually amongst their brothers and sisters for the first time after being long-excluded as 'unclean'—why did they *not* return to give thanks? We will never know, but we must use the story to challenge ourselves and ask how readily do we give thanks to one another, and to God? After all, the very word 'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving'.

Let us celebrate today's Mass with a real gratitude for all God's gifts to us—and let's remember we are each a "gift" to one another, in Christ.

WELCOME!

Today we welcome children and their families from St Mary's Primary school to Sunday's 9.30am Mass—Reception children, GIFT Chaplains and some from Year 6 too. We welcome them at Mass because all our schools are such important parts of our parish, and our school families represent the future of everything we stand for as a parish. Let us all celebrate this opportunity to be together in prayer and in praise of our God.

CAFOD ENVELOPES & RETIRING COLLECTION

CAFOD Family Fast envelopes from last week can be returned over the next 2 weeks with your collection. There will also be a retiring collection today in support of CAFOD following last week's appeal. Thank you for your generosity in support of so many people who are suffering in our world.

OCTOBER—MONTH of the HOLY ROSARY

October is a month dedicated to Our Blessed Lady, with special emphasis on the Rosary. We will recite this prayer each Friday during the final part of the Holy Hour at Holy Cross. Join us, as we call upon Our Lady's help in all of our world's trials.

NEW PARISH ROTAS

We are still preparing to set up integrated rotas to cover Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Stewards/Welcomers for both ends of the parish. If you wish to be involved, please make sure that we have your contact details, and details of what you are able to offer for either church. If you would like to volunteer in any of these roles and are not doing so at present, please contact us and we will be delighted to hear from you. Responses would be appreciated as soon as possible, please, so that we can move forward with this. Thank you!

PARISH MASS FOR THE SICK

Our annual Mass for the Sick takes place this coming Saturday (15th October), 12 noon at St Mary's Church with refreshments afterwards. Volunteers are sought to help with transport or in the hall. Please contact Bob (SVP) directly, or the parish office. Thank you.

LOAVES AND FISHES HARVEST APPEAL

Please see the noticeboard at the back of church for a list of items requested in this appeal to help the homeless.

There is also a Text Giving campaign—you can simply text 'HAR22VEST' to 70085 to donate £3.00 to Salford Loaves and Fishes. Texts cost £3 plus one standard rate message.

PARISH FUNDRAISING

The hamper last week was won by Pauline on ticket 184. Congratulations! Prize Draw results:

£100	165	Anne
£ 30	243	Pauline
£ 20	109	Fran

PIETY SHOPS

Please check out our well-stocked piety shops in both our churches. Besides Fairtrade goods you will also find items for Christmas are now available.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Kevin, Sheila, Paddy, Wieslaw, Peter, Paul, Brian, Dolores, Paul, Dorothy, Janey, baby Rosa, John, Alan, Hugh, Mena, Anthony, Nancy, Andy, Alistair, Benjamin, Sr Lucy, Jim and Mary, Kevin, Susan, Mat and Amelia, David, Jimmy, Bridget, Mark, Tom, Bridie, Maureen, Esther, Peggy, Bridget, Rifa, Barbara, Edna, Ann-Marie, Liz, Stephen, Elizabeth, Irene, Shane, Sidney, Margaret, Carole, Marjorie, Anne, Agnes, Alan, Margaret, Doreen, Peter, Ann, Paul, Allan, Gwyneth, Karen, Kathleen, Pat, Helen, Bridget, Sara, Mary, Carole, Sarah, Alan and Mary, Anne, Patrick, David, Peter, Kevin, Helen, Lynn, Pam and Derek, Pauline, Shannon, John, Chris, Clifford, Mrs Wood, Marian, Bridget, Iris, Pauline, Sharon, Fr Mullin, Paul, Maureen, Pat, David, Terry, Betty, Kathleen, Stanley, Catherine, James, Alan, Evelyn, Elizabeth, Anne, Mary, Joan, Amanda, Pat, Billy, David, Evie, Mary, Chamari, Sheila, Monica, Clare, John, Jackie, Kathleen, Joyce, Margaret, Christine, Jean, Margaret, Deborah, Patrick, Fr Connelly, Jean, Maureen, Eleanor, Margaret, Robert, Ken, Catorina, Michaela, Tony, Elaine, Ellen, Glenes, Caroline, Lynne, Joe, Jackie, Gemma, Martin, Joanne, John, Janice, Bill, John, Vera, Lilly, Gerald, Louise, Matthew, Evelyn, Margaret, Anthony, Debbie, Mary, Peter, Theresa, Maureen, Johnny, Robin and Steven, Nicola, Don, Nijole, Roger Bryan, Ken, Jessie, Stephen, Jean and Mildred.

Lately Dead: Chris Bateman, Nancy Mannion (funeral on Friday at St Mary's), Ronnie d'Sousa, Caroline Redgrave, Maureen Doyle (née McGovern, funeral on Tuesday at St Mary's), Anne Hubble, James Keith, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, Wyn Newton, Sylvia Cody, Dorothy Williamson, Alan Seale, Patricia Weightman, "Papa" from Loaves and Fishes, Maureen Sharrocks, Sr Judith Egan FMSJ, Sheila Reed (née Turner), David Sheffield, Deborah Hughes.

Anniversaries: Annie Smith, Mary Ferm (Birthday Anniversary), Martin Tighe, Bob Higgins (100th Birthday Anniversary, Sunday's 9.30am Mass), Frederick ("Eric") Baillie, Marie Mackie (Birthday Anniversary), Roy Mackie, Jack, Louisa and Ethel Twemlow, Gladys Jackson, Agnes McCarthy (Birthday Anniversary), Jessie Wilde, Leo Melling, Michael Lavin, Eddy and Pat Hosey, Richard (Rick) Jackson, Brian and Margaret Maher, Sheila Mary Tipton, John Michael Lockyer, Peggy and Jeremiah Simpson.

Remembrance: Charles Geeney, Agnes Geeney, Marie Payne, Ann Geeney.

We also pray: for Vera (Birthday), Bill (50th Wedding Anniversary, deceased), for our new King, Charles III, for the Regan family, for Jimmy, for migrants, for the people of Ukraine and all those affected by the war there, for Barbara Keeley, Rebecca Long-Bailey, and all who serve us in Westminster, for peace all around the world, for an end to racism in all its forms. We pray for the Syro-Malabar community, and for each of our schools. We pray for all world leaders, for God's guidance and support throughout these troubled times, for the housebound and those in hospital, nursing and residential homes, for NHS and Care Home workers and for a number of special intentions.

USUAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 6.00pm at Holy Cross
Sunday Morning: 9.30am at St Mary's
11.15am at Holy Cross
*Children's Liturgies are currently suspended
Refreshments after 9.30am Mass at St Mary's*
Sunday Evening: 6.30pm at St Mary's
Weekdays: See Calendar below
Holydays: As announced beforehand

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are *usually* available during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays and Saturdays.
Please check the calendar below

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 refer to the website for further information*

Calendar for This Week

St John Henry Newman Saturday 8th Oct: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) * * Livestreamed
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 9th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
11.15am Mass at Holy Cross (with Fr Nicholas Kumi)
6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's
Monday 10th: *No Mass in the parish on Mondays*
Tuesday 11th: 11.00am Funeral Mass at St Mary's for the late Maureen Doyle (née McGovern)
May she rest in peace
Wednesday 12th: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
Thursday 13th: 10.00am Mass in Holy Cross & All Saints' School with KS2 children. *All welcome*
Friday 14th: 11.30am Funeral Mass at St Mary's for the late Nancy Mannion. *May she rest in peace*
6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament * (with Confessions available)
followed at 6.35pm by recitation of the Rosary for the month of October *
with Mass at 7.00pm, all at Holy Cross *
St Teresa of Avila Saturday 15th: 11.00am Church open for prayer (with Confessions available on request)
followed by **12 noon Mass for the Sick** at St Mary's
6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 16th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
11.15am Mass at Holy Cross with special welcome for
Nursery and Reception children from Holy Cross & All Saints' St Gilbert's Schools
6.30pm Mass at St Mary's
Saturday's Vigil Mass will continue to be available on the [Sunday Mass](#) page of our website on Sunday and throughout the week, and on our [Facebook Page](#). It can also viewed live and during the week on our [YouTube channel](#).

CALLING YEAR 8 FAMILIES—APPLY NOW TO JOIN THE NEW CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME! [CLICK HERE](#) online!

NEW FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME

We continue to welcome at Mass children and families registered for our new First Communion Programme. A formal "Presentation" introducing them to the parish will take place at Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses next weekend (15th/16th October). If you are registered and do not already have a First Communion "Passport," please collect one after Mass. Thank you! Registrations close today (Sunday 9th October).


REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

Refreshments are available after the 9.30am Mass at St Mary's each week. There will also be refreshments served after the 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection in church totalled £589.47. Thank you also to all those who donate by Standing Order, Direct Debit, [online](#) and via the contactless device at the back of Holy Cross Church.

CYCLE of PRAYER

 This week throughout the diocese we pray for the people of the parish of St Edward, Lees, for Fr Callum Brown, and for their parish primary school. As they celebrate the feast of their patron saint this Thursday, may they hold firm to Christ.

TRAINING FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Applicants are invited from Y4 upwards who have completed First Communion and are committed to regular Mass attendance.

SACRAMENTS FOR OLDER CHILDREN & ADULTS

We invite applications from families of children aged 7-13 who are not baptised Catholic and who wish to be received into our Catholic Church family. We also invite adults who are interested in becoming Catholic to get in touch, as our new "RCIA" Programme will also be beginning shortly. Please contact the parish office.

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 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: Marie Twemlow/Anna Raynor/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