



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

32nd
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 4

THE WIDOW'S GENEROSITY

Today's Gospel sees Jesus teaching his disciples, by observing the behaviour of people around the Temple. First of all, he speaks of the Scribes, the renowned experts in the Law. Many of the Scribes doubtless took their responsibilities very seriously and worked hard to teach and instruct the people of God in holiness, but for others their own vanity was at the forefront of their actions. They liked being greeted with respect and treated with honour, and they dressed themselves in splendour to play the part. They liked claiming the places of honour wherever they went. Even when they prayed, these Scribes did not direct their prayers to God but just made a show of them. They would be quick to condemn sinners—but Jesus says that when religious leaders behave in this way their own condemnation will be much more severe.

Next, Jesus observes the other end of the social spectrum. A poor widow, a woman with no status in the society of their day, places two of the smallest coins in circulation into the treasury—where rich people have readily put in so much more. Unlike the attitude of the Scribes he has spoken of before, Jesus' admiration of the giver is not at all based upon how much they give, but instead upon how much they keep back for themselves. The rich people have been giving comfortably of their surplus and, whilst they may feel they are being generous, in reality what they give they will never miss. On the other hand, this poor widow could have put in just one of her coins, but chose instead to give both—everything she had. She could not have given more because she had no more to give. Her gift was a true sacrifice, giving of her all, and this, ultimately, was what Jesus himself would do for us—give his all upon the Cross on Calvary.

So, how far are we willing to go in our generosity? Be it in money or in time or in patience, are we willing to take that extra step, to give until we really feel the lack of what we have sacrificed? Can we to give of ourselves so generously in love that we have no time left to bother about what people think or how they might admire our efforts? Can we be like the poor widow of the Gospel story, or even like Jesus himself? The disciples learned the lessons from Jesus and their lives were transformed. Let us pray that we, too, can be transformed in God's love!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Rosa (baby), Maria (difficult pregnancy), Edna, Linda, Fr Peter CSSP, Ann-Marie, Liz, Stephen, Elizabeth, Irene, Shane, Sidney, Margaret, Carole, Marjorie, Geoff, Anne, Paulina, Agnes, Alan, Margaret, Edward, Peter, Ann, Paul, Allan, Keith, Gwyneth, Joan, Karen, Kenneth, Patrick, Kathleen, Pat, Doreen, Helen, Bridget, Sara, Tara, Mary, Carole, Phil, Carol, Sarah, Alan and Mary, Molly, Anne, Patrick, David, Peter, Kevin, Helen, Lynn, Pam and Derek, Pauline, Shannon, John, Chris, Ann, Patrick, Clifford, Mrs Wood, Frances, Marian, Bridget, Iris, Pauline, Sharon, Fr Mullin, John, Joan, Paul, Peter, Maureen, Pat, Patrick, David, Sister Maureen, Yvonne, Terry, 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, 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, Nicola, Jessie, Don, Nijole, Ken, Stephen, Mildred.

Lately Dead: Patricia Timmins (néé Mallinson), Lefteris Yianni, Baby Amelia Grace Richmond, baby Nayvee Rae Furlong, David Downey, Jack Delaney, Mark Atherton, Sir David Amess MP, Sr Margaret Morgan FMSJ, Gemma Tuck, Harry Else.

Anniversaries: Walter Parkes, Thomas Peters, Antonia and Albert Salvatore, Jack Fagan, Tom Wilde, Mrs Ada Serrapiglia, Martin Ward (Friday's 7.00pm Mass), Colin Brigman, Frederick ("Eric") Baillie, Mary Sewell, Fr Kevin Griffin, Imelda Crowe, Joanne Faulkner (Sunday's 11.15am Mass), Gerard McNamara, Ellen Helps.

Remembrance: Patrick Cromeey, Edna Smith.

We also pray: in thanksgiving, for Nina and Tony (60th Wedding Anniversary), for those who serve us in parliament: Barbara Keeley and Rebecca Long-Bailey, for all our schools, for the people of Afghanistan, for peace all around the world, and for an end to racism in all its forms. We pray for the Syro-Malabar community, for each of our schools, and for our Sacramental Programme families. We pray for all world leaders, for God's guidance and support throughout the Covid-19 crisis and for all those suffering from the disease, for the housebound and those in hospital, nursing and residential homes, for NHS and Care Home workers and for the Ferm family and a number of special intentions.

BAPTISM & COMMUNION PROGRAMMES

Baptisms: Please pray for Blake, who was baptised at Holy Cross last week.

First Communion Programme: Thank you to all those who came along to the meetings last week. We realise that through Covid and other restrictions some were not able to attend, and a recording of the second meeting can now be viewed on YouTube [HERE](#). Downloadable versions of the handouts can be found from the First Communion page of the website [HERE](#)—just scroll down and look under "November Meetings." **The final class for children in non-Catholic schools takes place on Saturday, 2pm at Holy Cross Presbytery.**

CAFOD Prayer for COP26

Loving God,

We praise your name with all you have created.

*You are present in the whole universe,
and in the smallest of creatures.*

*We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us
as stewards of your creation.*

*May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26
as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster
a more sustainable society.*

*Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement
fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable,
and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.*

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.

A men

PARISH PRAYERS FOR COP26

As the COP26 Conference continues, let us also continue in our prayer that bold and radical decisions are made for the common good of all.

Srs Cecily and Jenny invite you to join them for a prayer service with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Gilbert's Presbytery from 1.30-2.30pm on this Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th November. Thank you to all who attended their similar services last week, and to those who came along either in person or online to our service in church last Friday evening, during the second half of our Holy Hour.

We will continue to use the CAFOD prayer cards (as printed above) at Masses. Envelopes for the CAFOD Climate Crisis Appeal (which should have gone out sooner) are also NOW available at the back of church, and may be returned with your collection over the next fortnight.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY SHEET etc

This week's "Look" leaflet for your children can be found [HERE](#). The "Lord's Day at Home" sheet to reflect upon the Mass at home is now available again, and can be viewed and downloaded [HERE](#).

NEW CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2021-22

Sister Anna Yeo has now contacted families who have applied for their children to join the Confirmation Programme, inviting parents to an initial meeting by Zoom on Thursday this week. **If you have not received her communication, please check your spam folders** first, but then please contact the parish office.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS

We are hoping very soon to restart refreshments after Sunday morning Masses. We have a number of volunteers who are "ready to go," but Covid care will bring with it the need for a few more helpers. So, if you would consider helping out on a rota basis, please phone Marie in the parish office on Monday or Tuesday between 11am and 5pm. A big "thank you" also to those offering to resume the support they gave so willingly before the pandemic. (The actual start may be delayed, dependent upon prevalence of the virus).

SUNDAY MASS TIMES from NEXT WEEK

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 6.00pm at Holy Cross
Sunday Morning: 9.30am at Holy Cross
11.15am at Holy Cross

Children's Liturgies are currently suspended
Refreshments after Masses are also currently suspended

Weekdays: See Calendar below
Holydays: As announced beforehand

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions currently available, 11.10-11.45am on Saturdays
in the Parish Meeting Room at Holy Cross (not the Confessional).
Please be guided by the stewards

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—Church Opening in Red

Saturday 6th Nov: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) (Livestreamed)
Sunday 7th: 9.30am Mass at Holy Cross
11.15am Mass at Holy Cross

Monday 8th: Sorry, no Mass on Mondays

(Dedication of the Lateran Basilica) Tuesday 9th:

(St Leo the Great) Wednesday 10th:

(St Martin of Tours) Thursday 11th:

(St Josaphat) Friday 12th:

Saturday 13th:

No weekday Masses this week—please see separate entry

All Services at St Mary's are
suspended during the
renovation works

12 noon Mass at Holy Cross, following a Holy Hour from 11.00am (Livestreamed)
2.00pm First Communion Class at Holy Cross for children in non-Catholic schools
6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) (Livestreamed)

This 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](#). Also, at 6pm (remaining for a short time afterwards) it can be viewed live on our [YouTube channel](#).

NOVEMBER MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Thank you to all those who took part in our special Mass on Tuesday last week, with a special word of thanks to the stewards, musicians, servers, reader, minister, florists and display organisers for all their hard work. All the candles you now see displayed will be lit at each Mass during this month of the Holy Souls in memory of so many loved ones of our parish (and from the wider church family) who have died. There are so many that it has not been possible to keep all the labels on view this year. Please, for safety reasons, do not approach the display and try to look for a particular name—The Lord knows that they are remembered and this is, surely, more important than trying to find one flame among so many. May they rest in peace.

APPLYING FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES?

Please ensure that you specify **3 different Catholic primary schools** in your application, or you may well find your child is allocated a place in the nearest state school and it will be difficult to resolve afterwards.

SCHOOL GOVERNOR APPEAL

The Bishop must rely heavily upon Foundation Governors to support and protect the ethos of all of our Catholic Schools. The work of governors can be challenging at times, but is also very rewarding for those able and willing to give of their energies. If you feel you might be able to spare the time to help in such an important role, and if you are willing to undertake appropriate training (which the diocese will provide), please speak to Fr Martin. Thank you.

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection in church totalled £411.25. Thank you for your continued generosity in these difficult times, and thank you to all who donate [online](#), by the contactless device in church or by standing order.

CYCLE of PRAYER



This week we pray, throughout the Diocese, for the people of the parish of St Peter, Stonyhurst, and for Father Timothy Curtis, their parish priest.

We pray for the staff and students of their parish primary school and of Stonyhurst College.

May they learn to see Christ in all things.

LOAVES AND FISHES

With the relaxing of worry over contact transmission of the Coronavirus (and the clearer scientific evidence of its major transmission through the air) we can now safely resume collecting tins of food etc for Loaves and Fishes to assist in their invaluable work for the homeless. A box will be placed at the back of church again, and anything you can bring would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

NO WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK

Whilst Fr Martin is away (and out of communication) there will be no weekday Masses in the parish. If you need a priest in an emergency, please contact Fr John on 07880 321694. Masses are set to resume on Saturday lunchtime (with the quiet Holy Hour beforehand).

PIETY SHOP

The shop is now open again, though with restriction to one household at a time inside. **Christmas stocks** are now available, including HCPT Christmas cards (profits from which help to take children with disabilities to Lourdes at Easter). All HCPT enquiries, please, to Ellen, our organist at the 11.15 Mass.

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](https://www.facebook.com/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: 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