



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

17th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 1

WHERE IS OUR TREASURE?

Jesus speaks to us today about "treasure" and encourages us to think about who and what we treasure in our daily lives. It seems strange in the Gospel that the people we hear about were prepared to sacrifice everything they had, simply to obtain that one thing they were looking for—buying the field, possessing the great pearl—but if, for them, the treasure they have found really means their search in life is now over, then the cost they must bear is indeed justified. The question we then ask ourselves is: "what cost am I willing to bear to find and hold on to my dearest treasure?" And indeed "what is my dearest treasure?"

In our traditional Catholic piety, we often tell Jesus in prayer and in song that he is our greatest desire in life, and we offer all we have and are to him. And we want to mean every word—yet we then feel so easily disappointed with ourselves when we fail to live up to what we declare. Why?

Maybe our prayer should begin nearer to home. If we want to put Jesus first, where do we find him? Where do we meet Our Lord in our daily lives? First and foremost, we meet him in one another—in our families, our friends and our communities—in the hearts of those who care for us, and of those who need our care. Making Jesus our "treasure" is not about giving up on the world—it is about learning to treasure all he has given us to love: in our homes and our families, in the caring communities we must create. If we seek and find Our Lord, present deeply in our human relationships, then we are well on the way to placing His Kingdom first, and to getting our priorities right at last.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Monica, Robert, Doreen, Bethan, Adam, Eamonn, Jackie, Julie Ann, Josie, Bernard, William, Marion, Michael, Vincent, Colleen, Peter, Geoff, Margaret, Pat, Danny, Pauline, Joanne, Michael, Natalie, Edna, Veronica, Sheila, Stephen, Juliana, Wieslaw.

Lately Dead: Bernard Payne, Ada Glynn, Marie Garside CBE (former headteacher of St Ambrose Barlow RC High School), Terence ("Tex") Ferguson, Kathleen McCormick, Barbara Smith (née Adams), Bridget ("Breda") Doyle, Grace Noblett, Bro Tom Quinn MHM.

Anniversaries: Pat McNamara, Betty Adams, Maureen Duffy (Birthday Anniv), Mary Kelly (Birthday Anniv), Edward Kelly, Helen Shannon (Birthday Anniv), Thomas Roddy, Jim Kelly, Sheila Carlos, Terry Smith (96th Birthday Anniv), Brian Slater, Séan Fanning (Birthday Anniv), Barbara Hampton (54th Wedding Anniv), Maureen Yellop (Birthday Anniv).

Remembrance: Mary and Terry Smith (67th Wedding Anniv), Jessie Collins, James Yellop, Michael and Mary Lambert, Nora and William Yellop.

We also pray: for Pope Leo, for those affected by the Venezuelan Earthquakes, for the Jewish Community, for the people of Iran, Lebanon and all the Middle East, the people of Ukraine and all those affected by the wars there, for other countries suffering unrest, for the Christians of Nigeria, for migrants and refugees, for children suffering from poverty, for the victims of modern slavery, for the success of the Diocesan and Universal Synods, for Michael Wheeler, Rebecca Long-Bailey and all who serve us in Westminster, for our local Councillors, for an end to racism in all its forms. We pray for Fr Stanto and the Syro-Malabar Mission of St Euphrasia based at St Mary's, 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.

POPE LEO'S INTENTION for the MONTH of JULY

"For respect for human life." Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

OUR SINCERE BEST WISHES...

...to Rosemary and John and their children (two of whom are Altar Servers in the parish) who are now moving away from the area. Our loss will certainly be another parish's gain! We thank them all for their dedication and willing service to the church over the past several years, and wish them well in the next chapter of their lives.

NAMES ON OUR SICK LIST

There are some people on our prayer list about whom we have not heard any updates for a while. If they still need our prayers we will, of course, keep their names on the list, but if we do not hear over the next couple of weeks, names will be removed. They can, of course, be added again if necessary.

THE CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Are you a doctor, nurse, student, or allied professional? If you are a Catholic in healthcare, you are invited to join the Catholic Medical Association and grow in fellowship, prayer and formation together. For more information & upcoming events, visit: <https://catholicmedicalassociation.org.uk>

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- We have received three more donations for the Summer Fair. Thank you! The total now stands at £2,047.91.
- The next monthly prize draw will take place on Sunday, August 2nd after the 9.30 Mass at St Mary's. Members are reminded that their subscription must be up to date to be eligible for a prize.

DIOCESAN SYNOD PRAYER

As we progress through the implementation stages of the Universal and Diocesan Synods, please use the Synod Prayer whenever you can, praying for each other and for the wider Diocesan community:

Loving Father,
be with us as we seek new ways
of being your people in our Diocese.
May each new day bring us
closer to your son Jesus,
as we follow his teaching and
become disciples of love.
As we continue our Synodal journey,
draw us closer to each other.
May the truth of your Spirit enlighten us.
Open our hearts, as we listen to each other
and reach out in love to your people.
Stay with us, Lord, on our journey. **Amen.**

A HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUEST

The "default" position for kneelers in both churches is DOWN. If you need to raise them to move into or out of the bench, please ensure they are then lowered immediately. They can cause serious injury to the young and to the elderly if they fall. **If you need help to adjust a kneeler, please speak to one of the stewards, who will be happy to assist you.**

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 Liturgy at most 11.15am Masses
Refreshments are normally served after 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
and as announced after 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross
Sunday Evening: 6.30pm at St Mary's
The 6.30pm Mass is kept quiet to be autism-friendly
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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sat 25th July: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
 Sunday 26th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross
 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Stanto)
 Monday 27th: *No Mass in the parish on Mondays*
 Tuesday 28th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus Wed 29th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
 Thursday 30th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
St Ignatius Loyola Friday 31st: 6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament /Confessions followed by
 6.40pm Chaplet of the Precious Blood for the month of July and
 7.00pm Benediction and Mass (with Fr Dermot), all at Holy Cross
St Alphonsus Sat 1st August: 11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Confessions available)
 followed by 12 noon Benediction and Mass, all at St Mary's
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 2nd: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross
 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Stanto)

Saturday's Vigil Mass will continue to be available on the [Live!](#) page of our website on Sunday and throughout the week, and on our [Facebook Page](#). It can also be viewed live and during the week on our [YouTube channel](#).

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Thank you for last week's collection of £830.29. The retiring collection raised £362.57 for the work of the SVP. Thank you also to all those who donate to the parish by Standing Order, Direct Debit, [online](#) and via the contactless devices at the back of both Churches. Scan the QR Code, (right), if you would like to donate to the parish today.



RETIRING COLLECTIONS

There will be no retiring collection this week or next.

CYCLE of PRAYER



This week throughout the diocese we pray for the parish of St Peter and St Thomas More, Middleton and for Father Boniface Ambe, MSSCC, and Father Sunday Ihueze, MSSCC. We pray for their parish primary schools.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Please ensure that your children are supervised to and from the toilet. Please help us to keep them safe at all times. Thank you!

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

(Please note that email addresses below can NOT be copied 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: rosemarie.twemlow@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
Newsletter: newsletter@ourparishcommunity.co.uk
Parish Website: www.ourparishcommunity.co.uk
Facebook: @ourparishcommunity
YouTube: www.youtube.com/ParishofStJohnPaulIIEcclcs/
Parish Halls Hire: Enquiries to Steve Jackson, Hall Manager
Telephone: 07580 571839—please leave a voicemail
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 567 9012 (note, new number)
 St Mary's: 0161 789 4532
 St Patrick's High School: 0161 921 2300

SRCDT Registered Charity No 250037
www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey