

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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YEAR B

Morning Prayer Week 2

BREAD FROM HEAVEN

The crowds are back, after their experience in last week's Gospel of Jesus feeding their every need from the meagre resources of a poor man's lunch. They had wanted to make him king, a king who would not lord it over them, but they had misunderstood his message of service. Now as they find him again, he makes the meaning of the miracle more clear.

After all, though the meal had begun with five barley loaves and two fish, the unfolding of the story makes it clear that the bread held the greater significance. And to the early readers of Mark's Gospel, the link with the Eucharist could not be escaped. Now, Jesus does not ask the crowds to respect the power he has shown in the meal he provided - he asks rather for their Faith: Faith in his ability to provide them with food that will last forever.

The people want a sign, like the sign given by Moses in the desert. Of old, the Israelites had asked Moses for a sign that God still cared about them, as in their hunger they remembered (through rose tinted spectacles!) the slaves' rations they had received at the hand of the Egyptians, and thought to turn back. God had responded then by providing manna in the desert, and Jesus reminds the crowds now that this response had not come from Moses but from God.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Margaret, Elaine, Ellen, Alec, Glens, Mary, Stephen, Sheila, Sr Cecily, Caroline, Lynne, Joe, David, Angela, Jackie, Christopher and Clifford, Mary, Gemma, Rosa, John, Sheila, 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, Mavis, Maureen, Johnny, Robin and Steven, Vanessa, Lyndsay, Stephen, Bernard, Jack and Joan, Kevin.

Lately Dead: Fleur Ryan (Fr Michael Ryan's mother), Maureen Jackson, Rita Hughes, Paul Dominic Albert, Barbara Banks, Annette Bradley, Colin Ballantyne.

Anniversaries: Harold Yates, Kevin Durkin, Thomas Roddy, Christopher and Agnes Murray, Helen Shannon, Paddy Ward, Edward Kelly, Maureen Duffy, Marie Payne.

Remembrance: Maureen Duffy, Mary Kelly, William and Lilian Hindley.

We also pray: in thanksgiving, for all families away on holiday, for world peace, for the people of Southern Cameroon, for Bishop John and the restructuring of our diocese, for the housebound and those in hospital, nursing and residential homes, and for a number of special intentions.

Now Jesus compares himself with that manna in the desert. He is the true Bread from Heaven, the one who can provide for them - and for us - food that will indeed last forever.

But the crowds still do not understand. They see no further than the miracle they have witnessed, and imagine Jesus multiplying loaves again and again to give them an inexhaustible supply of food. But what he is offering now is himself: "He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst."

Can the crowds bring themselves to believe? Can we? Whatever hardships there may be to bear, whatever sufferings to endure, can we truly recognise Jesus as the one who brings all the healing we need?

In times of comfort, Faith is easy. We can accept the love of God without question, and there is no challenge to our belief that he is near. We only really experience our need for Faith when times are hard, when our minds are racked with questions and doubts, and when there is no rational way to see the presence of a God of Love in our midst. Can we find Faith in the midst of wildfires, catastrophic storms, earthquakes or persecutions? Such are the times when Our Lord's call to receive him as the true Bread from Heaven will have the greatest meaning. This is food that will last, that will help us persevere, come what may - remembering his promises and trusting in him to give answer in his own way, as he alone knows best. Let us pray for this kind of Faith ourselves, and for the grace to share it with our brothers and sisters in their need.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CERTIFICATES

...are still available for collection after Mass by those who have been away. Just speak to Fr Martin. (These will only be made available at church, and will not be distributed any other way).

The photograph of each group, taken at the end of the First Communion Masses, is available and can be viewed and ordered at the back of church at £2.00 for the A4 size or £1.00 for a smaller 7x5" print. Please speak to Fr Martin. Orders placed so far are all available for collection.

READERS THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Daniel, Veronica
9.00am: Please log in or see list in church
10.30am: Christina, Julius

OFFERTORY

Collection: 28th/29th July See print version
Apostleship of the Sea See print version

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

This week: SVP monthly collection
Next week: No retiring collection next week

The "Whisky Bottle" will be left out at the back of Holy Cross Church for donations towards the forthcoming alterations/refurbishments. Please see separate entry

- 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

Saturday (Vigil Mass):	6.30pm at Holy Cross
Sunday Morning:	9.00am at St Matthew's 10.30am at Holy Cross (with Children's Liturgy throughout the academic year) <i>Tea and Coffee are served after both morning Masses</i>
Weekdays:	See Weekday Calendar below
Holydays:	10.00am 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 and
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 6th August)

Monday:	(9.30am) Funeral Mass at St Hugh of Lincoln, Altrincham , for Mrs Fleur Ryan. May she rest in peace
Tuesday:	9.00am Morning Prayer at St Matthew's followed by 9.15am Mass 10.15am – 12.30pm Knitting Club at St Matthew's
Wednesday:	10.15am Funeral Mass at Holy Cross for the late Wilf Gunton. May he rest in peace.
Thursday:	9.00am Morning Prayer at St Matthew's followed by 9.15am Mass
Friday:	6.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross followed by 7pm Mass and Divine Mercy
Saturday (day):	11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Matthew's followed by 12 noon Mass and Novena

Mrs FLEUR RYAN RIP

It is with sadness that we report the death last week of Mrs Ryan, the mother of the late Fr Michael Ryan who served this parish faithfully for the last six years of his life. Fleur's funeral will take place this Monday (6th August) at the church of **St Hugh of Lincoln**, 314 Manchester Road, Altrincham, WA14 5NB, at 9.30am. There will be no Mass at Holy Cross on this day, and we will assist anyone wishing to travel to the funeral (taking the parish minibus if necessary).

ANNUAL PARISH MASS FOR THE SICK

Our annual Mass for the Sick, organised by the SVP, will take place at St Matthew's Church at 12 noon on **Saturday 8th September** with refreshments served afterwards.

OBERAMMERGAU 2020

A few weeks ago we advertised the details of a proposed pilgrimage to Oberammergau for the ten-yearly Passion Play in 2020. By the end of this month we will need to know how many people may be interested, as the rates we have been given are dependent upon at least 15 people travelling and registration needs to be this far in advance. A meeting will be announced next week for anyone who would like to register.

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS

...at St Mary's Cemetery, Wardley. This will take place on Bank Holiday Monday (27th August) at 11.00am. See poster for details.

WEDDING LAST WEEK

Rachael and Michael would like to thank Fr Martin and the choir for delivering a beautiful wedding service. Sincere thanks.

4th/5th August 2018

As we journey together in Hope as a Diocese, we pray for the parishes of:



- The Holy Family, New Springs, with Fr Foulkes
- St Mary's, Oswaldtwistle with Fr O'Brien
- We remember their primary schools and Mount Carmel College, Accrington.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us all to become Missionary Disciples.

ALTERATIONS/REFURBISHMENTS at HOLY CROSS

Details of the scheduled works, discussed and approved at the parish Finance Committee and with Salford Diocese, are available on the "Current" noticeboard at the back of Holy Cross Church. They will bring us into line with regulations for disability access and facilities, as well as health and safety compliance, and will also benefit everyone by improving the welcome we can offer and enhancing the general environment in the church. The works, at present out to tender, are expected to cost around £90,000, so it is perhaps prudent to ask for a little support towards the cost. The "Whisky Bottle" you have seen before will be made available at the back of church for any donations, which will be gratefully received. Thank you! (Works should commence early in September).

JOB VACANCY at St GILBERT'S SCHOOL

A Welfare Assistant is sought, 7.5 hours per week, term time only, from September. Please contact the school on 5th September for an application form. (Contact details below).

ANNUAL ROSARY and HYMNS

This annual event at Platt Fields, Manchester with gospel singer Tom McCourt will take place on Saturday 8th September at 3.00pm. Free ice cream! For further details, please see the notice at the back of church.

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

Community Hall: Enquiries to Steve Jackson
Telephone: 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

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

Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey