



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 healing. He seeks out Elisha, and at first is angered by the message he receives simply 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 non-Jewish people will help his readers understand that they are as much a part of God's plan for the future as are the Jews themselves. 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 superiority or 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 that we 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.

ROSARY for the MONTH of OCTOBER

Pope Leo has encouraged the faithful to join in praying the Rosary for peace in these troubled times. Throughout this month of the Holy Rosary, the second half of our Friday Holy Hour at Holy Cross will be dedicated to recitation of the Rosary at 6.30pm. Why not come along early and join in the time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament first?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Colleen, Peter, Geoff, Elizabeth, Jan, Lauren, Margaret, Susan, Pat, Bernard, Danny, Pauline, Joanne, Michael, David Boardman, Nattalie, Edna, Veronica, Sheila, Stephen, Juliana, Wieslaw.

Lately Dead: Hugh Patrick McElroy, Eddie O'Brien, Kathleen Whittall, Mary Theresa Griffin.

Anniversaries: Gerard McNamara, Philip Jordan, Imelda Crowe, Elizabeth Royle, George Young, Garry McCarthy, Annie Smith, Eddie and Pat Hosey, Gladys Jackson, Agnes McCarthy (Birthday Anniv), Steven Walker, George Sewell (Birthday Anniv), Jessie Wilde (Birthday Anniv).

Remembrance: Sheila and George Devlin, John Payne, Josephine Doherty, Mary Ferm, Ann Geeney, Kennedy and McDonnell families.

We also pray: for migrants and refugees, for Cath and Ray (Golden Wedding), Fr Paul Chisnall, ordained priest last week, for Arlene (50th Birthday thanksgiving), the Brunt family, for those affected by the Heaton Park Synagogue attack, for the cancellation of world debt, for the people of the Middle East and Ukraine and all those affected by the wars there, for other countries suffering unrest, 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 peace all around the world, 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.

JUBILEE PRAYER

Please use the Jubilee Prayer whenever you can:



Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity
enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new heaven
and a new earth,
when, with the powers of evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace
spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. **Amen.**

JUBILEE HYMN

At several of our Masses you will have become used to hearing the choir singing the "Jubilee Hymn" being used internationally for this Jubilee Year. The refrain is now printed below, for you to join in.

**Like a flame my hope is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.**

PRESENTATION of CERTIFICATES

We continue this week with celebrations of "welcome" for our primary schools, having begun with Holy Cross & All Saints' and St Mary's over the last couple of weeks. First Holy Communion certificates for Y4 children are also being presented at these Masses. The schedule, aiming to complete these actions before the schools break up for mid-term, will be as follows:

- This weekend (Saturday 11th October)—special welcome for children and families at non-Catholic schools who are still valued members of our parish, with presentation of their First Holy Communion certificates (and also all of the Junior Reception certificates) at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass at Holy Cross. (Any Y4 children unable to attend on their allocated day can also receive their First Holy Communion certificate at this Mass).
- This weekend (Sunday 12th October)—presentation of Confirmation certificates to our Y9 children at the 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross.
- Sunday 19th October—special Welcome for the children and families of St Gilbert's School with presentation of their First Holy Communion certificates at the 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross.

HCPT QUIZ NIGHT

A sincere thank you to all who supported this event and made it so enjoyable. Thank you also to those who gave donations. £752 was raised, which will be used to support helpers who struggle to find the £1,200 fare as they support the children on pilgrimage.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- This month's winners of the Monthly Prize Draw are:

£ 100	188	Sarah Y
£ 30	102	Anne S
£ 20	186	Irene D
- The 50:50 will be drawn this Sunday, 12th October after the 9.30 Mass at St Mary's.
- The parish Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 6th December at St Mary's. More details to follow.

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 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
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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sat 11th October: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday with presentation of certificates) *
 Sunday 12th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross (Fr Nicholas) with presentation of Confirmation Certificates
 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's
 Monday 13th: *No Mass in the parish on Mondays* * Livestreamed
 Tuesday 14th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross (with Fr Jan)
 2.00pm Pro-Life Rosary at St Gilbert's Presbytery—All welcome
 Wednesday 15th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross
 Thursday 16th: 11.30am Funeral Mass at Holy Cross for the late Mary Griffin—*May she rest in peace*
 Friday 17th: 6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Confessions * followed by
 6.30pm Rosary for the month of October * and
 7.00pm Benediction and Mass, all at Holy Cross *
St Luke, Evangelist Saturday 18th: 11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Confessions available)
 followed by 12 noon Benediction and Mass, all at St Mary's
 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 19th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross—"Welcome" Mass for St Gilbert's School
 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's

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 £1,032.81.
 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. Thank you!



RETIRING COLLECTIONS

This week: SVP monthly collection.
 Next week: "Missio" for World Mission Sunday.

ASSISTED SUICIDE—further action requested!

Sending a physical letter carries particular weight with Members of the House of Lords. *Right To Life UK* has created a simple tool that generates personalised letters to Peers, each focused on a specific area of concern. You can then print them, or copy them out by hand, sign, and post them. Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

CYCLE of PRAYER



This week throughout the diocese we pray for the people of the parish of St Joseph, Longsight and St Edward's, Rusholme, for Fr Samuel Agbeme, and Fr Armand, for the SMA Fathers, and the priests of Opus Dei. We pray for the parish primary schools and for Xavarian Sixth Form College.

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!

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.**

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

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