



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

All
Saints'
Day

Daily
Prayer
Week 3

CELEBRATING THE SAINTS

Whilst the secular world celebrates Halloween—"All Hallows Eve" (or the eve of All Saints)—our celebration of this great day is an altogether different kind of event. Our thoughts are not of ghosts and masked figures—no "Trick or Treat?" call, no fear of black cats to cloud our view of saintliness. Instead we call to mind those who have paved the way for us to God's promise of eternity. But who are the Saints we celebrate today? What does it take to be a Saint?

Jesus describes the hallmarks of saintliness in today's Gospel. Blessed are: ... the poor in spirit ... the gentle ... those who mourn ... those who hunger and thirst for what is right ... the merciful ... the pure in heart ... the peacemakers ... those who are persecuted in the cause of right ... all who suffer on account of the Gospel—these are saints, and to these the Kingdom of God belongs. But no-one, not even the greatest saint in heaven, has achieved all these things without some slip-ups along the way. No-one but Christ himself, and the sinless one chosen above all others to be his mother. For everyone else whom we call "Saint" there is a catalogue of human weakness (often, in the case of the apostles, reported clearly in the Gospels)—weakness ultimately overcome by real trust in the name of Jesus Christ. The saints are real people, not super-human beings. They are like us, and like so many of our loved ones who have gone before us.

Tomorrow (Monday) we celebrate the remembrance of all the Holy Souls—those who have not yet attained the perfect vision of God's glory but who are on the final stage of the journey that will lead them there. Once that journey is completed, they will be saints like any others whose names are sung by the Church. How do we know the difference, in our own loved ones, between a Saint and a Holy Soul? The answer is, we do not know. And, beyond the constraints of space and time, in an eternity above our comprehension, it need not concern us. None of our prayers for the dead are wasted, and nor is our joyful celebration of the saints we have known premature. Let us rejoice, today, in God's promise of resurrection for all who trust in Him. And let us pray for the grace one day to be numbered amongst them!

REMEMBRANCE

Official poppies are on sale at each of the churches.

NOVEMBER—MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Our annual Mass for the dead will take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday November 10th at St Mary's Church. This Mass is held in remembrance of all those who have died and most especially those who have died in the past 12 months. Candles will be made available (at £3.00 to cover costs) which will be lit in front of the Altar on the day and then transferred to the Sacred Heart Chapel and lit again at Masses throughout the month of November. If you would like to arrange for a candle to be prepared in advance, please phone Marie in the parish office during office hours on Monday or Tuesday. Otherwise, you are welcome to arrange for a candle when you arrive at the church—please aim to arrive ½–¾ hour before the Mass starts, as much preparation is needed at this stage. Those who have lost loved ones in the past 12 months are, so far as our records allow, being individually invited, and these families will be invited to bring their candle (one candle per family) forward in procession as the name of their loved one is read out. For others, the candles (again one per bereaved family, please, to keep the process manageable), will be set in place at the front of the church as the Mass begins. If you know of anyone who might like to take part in this special act of remembrance, please let them know about it.

INTERNATIONAL MASS

Our next International Mass will be the 9.30am Mass at St Mary's on Sunday 15th November. Thank you to all those who have volunteered to contribute to the many languages and cultures we hope to include, both in the Mass itself and in the refreshments in the hall which will follow. There will be rehearsals to prepare the music on Thursdays, 5th and 12th November at 7.00pm, these rehearsals taking place at Holy Cross. All welcome.

PIETY SHOPS NOW STOCKED FOR CHRISTMAS

Please check out our piety shops, which are now stocked with Christmas cards and other Christmas goods.

CONGRATULATIONS

...to Helen and Andrew, married at St Mary's Church on Friday.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Calling families with children in Year 8 (or above) seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation. The introductory letter and application form is available through our local Catholic High Schools, on the Confirmation page of the parish website or as printed copies available at church. **The closing date for applications is coming up this Friday**, and our applications so far are well down on previous years—please act now!! Thank you.

RECENT MISSION APPEAL

With online and contactless donations now taken into account, the recent appeal on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul raised a wonderful total of £1,234.75. Thank you for your generosity.

POPE LEO'S INTENTION for this month

"For the proper use of wealth." Pope Leo XIV dedicates his November prayer intention to praying that people may not succumb to the temptation of selfishness, and that wealth may always be put at the service of the common good and in solidarity with those who have less.

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.**

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Pope Leo, Hugh, Veronica, Marlou, Philip, Sarah, Janet, Dave, Michael, Margaret, Colleen, Tayo, Kathleen, John, Monica, Robert, Doreen, Adam, Jackie, Julie Ann, Pauline, Natallie, Edna, Sheila, Juliana.

Latently Dead: Sr Margaret Bernadette Tutti FMSJ, Marie Conlan, Vincent Kelly, Mary O'Regan, Teresa Lai Kuen Chan, Bridget Stafford, Tony Scott.

Anniversaries: Ada Serapiglia, Henry Costello, Fr Kevin Griffin, Mary McGrory, Gerard McNamara, Elizabeth Royle, Patricia Timmins (née Mallinson), Tony Scott (Birthday Anniv), Ellen Ward (Wednesday's Mass), Michael and Francis Lavin.

Remembrance: Loduvico, Nilo, Ludy, Porferio, Mamerta, Rolando, Robin, Merla, and Ronie Sudoy, Crecenciano, Pacencia, Victoriano, Desederio, Rogelio, Rodolfo, Rodolfo, Crispin, Helie, Rodolfo Jr and Rommel Jalea.

We also pray: for Helen and Andrew (just married), for Pope Leo, 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, in thanksgiving for Mario (Jnr) and his wife, Nikol and family 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 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 parish website for further information

Calendar for This Week

<i>All Saints</i>	Sat 31st Oct:	6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
	Sunday 1st Nov:	9.30am Mass at St Mary's with Welcome for children not in our primary schools 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross with Welcome for children not in our primary schools 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Dermot)
<i>All Souls</i>	Monday 2nd:	2.00pm Monthly Prayer Group in St Mary's Sacristy
	Tues 3rd:	9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
<i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	Wed 4th:	9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
	Thursday 5th:	9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross with KS2 from Holy Cross & All Saints' School
	Friday 6th:	6.00pm Quiet Prayer (with Confessions available) followed by 7.00pm Benediction and Mass, at Holy Cross (with Fr Nicholas)
	Sat 7th:	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) *
<i>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Sunday 8th:	9.30am Mass at St Mary's 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross (with Fr Nicholas) 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's

* Livestreamed

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 £761.19. The recent Missio retiring collection raised £272.76 and the CAFOD Family Fast collection raised £402.00. 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.



FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- A major fundraising initiative will be run over the next 3 weeks in the parish, beginning this weekend, and including a parish meeting on Wednesday 11th November, 7.00pm at Holy Cross. Please take a copy of the handout ("Funding Review Report, Week One") as you leave, which has questions upon we invite you to reflect. There will be another handout next weekend. Thank you for all the support you give to the parish.
- The Christmas Fair will be held on 12th December in St Mary's hall. Raffle tickets will go on sale from 31st October. If you have any items to donate to the fair please leave them at the back of church.
- The next monthly prize draw will take place after the 11.15am Mass today (Sunday) at Holy Cross. Members are reminded that their subscription must be up to date to be eligible for a prize.

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!

CYCLE of PRAYER

This week throughout the diocese we pray for the parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Westhoughton, for Fr Christopher Dawson, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school.



WELCOME for CHILDREN NOT IN OUR SCHOOLS

Welcome Masses (and presentation of First Holy Communion certificates) for children not in our parish primary schools at 9.30am and 11.15am Masses today (Sunday 1st November).

CATECHIST-LED FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

All families on the First Holy Communion of Junior Reception programmes should have received an email on Friday 23rd October at around 3.30pm announcing these meetings. Please check your Spam folder if you haven't found it yet, and please whitelist the sender!

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
 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