

**HOLY CROSS, PATRICROFT  
and  
ST MATTHEW'S, WINTON**

Holy Cross Presbytery, 370 Liverpool Rd, Patricroft,  
Eccles, Manchester M30 8QD

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Secretary's hours: Mon and Wed 10.00am – 4.00pm

*Holy Cross and All Saints RC Primary School: 0161 789 4386*

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**Feast of "The Baptism of the Lord"**

**Psalter Week 2 and Proper of Seasons**

**MASS AND SERVICE TIMES**

**5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

		Holy Cross	St Matthew's
<b>Monday</b>	<i>Christmas Service of Word and Communion</i>	9.15am	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Christmas Weekday Mass		9.15am
<b>Wednesday</b>	Christmas Weekday Mass	9.15am	
<b>Thursday</b>	Christmas Weekday Mass		9.15am
<b>Friday</b>	Rosary Christmas Weekday Mass	6.40pm 7.00pm	
<b>Saturday</b>	Benediction Christmas Weekday Mass Devotions to the Perpetual Succour		11.50am 12noon after Mass
<b>Saturday (Vigil)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	6.30pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	11.30am	9am

**Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9am**

**Reconciliation: Saturday 11.15am – 11.45am at St. Matthew's**

**Saturday 5.45pm – 6.10pm at Holy Cross**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

**Saturday 11am – 11.50am at St. Matthew's**

**SVP:** Next SVP meeting is this Monday (5<sup>th</sup> January) at 7pm at St. Matthew's Presbytery. January's retiring collection takes place this weekend.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: 11<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009.**

The cost is approx £700 - only when all flights have been booked can a final price be given. The price is on a B&B basis in a hotel near St. Peter's and includes a day trip to Assisi. See Fr. Michael for a booking form - deposit is £180. The single supplement is £171.50.

**N.B. Final booking deadline is tomorrow (January 5<sup>th</sup>).**  
After this date you will have to book with Mancunia direct.

**CHRISTMAS GRAND DRAW:** The final total raised after expenses was £1456.00. Each parish will get £728. Many thanks for a fantastic result.

**SOCIAL & PASTORAL GROUP**

Next meeting is **this Thursday** 8<sup>th</sup> January 7pm in our Parish Hall.  
At this meeting will we be planning for the year ahead.  
Would be nice to see some new faces.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**SICK:** Bill Hand; Fred Johonnett; Stephen Curley; Louise Curley; Michael Duffy; Winifred Strenstrom; Maureen Lundy; Winnie Roddy; Joe Cawley; baby Oliver Williams; baby Peter Mark Carey; Mona Lindley; Anne Boyne; Marie Thompson; Catherine Ashton; Lily Prescott; Chris McHugh; Anne Rourke; Josie Brennan; Chris Baines; Dorothy Pirie; Philomena Noone; Margaret Ward; John Bosco Whitehead; Cecilia McFarlane; Don McCorrison and Annie Nugent. Please also remember the housebound, all in hospital, nursing and residential homes; Mgr. Paul Smith; Canon Denis Clinch; Fr. Patrick Keane; Fr. John Reynolds; Fr. Aidan O'Reilly; Fr. Michael Hoare; Fr. Michael Twomey; Fr. Edmund Willoughby SJ and Fr Michael Hartley.



**ANNIVERSARIES:** Gilbert Fowler, Shirley Beckett, Christina Wilkinson, Maureen Pitchford, Winifred Walsh, Mary Lambert, Michael Lambert, Paul Ryan, Teresa St. John.

**LATELY DEAD:**

Brenda Roles, Roy Edwards, Dorothy Wilkinson, Fr. Simon OFM and Kathleen Bennett whose funeral is on Tuesday at 12.20 at Peel Green Cemetery Chapel.

***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.***

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:**

<b>HOLY CROSS</b>	<b>ST MATTHEW'S</b>
<b>£364.13</b>	<b>£332.38</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS: £728.48</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS: £710.77</b>

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **Christmas Musical Evening** – today (4<sup>th</sup> Jan) 7pm at St. Matthew's.
- **Parish Social and Pastoral Group** – this Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Jan in Parish Hall.
- **Churches together in Eccles "United Service for Christian Unity Week"** – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January – 7.00pm at Holy Cross.
- **Quiz Night** – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February – 7.30pm in Parish Hall.
- **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham** – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

**ABC FAITH GROUP:** Our meetings will resume this Wednesday – 7.15pm at the Presbytery.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** Sr. Rita from Salford Children's Rescue will be giving the training sessions to those who wish to be part of the Bereavement Support Group that we hope to set up in the parish. Before it begins she would like to meet the volunteers. Therefore, a get together has been arranged for **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am in the Parish Hall.** It will have finished by 11.00am. If you will be coming can you let Fr. Michael know as soon as possible.

### **CHRISTMAS MUSICAL EVENING**

"An Evening of Inspirational and Seasonal Music" will take place

**TODAY (4<sup>th</sup> JAN)**

at St. Matthew's – begins 7pm.

**Tickets on sale after Mass at St. Matthew's and Holy Cross.**

If you have not already got tickets you can pay at the door.

**SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:** This year the Churches Together in Eccles Service of Prayer for Christian Unity is taking place at Holy Cross Church. It is on *Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January* at 7.00pm. As we are the hosts it would be nice to have a good turn out from both parish communities.

**WHISKEY BOTTLE:** Please continue to put any spare loose change into the whiskey bottle at the back of Holy Cross. At the moment we are collecting for a small credence table (a small portable table) – this will be of great use for funerals and baptism. The money we raise this way is a great help financially. Already we have purchased the gold vestment we use for Christmas and Easter and the new green hymn books.

**OUR SCHOOLS:** Remember them in your prayers as a new term starts.

**CATECHIST'S MEETING:** Next meeting for all Sacramental Programme catechists is on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm at Holy Cross Presbytery.

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next baptism course is on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January – 7pm at Holy Cross Presbytery. See Fr. Michael if you wish to attend.

**SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL:** After all Masses next weekend.

**THE EPIPHANY**  
**IN THE YEAR OF ST. PAUL**

**“You must have heard of my career as a practicing Jew, how merciless I was in persecuting the Church of God, how much damage I did to it, how I stood out among other Jews of my generation and how enthusiastic I was for the traditions of my ancestors.**

**Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother’s womb, called me through His grace and chose to reveal His Son to me, so that I might preach the Good News about Him to the pagans.”**

**Galatians 1:13-16a.**

Today we celebrate the second great feast of Christmas – *The Epiphany*. The wise men (the Magi) were foreigners – in other words “pagans” and their coming to the new born child is a symbol that Christ was born for all. God does not love just an exclusive few.

At his conversion to Christianity St. Paul suddenly becomes aware of this truth – this is a recurring theme in many of his letters. For the rest of his life Paul brought Christ to Jew and non Jew (the pagans). He saw the bringing of Christ to the pagans as a particular mission given to Him by God. As we see in his letters and in the “Acts of the Apostles” this brought him much heartache. Despite all the hardship he encountered Paul stayed true to this truth – a truth we celebrate today with the feast of the Epiphany.

**CHRISTMAS QUIZ:** Answers need to be returned by noon today (Sunday).

**NEW YEARS DAY:** It was lovely to see so many at Mass on New Year’s Day – what a great way to start the year.

**MONIES SENT OFF:** Last week the following were sent off: £420.00 to the *White Fathers*; £160 to *CAFOD*; £85 to *Rainbow Trust*; £15 for the *Shrines of the Holy Land*; £200 to *Fr McIntyre*; £20 to the *restoration fund of All Saints, Barton* and £173.75 to *Fr Casimir*. These monies are donated by individuals, from retiring collections or collected in the boxes at the back of Holy Cross:

**POOR BOX AT HOLY CROSS:** With the money collected over the last 6 months the following has been sent: £50.00 to *Cornerstone Day Centre*; £50.00 to *Revive* (this is based in Salford at St Boniface’s and works with refugees and asylum seekers. It is run by The Holy Ghost Fathers who made an appeal in both churches this year) and £40.00 to *Aid to the Church in Need* – support Catholic Churches in great need throughout the world. The Pope has asked this organisation to make the Middle East a priority.

**HOLY LAND REUNION:** A reunion will take place for all those who went to the Holy Land on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January. We will begin with Mass at Holy Cross at 7pm followed by a get together in the parish hall. Bring your photographs along. If possible could you bring some light refreshments for us all to share.

**200 CLUB WINNERS:** £100–M. Favill (210). £30–A. Woodcock (109). £20–G. Knowles ((222). £10–M. Doyle (225).