



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

14th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 2

DON'T TRY TOO HARD!

In today's Gospel, Jesus focuses once again on the need to be child-like in our Faith if we are to understand the mind of God. The mysteries, he says, are hidden from the learned and the clever, and revealed to little children. Why? Surely it is only human for us to want to know more, to understand more, and to be able to prove more? That is a part of growing up. And, as with every aspect of life, our Faith needs to grow up too, if it is to survive the challenges and disappointments of real life. But what if we try too hard?

In our supposedly enlightened age, we like to believe we are in control. The more eloquently we can prove and explain ourselves, the more secure we feel, the more self-sufficient, the more independent. But there, paradoxically, is our problem. Fundamental to our understanding of God is our knowing how much we need him. Realising what we do *not* know, coming to terms with what we *cannot* manage by ourselves however much we wish we could—only in this way can we reach a true knowledge of the God who can achieve in us more than we could even imagine by ourselves. When we try too hard to be grown-up and independent, we lose sight of our need for God and instead set out our own comfortable boundaries within which we 'let' God operate—in short, we try to create God in our own image, and we are doomed to fail. This, perhaps, was the greatest sin of those Jewish leaders who constantly argued with Jesus—they were so convinced they knew how God would behave, they did not even recognise him when he was standing in front of them!

Let us pray, then, for a Faith that is simple enough to trust when we do not understand, yet does not prevent us from robustly pursuing truth; a Faith that is strong enough for us to lead others into finding God, but does not depend upon our believing we are always right, and is not disheartened when we recognise our own faults and failings. A difficult balance? Indeed—but if we turn to him when we are heavy laden, he will make sense of it—and we will find true peace.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

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

Lately Dead: Bridget ("Breda") Doyle, Grace Noblett, Bro Tom Quinn MHM, Kathleen McCormick, Lucyna Sumińska, Karen Anne Dunn, Jean Bradbury.

Anniversaries: Barbara Hampton (54th Wedding Anniv), Maureen Yellop (Birthday Anniv), John and Nora Tighe, Pauline Cuomo, Julie Burgess (1st Anniv), Marie Gilmartin.

Remembrance: James Yellop, Michael and Mary Lambert, Nora and William Yellop, John Payne, Josephine Doherty, James Carson, George Devlin.

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.

SYRO-MALABAR MISSION FEAST

Please see poster at the back of both churches for details of the special annual celebrations taking place at St Mary's. Everyone is especially invited to the procession on Sunday afternoon at 5.30pm. **And then, please note...**

...SUNDAY EVENING MASS VENUE CHANGE

As announced over the past few weeks, because of the Syro-Malabar celebrations this week, we have moved the 6.30pm Sunday evening Mass from St Mary's to Holy Cross Church to avoid parking difficulties. **This is just for the one occasion** and the Mass will return to St Mary's next week.

WELCOME, St PATRICK'S!

Last weekend we welcomed pupils from St Patrick's High School to Holy Cross, where they assisted at the 11.15am Mass and served the refreshments afterwards. This week they are back, at the 9.30am Mass at St Mary's, and we are sure you will give them a warm welcome once again!

POPE LEO'S INTENTION for the MONTH of JUNE

"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.

CALLING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS!

Are you at Eucharistic Minister in the parish, assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion? Would you be willing to volunteer a little of your time to support Catholic patients in Salford Royal Hospital? If your answer is yes, please speak with Fr Martin or contact Marie in the parish office. We are looking for volunteers from across the Salford Deanery to broaden the reach of the Chaplaincy within the hospital. Statutory training will be provided.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- The monthly prize draw (the first of the new year) will take place after the 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross this Sunday, 5th July. Members are reminded that their subscription must be up to date to be eligible for a prize.
- PARISH SUMMER FAIR**—This is one of our biggest fundraisers and is being held **this coming Saturday** (11th July) at 12.30pm in St Mary's community hall. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all Masses this week. The hall will be set up on Friday (10th July) from 5.30pm. If you are able to help please come along. The hall will then be open on Saturday from 10.30am. Bakers will be able to bring their breads, cakes and biscuits for the stall. The Christmas fair raised an amazing £2,800—let's see if we can beat that record!! Please come along on the day and support this event.

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.**

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
Holidays: 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

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sat 4th July: 6.00pm **Junior Reception Mass** at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
Sunday 5th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Stanto)
11.15am Mass at Holy Cross
6.30pm Evening Mass **at Holy Cross this week** * Livestreamed

Monday 6th: *No Mass in the parish on Mondays*
Tuesday 7th: 10.00am Eucharistic Service at Holy Cross
2.00pm Monthly Prayer Group in St Mary's Sacristy—*All welcome*

Wed 8th: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *

Thursday 9th: 9.00am Mass at St Patrick's School with Y10—*All welcome*
Friday 10th: 6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament */ Confessions *followed by*
6.40pm Chaplet of the Precious Blood of Jesus * (for the month of July), *and*
7.00pm Benediction and Mass, all at Holy Cross *

St Benedict Saturday 11th: 11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*Confessions available*)
followed by 12 noon Benediction and Mass, all at St Mary's
12.30pm—**Summer Fair at St Mary's Hall**

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 12th: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
9.30am Mass at St Mary's
11.15am Mass at Holy Cross (with Fr Nicholas)
6.30pm Evening Mass

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 £1,049.36. The retiring collection raised £100.22 for "Peter's Pence." 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, (above), if you would like to donate to the parish today.



RETIRING COLLECTIONS

This week: CAFOD emergency appeal for Venezuela Earthquakes
Next week: Stella Maris (Sea Sunday)

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 Our Lady and St Joseph, Heywood, for Father Franklin Ebuka Umekachikelu, MSP, their parish priest, their parish primary schools and Holy Family Roman Catholic and Church of England College.

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/ParishofStJohnPaullIIIccles/

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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Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey