



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

24th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 4

FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES

"Let us acknowledge our sins." This is the formal introduction to the Penitential Rite, at the start of Mass. The idea is familiar to us as Catholics, but if we take a step back and ask ourselves what we are doing, it seems a strange starting point for a celebration. How can we enjoy a party if we cannot get in without acknowledging that we do not really deserve to be there at all?

It is all about forgiveness. We do not "acknowledge our sins" in order to feel depressed; we do not do it to paralyse our enthusiasm—we simply recall how often we have needed God's forgiveness in our lives, how much we have benefited from his forgiveness. We recognise our need, and we give thanks for the gift.

Recognising our own faults and failings and receiving the strength from God to tackle them is the starting point from which we become a forgiving people. It is the death of all bitterness, the destruction of everything that would eat away at our heart from within. It teaches us to find a joy that does not depend upon deserving, and does not need to be earned; a joy that we can share without charge with every other sinner we meet. It is where we begin to live out the challenge of the Lord's Prayer: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

But it is not easy. Pretending to have forgiven when our hearts are telling us something different can be just as damaging as refusing to forgive at all.

It is only when we acknowledge our own difficulties in forgiveness that we can honestly invite God's healing to restore us from within. To recite the Lord's prayer, but realise that some of our attempts at forgiveness still fail, will not deprive us of God's mercy. If we have really tried to forgive our neighbour who is in debt to us, God will surely "try" to forgive us too. The only difference is that God will succeed! And if we let him, he has the power to help us succeed as well.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

The presentation of certificates for last year's First Holy Communion, Junior Reception and Confirmation children will be announced over the next couple of weeks, and group photos will also be sent out.

Our new First Holy Communion programme launches THIS WEEK with meetings for parents/carers in our parish primary schools and an alternative meeting on Thursday evening for those who cannot attend these dates or whose children attend other schools.

Meetings will be as follows (Please just attend one of these):

- Tuesday (15th Sept), 2.45pm at Holy Cross School
- Wednesday (16th Sept), 2.45pm at St Mary's School
- Thursday (17th Sept), 2.45pm at St Gilbert's School
- Thursday (17th Sept), 6.00pm Holy Cross Church

POPE LEO'S INTENTION for this month

"For the care of water." Pope Leo XIV invites everyone to pray for the care of water during September, as Christians celebrate the Season of Creation.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

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

£ 100	141	Helen R
£ 30	169	Jesamine A
£ 20	127	Rosemary C
- The "super 50:50" starts this week. There are 100 tickets available at a cost of £5 with a guaranteed prize of £250. The winner will be drawn when all tickets are sold.

SEPTEMBER—SEASON OF CREATION

*God of all creation,
open my eyes to the beauty of the world around me
and the sacred breath of life within every
living thing. You have entrusted this earth to my care.
Forgive me for the ways I have taken its gifts for granted
or forgotten that creation belongs first to You.*

*Teach me to live more gently,
to consume more thoughtfully,
and to protect and defend what I have been given.*

*During this month of September,
help me to recognize Christ in those who are poor,
and be his hands, always ready to serve.*

*Show me the small, practical acts of love
You are asking of me today.*

Lord, let this be a time of change within me. Amen.

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.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

The sick: Margaret, Colleen, Tayo, Teresa, Kathleen, John, Monica, Robert, Doreen, Adam, Jackie, Julie Ann, Pauline, Natallie, Edna, Sheila, Juliana.

Lately Dead: John Holroyd, Josie Muggleton, Pat Nicholson, Marty Hickey, Clare Callaghan, John Collins, James Mulgrew ("Jimmy Cricket").

Anniversaries: Richard Jackson, Rose Hosey, George Sewell (Birthday Anniv), Mary Jane Doherty, Lucy Kennedy, Thomas Yates, Mary Smith, Martin Platt, Sheila Hazeldine, Pauline Yates, Florence Yates, Veronica Grimshaw (Birthday Anniv), Gerard Nicholls (Birthday Anniv), Annie Whittaker, Julie Burgess (65th Birthday Anniv).

Remembrance: Bernard and John Payne, Josephine Doherty, James Carson, Charles, Agnes and Ann Geeney, Marie Payne, William and Lilian Hindley.

We also pray: for Pope Leo, for those affected by the recent earthquakes and floods, 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.

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sat 12th Sept:	6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday) *
	Sunday 13th:	9.30am Mass at St Mary's 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross (with Fr Nicholas) 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's <i>No Mass in the parish on Mondays</i>
<i>Exaltation of the Cross</i> <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	Monday 14th:	9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
	Tues 15th:	2.45pm First Holy Communion introductory meeting for parents at Holy Cross School 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
<i>Ss Cornelius and Cyprian</i>	Wed 16th:	2.45pm First Holy Communion introductory meeting for parents at St Mary's School 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
	Thursday 17th:	2.45pm First Holy Communion introductory meeting for parents at St Gilbert's School 6.00pm First Holy Communion introductory meeting for parents at Holy Cross Church 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by: 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
	Friday 18th:	6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament */Confessions followed by 6.40pm Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary * and 7.00pm Benediction and Mass, all at Holy Cross *
	Sat 19th:	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 *
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday 20th:	9.30am Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Stanto) 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross with Welcome for Holy Cross and All Saints' schoolchildren 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 £976.12. The retiring collection for the SVP raised £245.03. 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.



RETIRING COLLECTIONS

This week: Emergency appeal for Nepal Floods via CAFOD
 Next week: No retiring collection next week

RED MISSION BOXES

If you have a Red Mission Box at home, please could you bring it in to either church over the next couple of weeks so that money can be counted and sent to the APF? Please ensure your contact details are on the box so that it can be returned to you. Thank you for all the support you give to this Papal charity.

CYCLE of PRAYER



This week throughout the diocese we pray for the parish of St Gabriel and the Angels and St John the Baptist, Castleton and Rochdale, and for Father Michael Jonhonnott, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools and for the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph.

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

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

Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey