



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

29th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Daily
Prayer
Week 1

WORLD MISSION DAY

Jesus's answer to the authorities in today's Gospel – "Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" seems a neat trick. Say "Yes," and many of his Jewish followers would leave. The introduction of the taxes had caused bloodshed at the time, and still it was a cause for great tension. But say "No," and he runs the risk of being charged with treason. So, he avoids the question with a clever answer, and the authorities are silenced once again. Or is he really avoiding the question? Perhaps there is a deeper meaning to be found even here.

"Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar." What does belong to Caesar? What belongs to our own elected leaders today? Jesus is not suggesting that God's world of the Spirit has nothing to do with the temporal world, (though many people today would like us to believe that it does not. "Keep religion out of politics," is a popular demand from those who do not wish to be challenged by the Word of God). Jesus does not say "Give this coin back to Caesar, because his image makes it his property." Caesar's earthly power stands only beneath the Divine power of God. He, like us, would have nothing at all except by the providence of God. The people must decide for themselves whether Caesar is furthering the plan of God in the tribute he demands. Is he using it for the good of the poor, the widows, the orphans? Then—perhaps only then—people would acknowledge that the coin of taxation does, indeed, belong to Caesar. And the call to use worldly possessions and assets to build God's Kingdom of love and peace here on earth is ours, too. We have that same duty to play an active role in our Christian response to authority—to stand up for justice, and defend the poor and marginalised. If we are to be the "missionary disciples" that we are called to be, then religion and politics do mix – it is a part of our "World Mission" and we have no choice.

WELCOME St GILBERT'S SCHOOL!

A warm welcome (and presentation of certificates) at the 11.15am Mass.

PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATION on FRIDAY

Whilst the actual Feast of St John Paul II falls on Thursday, we will be celebrating it at Friday's 7.00pm Mass at Holy Cross with refreshments in the hall afterwards. **Do, please, come along** and celebrate our identity as a parish with our Patron Saint (and stay for a while afterwards!)

CONCERT with St PATRICK'S and the GMP CHOIR

...on Thursday evening, 7.00pm at Holy Cross Church. Tickets £7 (free for under 16s) with refreshments during the interval.

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. Applications need to be in soon—please act now!! Thank you.

PIETY SHOPS NOW STOCKED FOR CHRISTMAS

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

POPE LEO'S INTENTION for this month

"For mental health ministry." Pope Leo XIV dedicates his October prayer intention to mental health ministry, calling on the Church to listen without judging and accompany those who suffer without excluding them.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

CAFOD envelopes can still be returned with your collection this week.

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.**

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- 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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER

Advance notice—this will take place sat Barton Airport on 16th December. Bookings, please, with Fran Phipps before the end of November.

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 on **Sunday 1st November**.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people kindly in your prayers:

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

Lately Dead: Marie Conlan, Vincent Kelly, Mary O'Regan, Teresa Lai Kuen Chan, Bridget Stafford, Tony Scott, Kathrryn McCloud, John Holroyd, Josie Muggleton.

Anniversaries: 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, Ena Lea (Birthday Anniv), Eddy and Pat Hosey, Annie Smith.

Remembrance: Bernard and John Payne, Josephine Doherty, James Carson.

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sat 17th Oct: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday with Fr Nicholas)
 Sunday 18th: 9.30am Mass at St Mary's (with Fr Stanto)
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross with welcome for St Gilbert's School
 6.30pm Evening Mass at St Mary's
No Mass in the parish on Mondays * Livestreamed
 Monday 19th: 11.30am Funeral Mass at Holy Cross for Kathleen O'Reilly—*May she rest in peace*
 Tues 20th: 2.00pm Scripture Prayer Group St Gilbert's Presbytery—*All welcome*
 Wed 21st: 9.45am Rosary for world peace, followed by:
 10.00am Mass at Holy Cross *
(St John Paul II) Thursday 22nd: 10.00am Mass at **Holy Cross and All Saints' School** with Y4—*All welcome*
 7.00pm Concert at Holy Cross with St Patrick's School and the Police Choir
 Friday 23rd: 10.30am Funeral Mass at St Mary's for Vincent Kelly—*May he rest in peace*
 6.30pm Rosary for the month of October * and
 7.00pm Benediction and **Parish Feast day Celebration Mass**, all at Holy Cross *
Refreshments in the hall afterwards
 Sat 24th: 11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*Confessions available*)
 followed by 12 noon Benediction and Mass, all at St Mary's
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 25th: 6.00pm Mass at Holy Cross (Vigil Mass for Sunday with Fr Dermot) *
 9.30am Mass at St Mary's
 11.15am Mass at Holy Cross
 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 £884.14. The Mission Collection raised £614.80 plus online and card payments. 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.



CYCLE of PRAYER



This week throughout the diocese we pray for the people of the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gregory the Great, Farnworth, Father David Chinnery, their parish priest, for their parish primary schools and for Mount Saint Joseph's High School. We also pray for Fr Bob Hayes and the chaplaincy to the Royal Bolton Hospital.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

This week: Missio (sorry, this was unannounced)
 Next week: No retiring collection next week

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/ParishofStJohnPaulIIeccles/
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