

ST MARY'S

THE HIDDEN GEM

MULBERRY ST



A place of silence and prayer at the heart of our city

Serving the people of Manchester since 1794

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

BEING PRESENT

Be still and know that I am God

Some people say that they don't need to go to church to be a good Christian. Others say that they can pray at home - so why do they need to do it in a certain building? Still others say that having the Blessed Sacrament present does not really make much difference. And yet, many people find something happens when they come into a church - and will say that there is something special about being in a Catholic church. They may not be able to name what the specialness is but it is likely to be the fact that Christ is present in the Blessed Sacrament. It may look like a piece of bread - but it is the sacramental sign of something - someone - so much more powerful.

When we come into a Catholic church for a time with the Lord, we are acknowledging his Presence - the eternal God present in our time and our space. We are also offering him our presence. There are many

other things we could be doing - lots of places we could be - and taking time out just to sit quietly in a church will look to many like a waste of time! But offering our presence before the Lord's presence is a very beautiful - and mutual gift. To adapt the famous quote given by St John Vianney - 'God is here for me... and I am here for God.' And one result of this time of mutual presence offering is that we do not leave it behind in the church. We find that we take the Presence with us - and bring it into the many places and situations in which we find ourselves - being present to God - ourselves - and to others.



Jesus and Being Present

The fact that Jesus was born is probably the most obvious way in which God shows the importance of his being truly present in the

world. As a baby, Jesus was fully present to his parents - to shepherds - to wise men - and to the wider family. And, as we read the Gospels, we get a sense of Jesus being fully present to each moment - and to the people in it. He sits by a well and spend 'quality time' with a Samaritan woman. He spends time listening to his disciples and answering their questions. Sometimes, his presence was obvious - at meal-times or on boats or on the cross. Sometimes - and especially after his resurrection - his presence was there but not always recognised at first. When Mary Magdalene was weeping outside the tomb, she did not at first realise the gardener was not actually a gardener but Jesus. The two disciples listening to Jesus on the road to Emmaus only recognised him at the breaking of bread - and then he was gone. In each case - and in the others recorded in scripture and Church tradition - it took people time to realise that it really was Jesus with them.

Jesus can be present to us in all sorts of ways - but his Eucharistic presence is a great gift - assuring us that he is indeed with us always - to the end of the age.

Welcome to St Mary's, the Hidden Gem
*A place of silence and prayer
at the heart of our city*

THE WEEK AHEAD AT ST MARY'S

THE CHURCH IS OPEN EACH DAY FOR QUIET PRAYER

Mon 26 July	Tues 27 July	Wed 28 July	Thurs 29 July	Fri 30 July	Sat 31 July	Sun 01 August
Saints Joachim and Anne Parents of the BVM	Feria in Ordinary Time XVII	Feria in Ordinary Time XVII	Saint Martha	Votive Mass of the Precious Blood	Saint Ignatius of Loyola Priest	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Exodus 32:15-34 Matthew 13:31-35	Exodus 33:7-11 Matthew 13:36-43	Exodus 34:29-35 Matthew 13:44-46	1 John 4:7-16 John 11:19-27	Leviticus 23:1-16 Matthew 13:54-58	Leviticus 25:1-8-17 Matthew 14:1-12	Exodus 16:2-15 Ephesians 4:17-24 John 6:24-35
10.00am Church opens	10.00am Church opens	10.00am Church opens	10.00am Church opens	10.00am Church opens	10.00am Church opens	9.00am Church opens
10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00am HOLY MASS
11.00am - 11.55am Confessions	11.00am - 11.55am Confessions	11.00am - 11.55am Confessions	11.00am - 11.55am Confessions	11.00am - 11.55am Confessions	10.30am - 11.15am Confessions	
12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	11.30am Holy Rosary & Benediction	
12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12 noon HOLY MASS	12 noon HOLY MASS
		1.30pm - 3.30pm Church Cleaning		After Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 2.30pm Confessions	3.00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy	
4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 4.30pm Confessions	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	5.15pm VIGIL MASS of Sunday	
		5.15pm HOLY MASS			Church closes after Mass	
		Church closes after Mass				

Mass Intentions



HOLY MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated for the following intentions, received at St Mary's this week:

Lately Dead: Stephen Carter; Christopher Nolan; June Posci; Raymond Evans; Gabino Majomot; Jane Whelan

Anniversaries: Michael Ingham (12/07); Catherine Ward (25/07); Myles Worthe (26/07); Fr John Neville (31/07); Norman Helps; Michelle Cullen; Kathleen & William Tuite

In remembrance: The Holy Souls; John Joyce; Mauricia Majomot;

Special Intentions: Margaret Melia; Kathleen Fay; Prayers answered; Kate Wynn; Marie Hennan; Marcella Geoghan; Anne Higgins; Eugenia Rohan de Sanchez; Kathleen & Michael Campbell; Fr Elzbieta Kramp d.c.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Canon Francis Deeney**, a priest of our diocese, who has died this past week. Canon Deeney was one of our oldest priests, living in retirement, and who was ordained priest in June 1954 in All Hallows College, Dublin.

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of **Christopher Nolan**, one of our parishioners who has died this week. Requiem Mass will be offered for the repose of his soul at St Mary's, the date of which has yet to be arranged.

Of your charity, please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Stephen Carter**, one of our parishioners who died recently. Requiem Mass will be offered for the repose of his soul at St Mary's on **Tuesday 3rd August at 1.45pm**, followed by cremation at Agecroft Crematorium, Salford.

Requiescant in pace

KEEP IN TOUCH

PARISH NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Please let me know, by sending me an email, if you would like to be added to our parish distribution list to receive the parish newsletter each week by email.

COVID-19 GUIDANCE IN CHURCH

Although the recent restrictions in church that have been in place in law are now removed, we must continue to be vigilant and cautious. Please take note of the latest guidance:

- **Hand sanitiser** continues to be available.
- The wearing of **face-coverings** is still recommended.
- **Social distancing** is no longer mandatory however, for the time being we will keep the ribbons on the pews in the main body of the church, having now removed them in the gallery. Wherever you sit, please respect others who may still wish to have some space at this time.
- Continue the same order for **receiving Holy Communion**; the priest continues to sanitise his hands and wear a face-covering before administering Holy Communion, and it is now possible to receive Holy Communion on the tongue.
- Above all, **please continue to be considerate of others**. Some of our parishioners and visitors will be very anxious at any sudden return to normality. We can be patient and caring towards each other as we take this next step forward.

MINISTERS OF WELCOME AND GUARDIANS OF THE CHURCH

Thank you for the good feedback and comments I have received regarding the suggestion of having Ministers of Welcome and Guardians of the Church. Given the current ongoing situation of Covid cases, we have decided to keep in place the present system of volunteer stewards for a little while longer and I am grateful for the continued help of our volunteers at this time. Going forward, at some time in the near future hopefully, I see an opportunity to have two separate and distinct roles:

MINISTERS OF WELCOME

I see this as a role to be undertaken principally for the celebration of Holy Mass and other services, to welcome parishioners and visitors to St Mary's and to assist in various ways beforehand, during, and after the celebration.

GUARDIANS OF THE CHURCH

I see this as a role to be undertaken at other times when the church is open, to look after the church, to guard the Blessed Sacrament when there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and to generally help in preserving an atmosphere of silence & prayer, whilst also quietly welcoming people to the Hidden Gem.

If you haven't been able to help thus far, but are willing to do so at some point going forward, please have a word with me, so that we look to opening up more fully in the coming weeks ahead. It would be wonderful if we could have a rota of parishioners undertaking the Ministry of Welcome and being Guardians of the Church at all times of the day.

WITH EVERY BLESSING AND PRAYER FOR THE COMING WEEK

Fr Anthony

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS THIS WEEK - burning from Saturday morning onwards

THE PIETÀ ALTAR	OUR BLESSED LADY	ST JOSEPH	OUR LADY OF MANCHESTER
• Chris Unsworth RIP (Anniversary 31/07)	• Jack Bramhall RIP (BR)	• Joseph McDermott RIP (Anniversary 25/07)	• Maureen Hurst & Joan Woodgate • Nelly McAtamney • Janeth Flores • Rachel • Catherine Ward RIP (Anniversary 25/07)
SACRED HEART OF JESUS	TABERNACLE - OUR LADY	TABERNACLE - ST JOSEPH	
• Kate Wynn (Special Intention)	• Nellie (Ellen) O'Dowd RIP (Anniversary 28/07)	• Scott family	



If you would like to have a 7-day candle lit for a particular intention, for a loved one or for a special intention, put the name of the intention on an envelope and indicate which Sanctuary Candle you wish to have lit. A donation of £5 is suggested to cover the cost of the candle. Pass the envelope to the Parish Priest or place it through the presbytery letter box. The candles will be lit on Friday afternoon, and will burn throughout the following week, with the names appearing in the parish newsletter each week, so we know the intention that the candle is burning for.

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St Mary's parish is a parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford dioceseofsalford.org.uk Registered Charity 250037

*** THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT ST MARY'S and for your SUPPORT of our parish ***
Thank you for your generosity; Please remember to Gift Aid any donations to St Mary's to help us in our Mission