



ST MARY'S THE HIDDEN GEM MULBERRY STREET

Serving the people of Manchester since 1794

SUNDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2022
- SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2022
24th - 25th - 26th SUNDAYS
IN ORDINARY TIME

St Mary's Church, 17 Mulberry Street, MANCHESTER, M2 6LN
Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Anthony Kay
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Parish Website: hiddengem.me.uk



A SANCTUARY OF SILENCE AND PRAYER AT THE HEART OF THE CITY

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays	Sundays
9.30am Church opens	9.30am Church opens	9.30am Church opens	9.30am Church opens	9.30am Church opens	9.30am Church opens	8.30am Church opens
11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am - 11.55pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	09.00am - 09.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
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	10.00am HOLY MASS
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 noon SOLEMN HOLY MASS
12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12 noon HOLY MASS	Church closes after Mass
		1.30pm - 3.30pm Church Cleaning		After Mass- 3.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 2.30pm Confessions		
				3.00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Benediction		
4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm - 5.10pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm - 5.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions	
		5.15pm HOLY MASS			5.15pm VIGIL MASS	
		6.00pm Church closes			Church closes after Mass	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

St Mary's, the Hidden Gem, relies totally on the generosity of parishioners and visitors to support its mission here in the city centre of Manchester. The church has been well looked after over the years and it is now well over twenty five years since any major works were undertaken. However, following a recent inspection of the church and presbytery by a Conservation Architect, it is clear that, in the next few years, some works to the fabric of the church and presbytery will need to be undertaken, starting with some urgent works at high level.

To help in the ongoing costs of the running of the church and for us to be able to undertake some necessary repairs and refurbishments in the coming years, please consider making a one-off or a regular standing order donation directly to our parish bank account by using the Parish Bank Details or using the QR Code opposite.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY; Please remember to Gift Aid any donations to St Mary's to help us in our Mission. Gift Aid Declaration Forms are available from Fr Anthony or can be downloaded from the parish website.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

SCAN THE QR CODE
(to make a donation)



PARISH
BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

(to make a donation by BACS or to set up a Standing Order)

TSDT St Mary Manchester
Sort Code: 20 55 34
Account number: 00915025

Cheques Payable to:
St Mary's, Manchester

St. Mary's, The Hidden Gem, was founded in 1794 in the centre of what was then the poorest quarter of Manchester.

It is now thought to be one of the oldest post Reformation Catholic churches founded *as a church* in England.

The Relief Act allowing Catholic churches to be built again *as churches* was passed in 1791. The building of St. Mary's was begun in 1792.

The church's vital connection with the most ancient Christian traditions of Manchester, and its uninterrupted service to the city since its foundation, make it one of the most beloved institutions in Manchester.

VISITING PRIESTS DURING THESE WEEKS

I am deeply grateful to my brother priests Fr Tom Connolly, Canon Tony McBride, Fr Richard Aspden, and Fr Ian Kelly for their help in covering the parish while I take a short summer break away from the parish. Please, as always, do make them welcome to St Mary's. As always, I am also deeply grateful to all those parishioners who have accepted to be responsible for various aspects of the life of the parish and church at this time. Many thanks to you all.

DAILY CONFESSIONS AT THE HIDDEN GEM

One of the great blessings that our parish has received has been the number of people who take the opportunity to come to St Mary's to go to confession and to receive the Sacrament of Penance. I very much see that giving people as much opportunity as possible to receive the Sacrament, and to be able spend time in quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, are central to the mission of the Hidden Gem.

- Monday** 11.00am - 11.55am
- Tuesday** 11.00am - 11.55am
- Wednesday** 11.00am - 11.55am and 4pm - 5pm
- Thursday** 11.00am - 11.55am
- Friday** 11.00am - 11.55am and 2.30pm - 2.55pm
- Saturday** 10.30am - 11.15am and 4pm - 5pm
- Sunday** 9.00am - 9.45am

During these weeks while I am away from the parish, all the visiting priests will be available for confessions at the times above.

GUARDIANS OF THE CHURCH

I am grateful to all the parishioners who have helped to keep the church open each day since the churches first re-opened in July 2020. To help to continue to keep St Mary's open each day, we are always looking for a few more parishioners who would be able to be a *Guardian of the Church* for a couple of hours each week.

The role of Guardian is simply to keep an eye on the church and watch over the Blessed Sacrament when there is Adoration, to quietly welcome visitors and help to maintain a quiet and prayerful atmosphere in church, and to assist with sales on the piety stall.

If you can help in any way, please have a word with one of the current Guardians who can pass your details onto David Raymond who coordinates the rota for us.

CARITAS FOOD BANK AND POOR BOX

Recently we have sent two car loads of food to our local Caritas Centres, The Cornerstone Day Centre and the Lalley Centre, and they were gratefully received with thanks to you all. Any non-perishable foods are always welcome, particularly things like **cereals, pasta, rice, tea, coffee, biscuits, tinned meats, tinned fish, tinned soups, tinned vegetables, fruit squash or cordial, and all kinds of toiletries.** Donations to the **Poor Box** at the back of church also go to support those in need in our city. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to those in most need amongst us.

PARISH PIETY STALL

The parish piety stall is, hopefully, providing a little service in making cards and other items of devotion available for purchase; but the piety stall is also a way for the parish to raise funds to maintain St Mary's church here in the heart of the city. All sales raise funds to help us in our mission in the city-centre and to ensure the upkeep and maintenance of parish property. So, if you are thinking of sending a card to some, please have a look at what we have available before you buy your cards. Thank you for your support and generosity.

CHURCH CLEANERS AND HELPERS

Many thanks to those parishioners who gather on Wednesday afternoons to help to clean the church. In recent weeks the numbers helping to clean the church have been quite low which puts a burden on just a few parishioners. All are welcome to join us and keep the church clean; It may be that you can come once a week or once every couple or few weeks, that doesn't matter, the main thing is that there are a few parishioners who are willing to come and keep the church clean for all of us and for all our many visitors. Many thanks for all your help.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION REVERENTLY

To receive Holy Communion reverently, we can either receive Holy Communion directly on the tongue or receive Holy Communion in the hand. If you choose to receive Holy Communion in the hand, please place one hand flat on top of the other hand and when the priest has placed the Sacred Host into the palm of your hand, please pick up the host with your other hand and consume the host in front of the priest. Please do not walk away to your place in church with the Sacred Host still in your hand. This is to ensure the reverent reception of Holy Communion.

RESTORATION OF ST MARY'S

The Catholic Church of St Mary (The Hidden Gem) is a Grade-II* listed building, with the Old Presbytery being separately listed as a Grade-II listed building. Recent surveys on the church and presbytery have revealed that there is work to do on restoring the fabric of the church, and so, as a parish, we are starting a programme of restoration works in order to preserve this well-loved church for future generations.

PHASE ONE - URGENT WORKS AT HIGH LEVEL

Our architect has put together a package of works classified as **urgent works** which primarily focus on preventing water ingress to the building. These proposed works are vital to the long-term future of the building. They will be carried out in a manner appropriate to the importance and status of the building, in order to enhance and conserve the church building and ensure it remains a viable place of worship and a heritage asset of national importance.

The anticipated costs for Phase One of the works is in the region of **£240,000**. With the help of the diocesan bid writer we have already submitted an application to a grant making body for a grant of £90,000, the success or otherwise of this application will be determined in the autumn; meanwhile our bid writer is working on applying for other grants as well. As a parish we will have to raise the funds for a substantial amount of any works to our buildings.

GIFT AID SCHEME TO RAISE FUNDS

The Government's GIFT AID SCHEME is a great way for charities to raise funds. If you don't do so already, then **please consider Gift Aiding your donations to St Mary's.** It will not cost you any more than you already give.

If you pay income tax and give a donation to the parish by an offertory envelope or by standing order, then the Government will give us a further 2p for every pound you give. This will go a long way to help us to raise the necessary funds to undertake phase one of the restoration works and to start to plan for further phases of works.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

If you pay Income Tax
please join the
Parish Gift Aid Scheme

As we are a Registered Charity,
the Government will give us
25p for every pound
you give to St Mary's.

With the newsletter this week, I attach a Gift Aid Declaration Form. To Gift Aid your donations, please sign and return the form to the parish, and please take a set of offertory envelopes or take a form to set up a monthly standing order. **Many thanks for your continued generosity to St Mary's.**



PLEASE NOTE that **Holy Mass intentions** and requests for **Sanctuary Candles** received at St Mary's after Friday 10th September will be mentioned in the next Parish Newsletter of Sunday 9th October.



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.