

# ST MARY'S MULBERRY STREET THE HIDDEN GEM



SUNDAY 21 JANUARY 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St Mary's Church | 17 Mulberry Street | MANCHESTER | M2 6LN  
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## CALVARY AND THE MASS

There are certain things in life which are too beautiful to be forgotten, such as the love of a mother. Hence we treasure her picture. The love of the soldiers who sacrificed themselves for their country is likewise too beautiful to be forgotten, hence we revere their memory on Armistice Day. But the greatest blessing which ever came to this earth was the visitation of the Son of God in the form and habit of man. His life, above all lives, is too beautiful to be forgotten, hence we treasure the divinity of His *Words* in Sacred Scripture, and the charity of His *Deeds* in our daily actions. His Words and His Deeds, important as these are, are not the greatest characteristic of the Divine Saviour.

The most sublime act in the history of Christ as His *Death*. Death is always important for it seals a destiny. Any dying man is a scene. Any dying scene is a sacred place. That is why the great literature of the past which has touched on the emotions surrounding death has never passed out of date. But of all death in the record of man, none was more important than the Death of Christ. Everyone else who was ever born into the world, came into it to *live*; our Lord came into it to *die*. Death was a stumbling block to the life of Socrates, but it was the crown to the Life of Christ. He Himself told us that He came "to give His Life as a redemption for many"; that no one could take away His Life; but He would lay it down of Himself.

If then Death was the supreme moment for which Christ lived, it was therefore the *one thing* He wished to have remembered. He did not ask that men should write down His Words into a Scripture; He did not ask that His kindness to the poor should be recorded in history; but He did ask that we remember his Death. And in order that its memory might not be any haphazard narrative on our part, He Himself instituted the precise way it should be recalled.



The memorial was instituted the night before He died, at what has since been called "The Last Supper". Taking bread into His Hands, He said: "This is My Body, which will be given up for you," i.e. given unto death. Then over the chalice of wine, He said, "This is My Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." Thus in an unbloody symbol of the parting of the Blood from the Body, by the separate consecration of Bread and Wine, did Christ pledge Himself to death in the sight of God and men, and represent His death which was to come the next afternoon at three. He was offering Himself as a Victim to be immolated, and that we might never forget that "greater love than this no man has, that a man lay down his life for his friends," He gave the divine command to the Church: "Do this in memory of Me."

The following day that which He has prefigured and foreshadowed, He realised in its completeness, as He was crucified between two thieves and His Blood drained from His Body for the redemption of the world.

The Church which Christ founded has not only preserved the Word he spoke, and the wonders he wrought; it has also taken Him seriously when He said: "Do this in memory of Me." And that action whereby we re-enact His Death on the Cross is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, in which we do as a memorial what He did at the Last Supper as the prefiguration of His Passion.

St. Mary's, Mulberry Street, 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.

## THIS WEEK AT SAINT MARY'S

MONDAY 22 January Feria	TUESDAY 23 January Feria	WEDNESDAY 24 January St Frances de Sales Bishop & Doctor	THURSDAY 25 January The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle	FRIDAY 26 January Ss Timothy & Titus Bishops	SATURDAY 27 January Votive Mass of Our Blessed Lady	SUNDAY 28 January <b>FOURTH SUNDAY</b>
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 <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 11.00am - 11.55am Confessions 12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 11.00am - 11.55am Confessions 12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 11.00am - 11.55am Confessions 12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b> <i>After Mass Church Cleaning</i>  5.15pm - 5.45pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> & 5.15pm - 5.45pm Confessions 6.00pm <b>HOLY MASS</b> 6.30pm - 7.15pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Benediction</b> 7.15pm <b>Church closes</b> 7.15pm - 8.30pm <b>Young Catholic Adults Group</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 11.00am - 11.55am Confessions 12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>  4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>  7.00pm - 8.00pm <b>Adult Catechism Class</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 11.00am - 11.55am Confessions 12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b> <i>After Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> 2.30pm - 2.55pm Confessions 3.00pm <b>Chaplet of Divine Mercy &amp; Benediction</b>  4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>	10.30am - 11.55pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 10.30am - 11.15am Confessions 11.30am <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b> 12 noon <b>HOLY MASS</b>  4.00pm - 5.00pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions 5.15pm <b>VIGIL MASS of SUNDAY</b>  <b>Church closes after Mass</b>	09.00am - 09.45am <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</b> 10.00am <b>HOLY MASS</b> 11.00am <b>Catechism Class for children</b> 12 noon <b>HOLY MASS</b>  <b>Church closes after Mass</b>

## PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 23rd January	<b>LEGION OF MARY</b>	Praesidium meeting at 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday 24th January	<b>YOUNG ADULTS GROUP</b>	Weekly Mass, Adoration, and meeting at 6.00pm - 8.30pm
Thursday 25th January	<b>ADULT CATECHISM CLASS</b>	Weekly Catechism Class for adults at 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Sunday 28th January	<b>CHILDREN'S CATECHISM CLASS</b>	Weekly Catechism Class for children at 11.00am - 11.45am
Friday 2nd February	<b>Presentation of the Lord</b>	<b>12.30pm Mass</b>
Friday 2nd February	<b>First Friday Devotions</b>	11.00am Adoration, 11.30pm Rosary, <b>12.30pm Mass</b> & Devotions
Saturday 3rd February	<b>First Saturday Devotions</b>	10.30am Adoration, 11.30pm Rosary, <b>12noon Mass</b> & Devotions
Wednesday 14th February	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Mass at 12.30pm and 6.00pm</b>

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS



The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated for the following intentions which have been received this week:

**Latently deceased:** Peter Grogan; Celia Adams; Kevin McKeown; Gerald McGlade; Dolores

**Anniversaries:** Denis Doyle (15/01); Fr John T Cribben (26/01); Catherine Mullins (14/02); Fr William Fallon (26/01); Mark Robinson; Michael Mahady

**In remembrance:** The Holy Souls;

**Special Intentions:** Sheldon and Roxanna Rodrigues (1st Wedding Anniversary); Kate Wynn; Fr Draycott's Intentions (Ordination Anniversary); Fr Draycott's intentions (Birthday); Fiona & Matt Hooker; Jess, CC, & Miriam Purle; Alan Evans; Manchester City Centre SPUC Group; Giuseppe & family; Jimmy Owens (70th B); Marian Brennan (B); Marian Brennan (B); Marian Brennan (B); Mauree (B); Grace Gallagher (B); Marian Brennan



## PARISH NEWS

### GETTING MARRIED THIS YEAR?

If you are planning to get married in 2024 and are hoping to do so here at St Mary's, please have a word with me as soon as possible. Six months notice is always required, but the Pre-Marriage course for this year's wedding couples takes place on the four Sundays of February.

### REVISION OF THE EVENING MASSES DURING THE WEEK

One thing I have been thinking about while I have been away this past week is the provision of evening Masses during the week. This past year, we have developed a pattern of having an evening Mass on a Tuesday and a Wednesday but I would like to adapt this slightly. I am finding that I need another evening in the middle of the week to be available to see people, for example those who are preparing for the sacrament of marriage or reception into the Church, and parents who are looking to have their children baptised. And so, from this week, there won't be a Mass on Tuesday evenings and we will just have a weekday evening Mass on a Wednesday.

### GREGORIAN CHANT GROUP

We have started a **Gregorian Chant Group** to help to support the singing of the Gregorian Chant at the 12noon Solemn Mass on Sundays. One of our parishioners, Dr Rosemarie Darby, will help with the establishing of this group and in teaching us the chant, supported by our organist, Nathan. Short practices will take place on Sunday mornings at 11.30am, in preparation for the 12noon Mass. If you are interested in joining us, simply come along on Sundays and introduce yourself to Rosemarie or Nathan

### CARITAS FOOD BANK AND POOR BOX

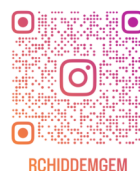
As the weather starts to turn colder, our diocesan charity, Caritas, is asking us to be as generous as we can to help them support people most in need. A couple of practical ways we can help is to put a little in the Food Bank Collection Point at the back of the church, and to remember the Poor Box at the back of the church. All help goes to Caritas to help those in most need. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to those in most need amongst us.

### ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE SEASON OF LENT

The Holy Season of Lent will soon be upon us, with Ash Wednesday on the 14th February this year. There will be two Masses here at St Mary's on Ash Wednesday at **12.30pm and 5.15pm**, with ashes being distributed at both Masses. Please join us for the beginning of this Holy Season. In the next week or so, we will have more details about the program here at Saint Mary's for the season of Lent.

### PARISH INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

If you use Social Media, you may be interested to know that we have a parish Instagram account. If you have Instagram, please join us. Scan the image or search for our account name: **rchiddengem**.



### CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

**Catechism Classes for Children** of primary school age take place each Sunday at 11.00am. If any parent wishes their child to attend the classes, please speak to Fr Anthony. Some of the children who have been attending the classes so far are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion after Easter.

Catechism classes for teenagers preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will be starting soon. Any parent of a child of Confirmation age, who hasn't already done so, should speak to Fr Anthony

### PLEASE HELP OTHERS TO FIND SAINT MARY'S

Despite not being the easiest place to find in Manchester, given our location, I am always amazed at how many people manage to find our church each day. We get lots of regular visitors to our church, but we also get lots of new people every day, particularly people who are visiting Manchester on holiday or business. Over the last while, we have found an increasing number of people are managing to find St Mary's, the Hidden Gem, with the help of **Google Maps**.

We have received some great reviews on Google Maps and we are asking your help to help others find our church by giving us a positive review and a good rating (5\*). The more positive reviews and the higher rating we get, the easier it is for people to find us. To find us on Google Maps, go to Google Maps and either:

- Put in the search - St Mary's church, Manchester
- Put in - Catholic church, Manchester
- Or put in the postcode - M2 6LN

Then just click on the map where you see **St Mary's Church** highlighted on Mulberry Street. We currently have a star rating of 4.9 out of 5, which is great, and we now have 506 reviews, many of them good reviews. **Please leave us a good 5\* star rating and a positive review.**

### 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.

## SANCTUARY CANDLES



#### The Pietà Altar:

- [1] Paul Grogan (SI)
- [2] Mother Lide (SI)
- [3] Joseph & Bridget Lanham RIP

#### Sacred Heart of Jesus:

- [1] Marie Oates (SI)
- [2] David Warrender RIP
- [3] Rose (SI)

#### Tabernacle [Our Lady]:

- [1] Anna J.
- [2] The Varkeys
- [3] Shantha J.

#### Tabernacle [Left side]:

- [1] Janet (SI)

#### Tabernacle [Right side]:

- [1] John & Ruth Kay (SI)

#### Tabernacle [St Joseph]:

- [1] The Men & Women of Saint Joseph (SI)
- [2] Dave
- [3] Scott family

#### Saint Anthony of Padua:

- [1] Deceased members of the Hopkins family

- [2] Frank Kelly (SI)

- [3] Kate Wynn (SI)

#### Saint Therese of Lisieux

- [1] Felix & Mary Moss (S)
- [2] Trish Joyce & family
- [3] Mary Cashin & family

#### Our Lady of Manchester:

- [1] Kieran McGuire
- [2] Kate Wynn (SI)
- [3] Magdalena (SI)
- [4] The Arndt Family (S)
- [5] Mary Hindle & family
- [6] Angelica Lovetta & Clare (SI)
- [7] Kathleen & Michael Campbell
- [8] Ian & Kath RIP
- [9] Christine Raymond
- [10] Maire McAlister (SI)

- [11] Magdelene (SI)

- [12] The Arndt Family (SI)

If you would like to have a 7-day candle lit for a loved one or for a special intention, please put the name of the intention on an envelope. A suggested minimum donation of £5 will help to cover the cost of the candle.

Please give the envelope to the Parish Priest, or place it through the presbytery letter box. The candles will be lit on Saturday morning, and will burn throughout the following week, with the names appearing in the parish newsletter each week.

# RESTORATION OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH AND PRESBYTERY

## PHASE ONE 2023 [COMPLETED] c.£250,000



The Phase One Restoration works, which began on Monday 17th April 2023, are now complete. The anticipated costs for Phase One of the works are in the region of **£250,000**, and we will have a final amount when the last invoices are paid in the next couple of weeks. Thanks to your generosity to Saint Mary's over the last few years, and in particular this past year, and with the help of some successful bids for grants, we have been able to undertake and pay for these essential works to preserve the fabric of the church and presbytery. We offer particular thanks to those who have made specific donations towards these works. The Phase One *Essential Works* mainly consisted in stopping the ingress of water, particularly when there were heavy downpours of rain, and making the church water tight.

## PHASE TWO [EARLY 2024] £35,000

This year we will continue our fundraising efforts, by appealing for to the generosity of parishioners and visitors, and applying for grants where can, so that we can move forward with the restoration project of Saint Mary's Church and Presbytery.

In this second phase of the development plan we will be installing the first part of:

### A FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY LIGHTING

The absence of an appropriate fire alarm & emergency lighting in the church and presbytery was first identified as a significant risk in a **Fire Risk Assessment** (FRA) prepared in November 2020. We have held off implanting the installation a Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting System because the immediate priority was to stop the water ingress and make the church water tight. Now that that has been done, we will now move on to making the buildings secure from a fire risk perspective, particularly given that there is no fire detection presently and that the presbytery and the church are connected.

Recently, we have engaged a specialist consultant who has drawn up a scheme for a **Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting System** for the church and the presbytery. The scheme will be implemented in different phases, as we continue to undertake works on the restoration of the church and the presbytery. The first part, fire detection and emergency lighting in the church and fire detection in the stairwell of the presbytery, will be implemented immediately. The whole scheme has been approved by the Diocesan Trustees and, in the last few weeks, we have gone out to tender to the three contractors to install the first part of the scheme. The cost of the first part of the scheme will be **£35,000 plus VAT and fees**. The tenders have now been received back and one of the tenders has been accepted, with the contractor having now been appointed by the diocesan trustees. Once all the permissions to install a Fire Alarm System on a listed building have been obtained, we will begin the works, hopefully sometime in February or March.

Thus we are starting with Phase Two as soon as possible and we will move forward with Phase Three later in the year when it has been costed and as and when funding becomes available and the necessary permissions are sought and given.

## PHASE THREE [2024 - 2025]

In Phase Three of the development plan we will be looking at:

1. Modifications to the gutters and downspouts to improve management of rainwater
2. Modifications to improve access for ongoing maintenance of the roof
3. Repairs to the church tower, including the installation of a lightning conductor
4. Repairs to the Upper Room timber work and glazing
5. Replacement of the presbytery roof and insulation (including the potential of PV solar panels on some of the roof tops)

**FUNDRAISING TARGET  
FOR PHASE TWO  
£35,000**

**FUNDRAISING FOR PHASE TWO**

**TO MAKE A DONATION  
TOWARDS THE  
RESTORATION FUND**

### PLEASE HELP US TO CONTINUE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE RESTORATION OF SAINT MARY'S

There are various ways that you can help in the parish fundraising efforts. **At the beginning of February**, and each month thereafter, we will update our Fundraising Thermometer from:

1. Donations given directly into the Parish Bank Account
2. Donations given through the QR Code
3. Donations given through the Diocesan and Parish Website
4. Donations given through the Card Machine in church
5. Other donations by cash or cheque given specifically for the Restoration Fund

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY  
TO SAINT MARY'S RESTORATION FUND**

**PARISH BANK ACCOUNT**  
(to make a donation by BACS  
or to set up a Standing Order)

The Salford Diocesan Trust  
Sort Code: 20 55 34  
Account number: 00915025

Cheques Payable to:  
**St Mary's, Manchester**

**SCAN THE QR CODE**



**USE THE CARD MACHINE  
AT THE ENTRANCE  
TO THE CHURCH**

