



ST MARY'S MULBERRY STREET THE HIDDEN GEM

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

SUNDAY 09 JUNE 2024

TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St Mary's Church | 17 Mulberry Street | MANCHESTER | M2 6LN

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Last Sunday we celebrated the most beautiful Feast of Corpus Christi and so I thought it opportune to focus this week on the importance of receiving the Most Blessed Eucharist in a dignified and reverent manner.

Receiving the Gift:

A Guide to the Dignified Reception of Holy Communion.

The Eucharist, is the most important sacrament for us. Receiving the Eucharist is a sacred act of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, a profound expression of unity with God and the Church. Approaching this sacrament with reverence and dignity is a natural response to the immense gift offered.

These few words explore the Catholic Church's guidelines and traditional practices surrounding the reception of Holy Communion. It aims to equip Catholics, both new and seasoned, to approach the Eucharist with a heart prepared for this sacred encounter.

Preparation for Receiving Communion

The foundation for a dignified reception of Holy Communion is a well-prepared heart. Catholic teaching emphasises the importance of being in a state of grace, meaning free from serious sin. This necessitates regular participation in the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) if one has committed a mortal sin.

Beyond the absence of sin, fostering a spirit of devotion is key. Prayerful reflection before Holy Mass, meditation on the significance of the Blessed Eucharist, and cultivating a spirit of gratitude are all essential aspects of preparation.

The Communion Procession: A Movement of Faith

The communion procession itself is a symbolic movement of faith. As Catholics rise and join the line, they become part of a unified body, the Church, moving towards a shared encounter with Christ. This movement should be approached with a sense of purpose and reverence.

Maintaining a prayerful demeanour while waiting in line is important. This can involve silent prayers, meditating on Scripture passages, or reflecting on the significance of the Blessed Eucharist.

Posture and Reverence: Expressing Belief

The manner in which one receives Holy Communion also contributes to a dignified approach. The Church offers guidelines for posture and gestures that serve as outward expressions of faith and respect.



The norm for receiving Holy Communion has developed over recent years into standing to receive Holy Communion, although this hasn't always been the case as, until recently, kneeling was always the traditional way to receive Our Blessed Lord in Holy Communion. Kneeling is an option here at St Mary's for those who find it a more expressive form of reverence for receiving Holy Communion. Regardless of posture, a slight bow of the head before receiving the host is a universal sign of respect for the sacrament.

Catholics have the option to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, kneeling, or in the cupped hands. If receiving in the hand, the Church encourages placing the left hand on top of the right, creating a "throne" for Christ. This simple gesture emphasises the sacredness of the host. After receiving the host on the left hand, one consumes the host reverently with the right hand in front of the priest and before returning to one's pew.

Attire and Appearance: Reflecting Inner Disposition

While there is no strict dress code for receiving Holy Communion, dressing modestly is a way to show respect for the sacredness of the occasion. Avoiding overly casual or revealing clothing allows the focus to remain on the spiritual significance of the Blessed Eucharist.

Beyond clothing, maintaining a general sense of order and cleanliness in one's appearance reflects the importance placed on receiving Christ.

Beyond the Guidelines: A Call to Holiness

The guidelines outlined above provide a framework for a dignified reception of Holy Communion. However, true reverence goes beyond mere adherence to rules. It is a call to a deeper encounter with Christ in the Eucharist.

Regular participation in Holy Mass, ongoing spiritual formation, and a commitment to living a Christian life all contribute to a more profound appreciation for the gift of Holy Communion. As St. Augustine said, "We are what we eat." By receiving Christ with a prepared heart and a life striving for holiness, Catholics become more fully the Body of Christ in the world.

In conclusion, receiving Holy Communion is a privilege and a profound act of faith. Approaching this sacrament with dignity, both externally and internally, allows Catholics to experience the fullness of this gift and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

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 10 June Weekday	TUESDAY 11 June St Barnabas Apostle	WEDNESDAY 12 June Weekday	THURSDAY 13 June St Anthony of Padua Priest and Doctor of the Church	FRIDAY 14 June THE DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL	SATURDAY 15 June Votive Mass of Our Blessed Lady	SUNDAY 16 June ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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	<i>No Adoration today due to installation of the Fire Detection System in church</i>	<i>No Adoration today due to installation of the Fire Detection System in church</i>	<i>No Adoration today due to installation of the Fire Detection System in church</i>	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 and Confessions
11.00am - 11.50am Confessions	11.00am - 11.50am Confessions	11.00am - 11.50am Confessions	11.00am - 11.50am Confessions	11.00am - 11.50am Confessions	10.30am - 11.15am Confessions	10.00am HOLY MASS
12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction & Novena	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction & Novena	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction & Novena	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction	11.30am Holy Rosary & Benediction	12 noon 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	
		<i>After Mass Church Cleaning</i>		<i>After Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>		Church closes after Mass
		5.00pm - 5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & 5.00pm - 5.45pm Confessions		2.30pm - 2.50pm Confessions		
4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	6.00pm HOLY MASS	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions	
		6.30pm - 7.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction			5.15pm VIGIL MASS of SUNDAY	
		7.15pm Church closes			Church closes after Mass	
		7.15pm - 8.30pm Young Catholic Adults Group				

PARISH DIARY

Wednesday 12 June	YOUNG ADULTS GROUP	Weekly Mass, Adoration, and meeting at 6.00pm - 8.30pm
Thursday 13 June	FEAST OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA	11.00am Adoration and Confessions, 12 noon Rosary, 12.30pm Mass
Saturday 22 June	FEAST OF Ss JOHN FISHER AND THOMAS MORE, MARTYRS	10.30am Adoration and Confessions, 11.30am Rosary, 12.30pm Mass
Friday 05 July	FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS	11.00am Adoration and Confessions, 12 noon Rosary, 12.30pm Mass & Devotions
Saturday 06 July	FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS	10.30am Adoration, 11.30am Rosary, 12noon Mass & Devotions
Sunday 07 July	MADONNA DEL ROSARIO PROCESSION 	Starting at the Former St Michael's church, Ancoats, 1.15pm A parish group will be walking in the procession. Please try your best to join us this year and put your name on the list at the back of the church .



PARISH NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

To Alex Scholes and Zuleykha Zaur who celebrate their marriage here at St Mary's this weekend. We wish them every blessing and happiness in their married life together.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION

Following the recent electrical fault during Weekday Mass a few weeks ago, which caused a small fire and the need to call the Emergency Services, we were informed subsequently that the Fire Service would be undertaking a Fire Safety Inspection. This took place on Tuesday, and I was joined for the meeting with the Fire Safety Officer by Martin Heywood, the Diocesan Health and Safety Co-ordinator, and David Raymond, a parishioner, who helps to co-ordinate Health and Safety matters for St Mary's.

The purpose of the inspection was to establish if the requirements of the Fire Safety Order are being met to ensure the safety of people in and around the premises.

I am pleased to say that the outcome of the fire safety inspection of St Marys RC Church and Presbytery on 4th June 2024 under the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (the Fire Safety Order) was good. We have been informed by letter that the Fire Safety Inspector was satisfied that we have the necessary fire safety arrangements and provisions in place to ensure the premises are safe and are complying with our main responsibilities under the Fire Safety Order.

Naturally, once the installation of Fire Detection System is completed we will be in better position going forward and, once again, **I thank you for your ongoing generosity to St Mary's which is enabling us to install a fire alarm system.**

YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS - WEDNESDAYS

Our parish Young Catholic Adults Group is going from strength to strength and we invite any young adults in their 20s and 30s to join us on **Wednesday evenings for the celebration of Holy Mass at 6.00pm**, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and an evening of reflection, discussion, & social time together.

- 6.00pm Holy Mass
- 6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7.15pm Refreshments
- 7.30pm Talk/ Reflection/ or Discussion
- 8.30pm Conclude

This Wednesday there will be a talk on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. All young adults are welcome to join us.

MADONNA DEL ROSARIO PROCESSION

This year's Madonna del Rosario Procession will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 7th July, departing from St Michael's, George Leigh Street, Ancoats, at 1.15pm. Last year we had a great turnout of 100 parishioners and, it is hoped that, this year, we will be even stronger in number. Please make a note of the date in your diary and, if you know that you will be able to join us, please put your name on the list at the back of the church. This will enable to make sure that we have enough blue sashes for all the parishioners of St Mary's walking in the procession.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

For those parishioners who use offertory envelopes, a new set of envelopes are available from the volunteer on the Piety Stall. Just ask for your set of envelopes.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Please place Mass intentions and the donation in a envelope with the Mass Intention clearly marked on the front of the envelope and hand it into the church or presbytery.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated for the following intentions:



Lately deceased: Mark Maslovich (LD); Doreen Partington; Sr Marie Dolores O'Brien

Anniversary: Mary Kate Lyons (05/06); Philip Miskella (10/06) Fr Maurice Murphy (14/06); Theresa Visco; Eileen Malone

In remembrance: The Holy Souls; Leo and Lillian Kavanagh; Vito Marino, Carmelo Minafò, Roz Ewart, Felice Genovese, Derek Beetham, Francesco Manzella, Fabio Androletti, Stefano Porro, Alicia Cordero Hernández; Ernesto B. Quider, Sr; Mansueta N Quider; Imelda Crowe (BR 09/06); Deogracias C Estrella; Jose O Lustre; Alieuai Lustre; Julia Lustre; Salud O Lustre

Special Intentions: Kate Wynn; Fitzpatrick family; Ana Karla, Grazia Lombardo, Nicolò, Laura, Cinzia, Genovese Family, All people burdened with sickness; For Healing and Liberation; Ernesto N Quider, Jr;

Jeffryn M Unite; Quider family; Unite family; Ann Smith; Ann Mulligan; Frank Arthur; Margaret Burns; Donor's intentions; Marcella Geoghan; In thanksgiving for prayers answered; Pamela Aziate; Rachel Protual; Jose Estrella; Jame Frances Estrella; Aurora Estrella; Samantha Clemente; Andrea Azicate; Jessica Clemente; Christopher John Clemente

SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

The Pietà Altar:

- [1] Paul Grogan (SI)
- [2] Thomas O'Rourke RIP
- [3] Lide (SI)

Sacred Heart of Jesus:

- [1] Katerina (SI)
- [2] Chris Smith (SI)
- [3] Ann Smith RIP
- [4] Stephen Jerstice RIP (LD)
- [5] Anna J.
- [6] The Varkeys
- [7] Shantha J.

Tabernacle [Our Lady]:

- [1] Walda & Chevez Matthew

Tabernacle [Left side]:

- [1] Kate Wynn (SI)

Tabernacle [Right side]:

- [1] John & Ruth Kay (SI)

Tabernacle [St Joseph]:

- [1] Scott family

Saint Anthony of Padua:

- [1] Josephine Mason
- [2] Trevor & Viv (SI)
- [3] Leah for healing after operation

Saint Therese of Lisieux

- [1] Bray Lee (SI)
- [2] In thanksgiving to St Anne for favours received

Our Lady of Manchester:

- [1] Magdalena (SI)
- [2] The Arndt Family (S)
- [3] Maire McAllister
- [4] Liam O'Connor RIP (A)
- [5] A Special Intention
- [6] Kathleen & Michael Campbell RIP
- [7] Promote recovery from injury



YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS INSTAGRAM @youngcatholicadultsmanchester

RESTORATION OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH AND PRESBYTERY

PHASE ONE 2023 Essential Works [COMPLETED] £250,000



The Phase One Restoration works, which began on Monday 17th April 2023, are now complete at cost of £250,000. 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. This year we will continue our fundraising efforts, by appealing to the generosity of parishioners and visitors, and applying for grants where we can, so that we can move forward with the restoration project of Saint Mary's Church and Presbytery.

PHASE TWO Fire Alarm System & rebuild of the Church Organ [EARLY 2024]

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

1. 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** prepared in November 2020. 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, recently, we have appointed a contractor to install the first part of the scheme, the cost of which will be **£35,000**. **All the permissions have now been obtained, and work on the installation has begun.**

Thanks to your generosity, we now have the funds to pay for fire alarm system and are well on the way to raising the funds for the new church organ

2. A REBUILD OF THE CHURCH ORGAN

As some of you will be aware, our church organ met an untimely demise at Pentecost last year. Earlier in the year, we appointed Viscount Classical Organs to rebuild our organ. The cost to have the organ rebuilt, using our own case, pedalboard, and stops, but replacing everything else with modern digital technology, will be **£45,000**.

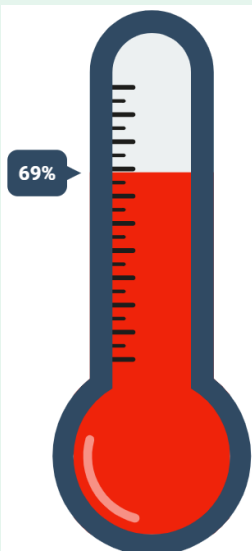
Thus we are starting with both elements of Phase Two now and we will move forward with Phase Three later in the year when it has been costed and as and when funding becomes available and the necessary permissions are sought and given.

PHASE THREE [2024 - 2025]

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

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

**FUNDRAISING TARGET
FOR PHASE TWO
£80,000**



FUNDRAISING FOR PHASE TWO

**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.

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 Machines in church**
5. Donations given to the **Votive Candle Boxes in church**
6. Donations put in the **Window box** at the back of church
7. Funds raised from the **Parish Piety Stall**
8. **Tax reclaimed from HMRC** on Gift Aided Donations
9. Other **Personal Donations** by cash or cheque given specifically for The Restoration Fund

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

**TO MAKE A DONATION
TOWARDS THE
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**