



SAINT MARY'S  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH  
MULBERRY ST

1794 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
10TH MAY 2026


# THE HIDDEN GEM


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

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MANCHESTER SINCE 1794

## PARISH PRIEST

Monsignor Canon Anthony Kay

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 www.hiddengem.me.uk

 St Mary's Parish  
@rchiddengem



## TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

Please scan the QR code  
with your mobile phone camera.



Please enter the amount  
of your donation and then  
input your payment card  
details. If you are a tax  
payer, please remember  
to tick the Gift Aid box.

Thank you for your generosity

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  
and 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.

Welcome to St Mary's, Mulberry Street

## THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord is one of the most important celebrations in the Catholic Church and is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation in this country. Celebrated forty days after Easter, the feast commemorates the moment when Jesus Christ ascended into heaven in the presence of His disciples. This event is described in the Acts of the Apostles and marks the completion of Christ's earthly mission.

The Ascension is significant because it reminds Catholics that Jesus opened the gates of heaven for humanity through His death and resurrection. Before ascending, Christ instructed His disciples to continue spreading the Gospel to all nations. This mission continues today through the work of the Church and the faithful around the world.

Catholics are encouraged to attend Mass on this holy day to honour Christ's glory and reflect on their own spiritual journey toward heaven. The feast also emphasizes hope, reminding believers that Jesus remains present with His people through the Holy Spirit.

The Ascension of the Lord is therefore both a celebration of Christ's triumph and a call for Christians to live faithfully and share the message of salvation with others.

**There will be two Masses on Thursday,**  
The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord:

**12.30pm and 6.00pm** (Solemn Mass)

## THE PENTECOST NOVENA

The Pentecost Novena is a beautiful and ancient tradition of prayer in the Catholic Church, inviting the faithful to prepare spiritually for the great feast of Pentecost. The novena begins on the day after the Ascension of the Lord and continues for nine days, ending on the eve of Pentecost Sunday. It recalls the time when the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles gathered in prayer in the Upper Room, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit as promised by Jesus.

Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, giving them courage, wisdom, and zeal to proclaim the Gospel to the world. For this reason, the Pentecost Novena is often considered the first novena in the history of the Church. Catholics are encouraged during these nine days to pray for a deeper renewal of faith and for the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

The novena is also an opportunity to pray for the needs of the Church, our parish community, and our families. Through daily prayer, Scripture reading, and reflection, we open our hearts to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.



As we prepare for Pentecost, let us join together in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in holiness, strengthen us in times of difficulty, and inspire us to be joyful witnesses of Christ in the world today. May this sacred time renew our parish with faith, unity, and the fire of God's love.

# THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

<b>MONDAY</b> 11 May <b>Easter Weekday</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b> 12 May <b>Easter Weekday</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 13 May <b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b> 14 May <b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b> 15 May <b>Easter Weekday</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b> 16 May <b>Easter Weekday</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b> 17 May <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>
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09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	09.30am <b>Church opens</b>	8.30am <b>Church opens</b>
11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	11.00am - 12.25pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	10.30am - 11.55pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	09.00am - 9.45am <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</b>
11.00am - 11.50am <b>Confessions</b>	11.00am - 11.50am <b>Confessions</b>	11.00am - 11.50am <b>Confessions</b>	11.00am - 11.50am <b>Confessions</b>	11.00am - 11.50am <b>Confessions</b>	10.30am - 11.15am <b>Confessions</b>	10.00am <b>HOLY MASS</b>
12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	12 noon <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	11.30am <b>Holy Rosary &amp; Benediction</b>	<i>followed by</i> <b>The Pentecost Novena</b>
12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>	12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>	12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b> <i>after Mass</i> <b>Church Clearing</b>	12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b>	12.30pm <b>HOLY MASS</b> <i>followed by</i> <b>The Pentecost Novena and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	12 noon <b>HOLY MASS</b> <i>followed by</i> <b>The Pentecost Novena</b>	11.00am <b>CHILDREN'S CATECHISM</b>
4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>	4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>	4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>	6.00pm <b>SOLEMN MASS</b> <b>Church closes</b> <i>after Mass</i>	3.00pm <b>Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction</b> 4.00pm <b>Church closes</b>	1.30pm <b>Baptism</b> of Nathaniel 4.00pm - 5.00pm <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	12 noon <b>SOLEMN MASS</b> <i>followed by</i> <b>The Pentecost Novena</b>
			7.00pm <b>ADULT'S CATECHISM</b>		4.00pm - 5.00pm <b>Confessions</b> 5.15pm <b>VIGIL MASS</b> <b>Church closes</b> <i>after Mass</i>	<b>Church closes</b> <i>after Mass</i>

## PARISH DIARY

<b>Thursday</b> 14 May	<b>FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	11.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary 12.30pm Holy Mass 6.00pm Solemn Mass
<b>Sunday</b> 24 May	<b>FEAST OF PENTECOST</b> <b>Sacrament of Confirmation</b>	5.15pm Vigil Mass of Pentecost 10.00am Holy Mass 12noon Solemn Mass and the Sacrament of Confirmation
<b>Friday</b> 05 June	<b>FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS</b> 	11.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary 12.30pm Holy Mass 1.00pm Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
<b>Saturday</b> 06 June	<b>FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS</b> 	10.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 11.30am Holy Rosary 12 noon Holy Mass 12.30pm Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
<b>Sunday</b> 07 June	<b>FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI</b> <b>First Holy Communions</b>	5.15pm Vigil Mass 10.00am Holy Mass and First Holy Communions 12noon Solemn Mass
<b>Friday</b> 12 June	<b>FEAST OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS</b>	11.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary 12.30pm Holy Mass 6.00pm Solemn Mass

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Oliver and Elsene who were married here at St Mary's last Saturday. We wish them every blessing and happiness in their married life together.

## WELCOME

We welcome **Eliana**, the daughter of Oghenevarho and Jemine, who was baptised here this weekend. Our warmest congratulations to the family on the birth and baptism of their daughter.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

A number of our parishioners are preparing for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Pentecost Sunday and First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Corpus Christi. Please remember in your prayers those of our parish who are preparing at this time to receive these sacraments.

## SILENCE

Please try to keep silence in St Mary's church at all times: before, during, and after the celebrations of Holy Mass and other services. Please be particularly attentive to maintain the silence after Holy Mass. Many people seek out St Mary's because it is a sanctuary of silence and prayer at the heart of city. Please do not spoil the silence by unnecessarily talking to others in church; please wait until you go outside. Thank you.

## MADONNA DEL ROSARIO PROCESSION

The annual Madonna del Rosario procession will take place through the streets of our parish this year on the first Sunday in July, 5th July at 1.15pm. For safety reasons, this year the organisers of the procession have to provide more marshalls than in previous years and a small training session has to be undertaken. If you are willing to be a marshall for this year's procession, please have a word with Nathan in the coming weeks.

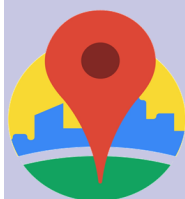
## GUARDIANS OF THE CHURCH

I am grateful to all the parishioners who help to keep the church open each day. To help to continue to keep St Mary's open each day, we are 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 the church and, sometimes, to assist with sales on the piety stall. If you can help in any way, please have a word with David Raymond or Fr Anthony

## KEEPING ST MARY'S CHURCH CLEAN

Many thanks to those who come every week to help to clean the church, with just a reminder that every Wednesday afternoon a small team of faithful parishioners give the church a good clean, and that all are invited to help. The number of helpers has dwindled in recent months, and I would ask you please not to leave the cleaning of our church and toilet to just a few people. The church gets a lot of use in a week and it benefits from being kept on top of on a regular weekly basis. If you are willing and able to help us in this way please come along any Wednesday afternoon from 1.30pm, even if you can only come now and then.

## HELP OTHERS TO FIND US AT ST 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 St Mary's, 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 finding St Mary's 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, one easy way is to scan the QR code provided here:

Or 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 4.8 out of 5, which is great, and we now have 703 reviews, many of them very good reviews. **Please leave us a 5\* star rating and a positive review. Thank you.,**

The summary of all the reviews currently says:

*"People say this Catholic church offers a peaceful place for prayer and reflection, and a beautiful Sunday Mass. They highlight the contemplative atmosphere, the welcoming community, and the daily Adoration. They also like the historic architecture and the sense of solitude and peace."*



## FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM



It is good to see that we have a growing following on our parish Instagram account. Instagram is a great way to keep up with news from the parish and also a great way to share the life of our vibrant parish with others. If you are on Instagram, please follow us and like and share our posts. **@rchiddengem**



## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

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

**Lately deceased:** Fr Peter McGiveron; Kathleen Harvey; Valentine Mullins; Val Mullins; Grace Gee; Kath Harvey; Clive Evenden; Michael Kelly; Christine Dawon

**Anniversaries:** Gino Cangini (09/05)

**In remembrance:** The Holy Souls; Halvey and Mullins families; John Kenneth Booth; Rosily Thomas

**Special Intentions:** Kate Wynn; Stephen Onokwai; Thomas Walker; Amelie Sharples; Val, Dympna, and Chris Mullins; Val & Chris Mullins; Teresa Mullins; Mary & Roy Adamson; John O'Connell; Mons. John Butchard; Annie; The Kelly family; Sr Henrietta Oluwole SSMA; Andy Williams; Donor's intentions; For James' recovery; Monique Malone

If you wish to have a Mass celebrated at St Mary's, please place your Mass intentions and a donation for the Mass stipend in an envelope, with the Mass Intention clearly marked on the front of the envelope, and hand it into the church or presbytery.

## CARITAS FOODBANK

We continue to welcome any donations to the **Foodbank Collection point** at the back of church. The parish Caritas group makes regular deliveries to Caritas. Also, all donations to the **Poor Box** go to support those in need.

**Thank you for your generosity to Caritas**

Can you help?

**This month we are collecting:**



Tinned meat - tuna, corned beef, ham, meatballs, stews

## RESTORATION OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH AND PRESBYTERY

Thanks to your generosity to Saint Mary's over the last few years, and with the help of some successful bids for grants, we have been able to undertake **£450,000** worth of essential works to preserve the fabric of the church and presbytery. This year we are continuing our fundraising efforts, by appealing to the ongoing generosity of parishioners and visitors, and applying for grants where we can, so that we can move forward with the restoration of Saint Mary's Church & Presbytery.

We have been working with our parish architect over the last four or five years and we now have a very good idea of the works that need to be undertaken and we have had many of the necessary surveys done. The further works in the coming years will be needed to bring all the external fabric of the church up to a standard in order to preserve it for many years to come as well as restoring the interior of our beautiful church.

Further meetings are taking place at this time to determine the next phase of works and, whilst it was envisaged that the next phase might take place this year, following discussions with the Property Department of the diocese, it has been decided that we try to do a larger package of works next year. Doing more works at the same time will, in the long run, be more cost effective. Once we have more details, we will update everyone in due course through the Parish Newsletter. Meanwhile, we are trying to raise **£500,000** towards the costs of these works.

For any donations you give to the Restoration Fund, please consider, if you pay income tax, gift aiding your donation so that the parish can claim a further 25% on your donation. This will make a real difference to our restoration project.

There are various ways that you can help in our fundraising efforts.

Our Fundraising Thermometer is updated from donations:

into the **Parish Bank Account**, through the **QR Code**, the **Diocesan website**, the **Parish Website**, through the **Card Machines**, given to the **Votive Candle Boxes**, put in the **Window boxes** in church, as well as funds raised from the **Parish Piety Stall**, **Tax reclaimed** on Gift Aided Donations, and other **Personal Donations** by cash or cheque given for The Restoration Fund

**Thank you for your generosity towards the restoration of St Mary's**

## SANCTUARY CANDLES



### THE CALVARY ALTAR

- [1] Shantha J.
- [2] The Varkeys
- [3] Eamonn Boylan RIP (LD)
- [4] Vincent Morrison RIP (LD)

### THE SACRED HEART

- [1] Christopher Fitzpatrick RIP
- [2] Mary & Roy Adamson (SI)
- [3] Therese Mullins (SI)

### TABERNACLE (OUR LADY)

- [1] Scott family
- [2] Peter Edwin Cole RIP (LD)
- [3] Mary & Roy Adamson (SI)

### TABERNACLE (LEFT SIDE)

- [1] John & Ruth Kay (SI)

### TABERNACLE (RIGHT SIDE)

- [1] Stone and Kay families RIP

If you would like to have a Sanctuary candle alight in the church for seven 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 **£6.00**. Candles are lit on Saturdays

### TABERNACLE (ST JOSEPH)

- [1] Emma and Violet
- [2] Matthew (SI)
- [3] Philip (SI)

### ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

- [1] Val & Chris Mullins (SI)
- [2] Elizabeth McManus (SI)

### ST THERESE OF LISIEUX

- [1] Karl (SI)
- [2] Kate Wynn (SI)

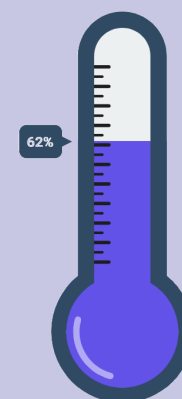
### OUR LADY OF MANCHESTER

- [1] Catherine Ryan & Family
- [2] John Kenneth Booth RIP

### ST AMBROSE BARLOW



## FUNDRAISING TARGET FOR THE NEXT PHASE £500,000



## TO MAKE A DONATION TO 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**

**OR SCAN THE QR CODE ON THE FRONT OF THE PARISH NEWSLETTER**