



SAINT MARY'S
CATHOLIC
CHURCH
MULBERRY ST

1794 2026

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST AUGUST 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



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



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www.hiddengem.me.uk



St Mary's Parish
@rchiddengem

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO YORK

We are organising a parish day pilgrimage to York on the August Bank Holiday Monday, 31st August. The Day Pilgrimage will be a lovely opportunity to have a day out together and to join in the Annual York Pilgrimage in honour of **St Margaret Clitherow**, one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales, to attend Holy Mass and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the Oratory Church, and to have a little time to visit the historic city of York. The cost of the day pilgrimage by coach is £20 for adults and £10 for children.

Booking forms are available at the back of the church. To book a place, please complete a booking form and place it in an envelope addressed to Fr Anthony, including with your booking form the payment for the pilgrimage.

We have one coach fully booked and so we have booked a second coach. If you are considering joining us, and to help in our planning, please book as soon as possible. We only have **15 seats** available on the second coach.

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

PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF SAINT MARGARET CLITHEROW

AND THE MARTYRS OF YORK

'I die for love of the Lord Jesu.'

Monday 31st August 2026



from 9.00 am at the
BAR CONVENT
Blossom Street, YO24 1AQ

- Chapel and Garden open
- Relic of St Margaret Clitherow's hand may be venerated
- Tea and coffee on sale

10.45 am Procession from
MICKLEGATE BAR
passing the sites of
St Margaret's life and death
and prayers at the
Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow
on the Shambles

12.00 Noon High Mass at the
YORK ORATORY
Duncombe Place, YO1 7EF
Music sung by the Oratory Choir

3.00 pm Benediction at the
YORK ORATORY

www.yorkoratory.com

**St Margaret
Clitherow**
(1556-1586)

was an English
Catholic martyr
who lived during
the reign of Queen
Elizabeth I.

Born in York,
she converted to
Catholicism after
her marriage to
John Clitherow,
a prosperous
butcher. Despite
laws banning the
Catholic faith, she
bravely sheltered
priests in her home,
risking her life to
protect them.

Arrested for
harbouring Catholic
clergy, Margaret
refused to plead in
court, preventing
her children from
being forced to
testify. She was
sentenced to death
by pressing and
executed on
25 March 1586.

Canonised in 1970,
she is remembered
for her
extraordinary
courage, faith, and
selfless devotion.

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY’S

MONDAY 03 August	TUESDAY 04 August	WEDNESDAY 05 August	THURSDAY 06 August	FRIDAY 07 August	SATURDAY 08 August	SUNDAY 09 August
Feria	St John Mary Vianney	Feria	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart FIRST FRIDAY	St Dominic	NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
09.30am Church opens	09.30am Church opens	09.30am Church opens	09.30am Church opens	09.30am Church opens	09.30am Church opens	8.30am Church opens
11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 11.50am Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction 12.30pm HOLY MASS	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 11.50am Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction 12.30pm HOLY MASS	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 11.50am Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction 12.30pm HOLY MASS 1.30pm Church Cleaning	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 11.50am Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction 12.30pm HOLY MASS	11.00am - 12.25pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 11.50am Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary & Benediction 12.30pm HOLY MASS <i>followed by</i> First Friday Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 3.00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction	10.30am - 11.55pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am - 11.15am Confessions 11.30am Holy Rosary & Benediction 12 noon HOLY MASS 2.00pm NUPTIAL MASS James and Eleanor 4.00pm - 5.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions 5.15pm VIGIL MASS of SUNDAY Church closes after Mass	09.00am - 9.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 10.00am HOLY MASS 12 noon SOLEMN MASS Church closes after Mass
4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm Church closes	4.00pm - 5.00pm Confessions	

PARISH DIARY

Sunday 16th August	THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY <i>(transferred from the 15th August)</i> PARISH FEAST DAY	5.15pm Holy Mass (Vigil Mass) 10.00am Holy Mass 12 noon Solemn Mass
Monday 31st August	PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO YORK 	8.00am Coach departs from John Dalton Street 10.45am Procession from Micklegate Bar, with prayers at the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow on the Shambles 12noon High Mass at the York Oratory Time for lunch (bring your own or find somewhere to eat) and time to explore the Historic City of York and, for those who wish, at 3.00pm there is Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the Oratory. 3.00pm Benediction at the York Oratory 8.00pm Arrival back in Manchester
Friday 04 September	FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS	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
Friday 04 September	Fr TOM CONNOLLY’S 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD	7.00pm SOLEMN MASS
Saturday 05 September	FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS	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

CONGRATULATIONS

Our warmest congratulations to **Riccardo and Jessica**, two of our parishioners, who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage in Sicily on Wednesday. I had the great pleasure of travelling to Sicily to celebrate the Nuptial Mass for them and it was a wonderful occasion to be a part of. We wish them every blessing and happiness in their married life together.

FR TOM CONNOLLY'S GOLDEN JUBILEE OF SACRED PRIESTHOOD

Our good friend, Fr Tom Connolly, who helps us so much here at St Mary's with celebrating Masses and hearing confessions on a regular basis, is celebrating his Golden Jubilee as a priest on Friday 4th September. Fr Tom will be celebrating a **Solemn Mass here at St Mary's on Friday 4th September 2026 at 7pm**, in thanksgiving for the Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood, and he has asked me to invite you all to join him for the celebration of Holy Mass in thanksgiving to Almighty God on this anniversary.



Google reviews

We get lots of lovely reviews on Google each week. One particular striking on this past week was from Peter G:

"A wonderful place and community - Mass at midday on Sunday is truly special. It features a cosmopolitan, global congregation; a diverse, inspirational, committed, and genuinely impressive altar serving team; and wonderful music. It is a place where you feel deeply connected to the Church."

Thank you, Peter.

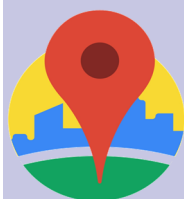
CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Catechism Classes for children (preparing for the First Holy Communion and for Confirmation) and a Catechism Class for Adults will begin in early September. Full details of the classes will be available soon but any parents, who have not already done so, and who wish their children to be included in these classes, or any adults who wish to be involved in these classes, should have a word with Fr Anthony as soon as possible.

PARISH FUNDRAISING - 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. All sales raise funds to help us in our mission in the city-centre and to help towards the restoration works in the next few years. So, if you are thinking of sending a card or buying a small religious gift for someone, or a looking for religious items, and gifts, please have a look at what we have available before you buy your gifts or cards elsewhere. Please let your friends know that these items are now available at St Mary's at the back of the church whenever the church is open. **Thank you for your support and generosity.**

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



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: Peter Shalley; Philip Devlin; Padraic Dunne

Anniversaries: Margaret Kennerk (20/07) Patrick Heayes

In remembrance: The Holy Souls;

Special Intentions: Kate Wynn; Kevin Meagher; John Meagher; Joe Meagher; Brenda Hayes

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
veg - peas,
carrots,
potatoes

SANCTUARY CANDLES



THE CALVARY ALTAR

- [1] Ian Shaw Sr RIP
- [2] Ian Shaw Jr RIP
- [3] Caroline Shaw
- [4] Evelyn Harvey RIP
- [5] Christina Durking RIP (LD)
- [6] Maura O'Connell RIP (LD)

THE SACRED HEART

- [1] Christopher Fitzpatrick RIP
- [2] For blessings received

TABERNACLE (OUR LADY)

- [1] Kate Wynn (SI)
- [2] Intentions of Bridie

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] Intentions of Mgt * M

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

- [1] For blessings received
- [2] Denis Bardsley
- [3] The Bardsley family

ST THERESE OF LISIEUX

- [1] Liam Kennerk
- [2] Fenton Kennerk
- [3] Violet Kennerk

OUR LADY OF MANCHESTER

- [1] Shantha J.
- [2] The Varkeys
- [3] John Ludden RIP
- [4] Catherine Ryan & family
- [5] For blessings received

ST AMBROSE BARLOW

- [1] Anna Rebecca Nino
- [2] Karl and Dan (SI)

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.

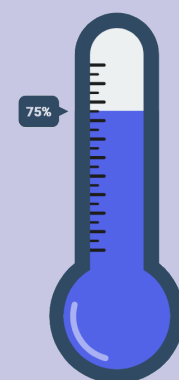
There are various ways that you can help in our fundraising efforts.

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

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