



SAINT MARY'S
CATHOLIC
CHURCH
MULBERRY ST

1794

2026

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
11TH OCTOBER 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



0161 834 3547



anthony.kay@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



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 be-
loved institutions in
the city of Manchester.



Welcome to
St Mary's,
Mulberry Street

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS [1]

When we come to Mass on a Sunday,
what exactly are we coming to do?

We might say, "We have come to
pray." Or, "We have come to hear the
readings and the homily." Or perhaps,
"We have come to receive Holy
Communion." All of those answers
are true. But there is something much
deeper happening.

We have come to **worship God**. And
worship is something that belongs
properly to God alone. We come
because God is our Creator, because
He has given us everything we have,
and because He has revealed Himself
to us in Jesus Christ.

But there is something even more
remarkable about the Mass. When we
come into this church, we are not
simply gathering together as a group
of Christians. We are being drawn
into something much greater. The
Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the
worship of the whole Church, the
Church on earth united with the saints
and angels in heaven.

The Book of Revelation gives us
glimpses of this heavenly worship. We
see the angels gathered around God's
throne, praising Him continually. And
at Mass we hear those same words:

**"Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth -
Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of hosts."**

We are joining our voices to the
worship of heaven. That is why the
Mass deserves our reverence.
It is why we should enter the church
quietly. It is why we genuflect
towards the Blessed Sacrament. It is
why we make the Sign of the Cross.
It is why silence has such an
important place in Catholic worship.
These things are not simply customs.
They express what we believe. We
believe that we are coming into the
presence of God.

And perhaps one of the greatest
difficulties we have today is that we
are surrounded by noise. There is
always something demanding our
attention - our phones, our
televisions, our computers, our
messages, our daily worries.

The celebration of Holy Mass gives us
an opportunity to stop, to become



still, to listen, to remember that there
is something greater than ourselves.

And then we discover that the Mass is
not something the priest does while
we watch. Christ Himself gathers us.
Christ is the true High Priest and we
are His people, gathered around His
altar.

So when we come to Mass,
we should not think of ourselves as
spectators. We are participants in
something heavenly. We have been
invited into the worship of God
Himself.

And perhaps this is a good thought to
take with us the next time we come
through those church doors.

Before Mass begins, stop for a
moment. Make the Sign of the Cross.
Become quiet. And say to yourself:

**"I am entering
the presence of God.
Christ has gathered
His people together.
I am here to worship Him."**

That changes the way we come to
Mass. We are not simply fulfilling an
obligation. We are responding to an
invitation.

Christ gathers us. He calls us
together. He invites us into the
worship of heaven. And that is why
the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is at the
heart of Catholic life.

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

MONDAY 12 October St Wilfrid	TUESDAY 13 October St Edward the Confessor	WEDNESDAY 14 October Feria	THURSDAY 15 October St Teresa of Avila	FRIDAY 16 October St Margaret Mary Alacoque	SATURDAY 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch	SUNDAY 18 October TWENTY NINTH 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 - 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 - 9.45am 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	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	11.00am Catechism Class for children
12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS	12.30pm HOLY MASS followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	12 noon HOLY MASS	12 noon SOLEMN MASS
		1.30pm Church Cleaning		2.30pm - 2.55pm Confessions		
				3.00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy		
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	Church closes after Mass
			7.00pm Catechism Class for Adults		5.15pm VIGIL MASS of SUNDAY	
					Church closes after Mass	

PARISH DIARY

Thursday 15 October	ADULTS' CATECHISM CLASS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH	7.00pm - 8.00pm For adults wishing to explore the Catholic Faith through a structured series of Catechism Classes:
	7. Christ our King and our Judge	For adults who wish to be baptised or to be received into Communion with the Catholic Church or for adult Catholics preparing for Sacrament of Confirmation.
Sunday 01 November	SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS	5.15pm Holy Mass (Vigil Mass Saturday Evening) 10.00am Holy Mass 12noon Solemn Mass
Monday 02 November	ALL SOULS' DAY	12.30pm Holy Mass 6.00pm Solemn Mass
Friday 05 November	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
Saturday 06 November	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
Friday 20 -Sunday 22 November	QUARANT'ORE	Forty Hours of Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Further details will be available shortly
Tuesday 24 November	VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA	11.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 12 noon Holy Rosary 12.30pm Holy Mass After Mass - Opportunity to venerate the relics of St Gerard Majella All afternoon - Visit the relics and venerate them on the hour 6.00pm Holy Mass and veneration of the relics.

CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Catechism Classes for children (preparing for the First Holy Communion and for Confirmation) started recently after the 10am Sunday Mass. If any parent of the parish has children of the age for preparation for First Holy Communion or Confirmation, please speak to Louie Pereira or Fr Anthony after Sunday Mass today.

GREGORIAN CHANT SCHOLA

Here at St Mary's, we have a **Gregorian Chant Schola** to help to support the singing of the Gregorian Chant at the 12noon Solemn Mass on Sundays. One of our parishioners, Dr Rosemarie Darby, is directing the Schola and teaching us the chant, supported by our organist, Nathan. Short practices take place on Sunday mornings at 11.15am, 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. It would be good to increase the numbers in our Chant Schola, so please think about joining us and learning the chant. It is truly making a huge difference to the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.

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.

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**

SVP CEILIDH HOMLESS FUNDRAISER

The Parish SVP Conference are organising a Ceilidh to raise funds for their work with the homeless in Manchester. It will take place on Saturday 7th November 2026 at Our Lady's Social Club, Flinto Street, Stockport, SK3 8BD, with doors opening at 7pm. £10 Entrance Fee. For more information contact Royston roystonc@svp.org.uk

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA

To celebrate St Gerard Majella's 300th anniversary, the Redemptorists are taking his relics on pilgrimage around England and Wales. In November they will be in St Mary's for one day.

This will be on Tuesday 24th November. There will be the usual Mass at 12.30pm, followed by the opportunity for individual or family blessings with the relics. St Gerard is the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. The relics will remain in church all afternoon for quiet prayer and there will be the opportunity for individual or family blessings with the relics at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, and 5pm. There will be confessions at 5pm and Mass at 6pm, after which there will be the opportunity to receive a blessing with the relics and to venerate the relics.



Born in 1726 in the Kingdom of Naples, Gerard Majella is today venerated as the patron saint of mothers, expectant mothers, children (particularly unborn children), good confessions, and the falsely accused. In 1749, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer – known as the Redemptorists – and is remembered for his dedication and service to others, as well as numerous miracles. One such miracle tells the story of a visit St Gerard paid to a local family.

During this visit, he dropped his handkerchief and when one of the girls rushed to return it, he told her to keep hold of it as she might have need of it one day. Years later, the girl – now married – was on the verge of dying in childbirth and she asked the handkerchief to be brought to her. Almost immediately after receiving it, her pain stopped and she gave birth to a healthy child. St Gerard Majella died on 16 October 1755, aged 29, and was canonised in 1904.

THE CARITAS FOOD BANK

THE CARITAS FOOD BANK

is looking for the following items.

Can you help?

Please leave any donations at the back of church and we will pass on to Caritas.

Thank you.



Breakfast cereals & porridge oats



Coffee, sugar, 'long-life' milk



Bottles of squash/ cordial



Individually wrapped biscuits/cakes



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



Tinned veg - peas, carrots, potatoes



Tinned complete meals - stews, curries



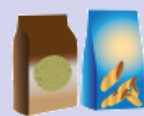
Tinned chickpeas, baked beans



Stock cubes (meat or vegetable)



Condiments



Rice and pasta



Cook-in sauces



Tinned fruit, rice pudding, custard



Washing powder



Dishwasher tablets



New men's and women's underwear, socks, deodorants, shower gels, period products, disposable razors

MASS INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

The following Mass intentions have been received during the last week:

Lately deceased: Nathaniel Ho; Dolly Marulanda Canaval; Britney; Helen Hutchings; Kath's mum; Bridgid Poopuu; Bridie O'Hara; Iris Burns; Margaret Bonham; Maureen Davies

Anniversaries: Margaret Hudson (01/10); Philip Jordan (03/10); Imelda Crowe (08/10); Fr Michael Fleming (11/10); Fr James Tubman (13/10); Anthony Ashton (13/10); Fr John Laide (14/10); Fr Kevin Griffin (16/10); Joan O'Connor; Denis Hunt; Patrick Lohan; Benjamin Armenta

In remembrance: The Holy Souls; Tom Caulfield; Fr John St John; Fr John A Krieg; James & Mary Kilgallon; Mick Donelon; Vincentius Lingga; John Collins; Jean Oxley; Thomas Okiti; Billy Jnr & William Snr;

Special Intentions: David Raymond; Joe Mason; Gerard Downey; Marian Brennan; lin thanksgiving for blessings; Lewis Suesca family; John Gallagher; Tony Turner; Margaret & Patrick Hevican; Michelle, Kiana & Kai Howley; Elizabeth Marchant; Hilda Picking; David Whitehead; Michael Collins; Graham Lang; Annie-Kate Lohan; John Griffin; Dermot O'Brien; Brian Stevens; Kathleen & Michael Campbell; Angelica, Dominic, Matthew, Jason, Lorreta, & Pauline; Doris & Peter Ho; Donor's intentions; James

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.

SANCTUARY CANDLES



THE CALVARY ALTAR

- [1] Nathaniel Ho RIP (LD)
- [2] Nathanile Ho RIP (LD)
- [3] Claire McKenna RIP (A)
- [4] Margaret Hudson RIP (A)
- [5] Kung Poy Chun RIP (LD)
- [6] Ronato, Donna & Beryl RIP (A)

THE SACRED HEART

- [1] Anna & Anton Robinson (SI)
- [2] Shantha J.
- [3] The Varkeys
- [4] Chris & Ann Smith

TABERNACLE (OUR LADY)

- [1] Margaret Maddocks (SI)
- [2] Thomas Maddocks (SI)
- [3] Mary & David (SI)

TABERNACLE (LEFT SIDE)

- [1] John & Ruth Kay (SI)

TABERNACLE (RIGHT SIDE)

- [1] Stone and Kay families RIP

TABERNACLE (ST JOSEPH)

- [1] Emma and Violet
- [2] Margaret & Mary (S)

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

- [1] Martin (SI)
- [2] Karl & Don (SI)

ST THERESE OF LISIEUX

- [1] Kate Wynn (SI)

OUR LADY OF MANCHESTER

- [1] Jim Burns & family
- [2] Sue Wood (SI)
- [3] Special Intention
- [4] Joan O'Connor RIP (A)
- [5] Anna & Anton Robinson (SI)
- [6] Frank Maguire (SI)
- [7] Rose Wright (SI)

ST AMBROSE BARLOW

- [1] Dolly Marulanda Canaval RIP
- [2] Joe Mason

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

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:

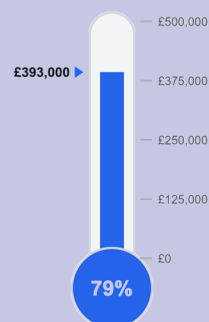
into the **Parish Bank Account**, through the **QR Code**, the **Diocesan website**, the **Parish Website**, through the **Card Machines**, given to the **Votive Candle Boxes**, put in the **Window boxes** in church, as well as funds raised from the **Parish Piety Stall**, **Tax reclaimed** on Gift Aided 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

Restoration Fund



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY**

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**