



The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine



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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year



Saturday 12th July:	SC 5pm	Martin Croft & Michael Jackson
Fifteenth Sunday of the Year C.		Confessions following
Fifteenth Sunday. Year C. 13th July	SM 8.30am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	SM 10.30am	Zakarya Waqar-Uddin
Mon 14th July: St Camillus de Lellis	SC 9.30am	Special Intention
Tuesday 15th July: St Swithin	SM 9.30am	Chelsea Singleton & Family
Wed 16th July: Our Lady of Mount Carmel	SC 9.30am	Yvonne & Family
Thur 17th July: Feria	SM 9.30am	Pauline & Jim Pope, RIP
St Mary’s School Leaver’s Mass	SM 6pm	Fr Taylor, Fr Tobin
Friday 18th July: Feria.	---	--- (No public Mass today)
Saturday 19th July:	10am SM	Baptism: Candice Louise Cooper
Sixteenth Sunday of the Year C.	SC 5pm	Martin Croft & Michael Jackson
		Confessions following
Sixteenth Sunday. Year C. 20th July	SM 8.30am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	SM 10.30am	Henry Rimmer & Martha Rimmer

THANK YOU for your offerings to the parish each week.

Retiring collection today for Victoria to go to Lourdes. Thank you.

Retiring Collection NEXT week for our Priests in retirement. Thank you.

St Catherine’s Church 100 Club: Helen Connolly (96).

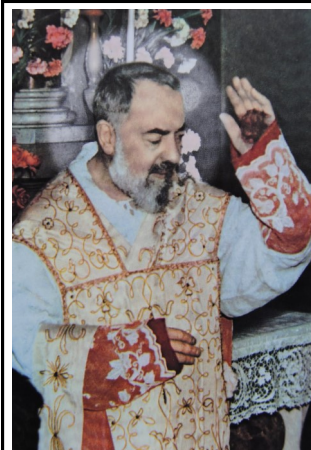
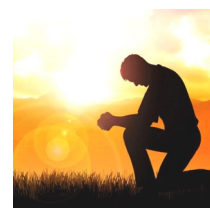
Fr Simon’s blog is at offerimus tibi domine (where you will also find the Mass times each week)

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: Marie Tootell.

Act of Spiritual Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Spiritual communion is a practice that allows individuals to connect with God and express their longing for His presence, especially during times when they cannot attend Mass or receive the Eucharist. Many saints have emphasized the importance of this prayer, as it fosters a deep spiritual relationship with Christ and helps maintain one's faith and devotion.



MASS INTENTIONS: A reminder that The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be offered for your intentions, for both the living and the dead. This ancient practice enables the Church to apply the benefits of Our Lord's Sacrifice to be applied directly for your intentions. Often a card can be sent, especially if it's for a death or anniversary. A supply of such cards is available from the Piety stall at St Catherine's or from the sacristy at St Mary's. The donation (stipend) attached to it goes to support the work of the parish.

Please place your intention and the offering in an envelope and give it to Fr Simon.

"The sacrifice of the Mass is the same offering that Jesus made on the cross."

– St. Pio of Pietrelcina

PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU.

BAPTISM

Through the washing away of Original Sin we welcome into God's Church

Candice Louise Cooper.

May the grace of the Sacrament keep her and her family always faithful to the promises they make and enfolded in the Love of God's family.



THANKSGIVING FOR TIME AT SCHOOL: This week there are celebrations for both our schools for those who will be leaving to go on to High School in the Autumn. For St Catherine's School: a liturgy at school at 5.30pm on Wednesday and for St Mary's School: Mass in church at 6pm on Thursday.

The primary purpose of having a Catholic school is to pass on our Catholic Faith, so that whatever is taught and learnt is done so in the context of Faith. It's one of the reasons that Catholic teachers try their very best to be good teachers, because they do so for the love of God, that each child may reach the potential God has given them. Most of all, the potential to be saved!

Heavenly Father, we come before you today with humble hearts and with grateful thanks for all the wonders and blessings You have showered upon us. We thank you and we praise you we pray and support the pupils in our schools. We pray that you will watch over all the members of our schools. Grant them strength to pursue excellence and guide them in all they do.

Bless and guide our schools heads, teachers, all the staff and parents who nurture the children to the best of their ability. Lead us by our faith to become the people You have created us to be.

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we offer you all the prayers, works, sufferings and joys of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered throughout the world. For we make all these prayers through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen.



Your Prayers are asked for all the sick, including: Rita Swarbrick, Rosena Stacey, Vivienne Lee, Tom Miller, Paul Casey, Linda Melling, Tilly Gee, Kathleen Ward, Clare Butler, Maureen MacDonald, Louie Baines, Margaret McNiff, Elle Miller, Mark Duncan, Mary Ann Monaghan, Bernard Lawson, Mick Marshall, Carol Parkinson, Eric Nielson, Margaret Lawler, Catherine Thompson.

We pray for those who are housebound & for those who love & care for them.

O Mary conceived without sin - Pray for us who have recourse to thee.



Do look and engage with our parish Facebook page which can find by searching for: Parish of St Mary and St Catherine Labouré, Lancashire.

And our Website at: www.stmarys-euxton.com



REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS AT ST MARY'S.

All are welcome to come in for a cup of tea or coffee after Mass. Come and say hello!

ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH: As you know, a date for a final Mass has been proposed of Friday 5th September, with a Mass at 7pm which the Archbishop will celebrate with us to give thanks for the good works done through it's community since it's establishment in 1948.

I hope to provide a memorial booklet for the Mass and prayer cards.

There will be a Reception with drinks and canapés in a marquee in he grounds following the Mass.

Before that date, I would like to arrange a system whereby parishioners from Farington could give one another a lift to church on a Sunday. It might also be possible to assist getting to church with the help of Careline, run by Churches Together in Euxton, which can pick people up from home.



Archbishop Malcolm celebrating Mass on Visitation.

Sunday 7th September will be the first Sunday we are all gathered together as one community at Mass, so we will mark that occasion suitably by welcoming the statue of St Catherine Labouré into St Mary's Church. I will invite children and families from St Catherine's School to join us to help establish the concept of their new parish church for the school. It would be good to invite family and friends along for that first Sunday as well.

We are looking to see if it might be possible for the stained glass windows to be transferred to St Catherine's school. Fr Leo Daley, who has in the past covered Masses at St Catherine's when I've been away, helped to create the windows in the glass workshop at Buckfast Abbey, when he was a monk there.

Any other suggestions for commemorating the church and community are welcome.

Fr. Swain



CLEAR UP DAY IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS.

Thank you to all those who came along to help!



LOURDES HELP:

One of our young parishioners, whom some of you will know - Victoria, who reads at the 8.30am Mass - is going on the Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. She will be there as one of the *Brancadia*, who assist the sick on the pilgrimage; those who are in wheelchairs, for example.

They pay for themselves but I thought parishioners might like to give a helping hand with costs with a retiring collection today. A bit short notice, but the Pilgrimage is next week. Thank you.



July is a month of special devotion to the blood of Jesus. Why is it so important? Not a lot of people talk about the blood of Jesus. It's mentioned 427 times in the Bible. From the first book of the Bible, right up to the last one. Everything about your relationship with God is wrapped up in the precious blood of Jesus.

1 Peter 1:17-21 says *"And remember that your heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites when he judges. He will judge you with perfect justice for everything you do; so act in reverent fear of him from now on until you get to heaven. God paid a ransom to save you from the impossible road to heaven which your fathers tried to take, and the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver as you very well know. But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him for this purpose long before the world began, but only recently was he brought into public view, in these last days, as a blessing to you. Because of this, your trust can be in God who raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory. Now your faith and hope can rest in him alone"*.

Jesus did not come as an accident, He came as a part of the awesome plan of God to redeem you and me.

Leviticus 17:11 says – *"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given you the blood to sprinkle upon the altar as an atonement for your souls; it is the blood that makes atonement because it is the life"* Our body without blood is like a corpse. There is no life in it. When you take out the blood of Jesus from the Bible, it becomes just a book of history and literature, and events.

From the very beginning of the Bible, blood was an important thing. Not only did God deal with the sins of Adam and Eve on the basis of shedding blood, but also in Exodus during the last plague, God saved his children by telling them to apply the blood of an unblemished male lamb to their door post. The angel of death moved over every house that had the blood applied to the doorposts, but those houses that did not have the blood applied, saw the firstborn in their family die.

All of the sacrifices in the old testament were a foreshadowing of what was to come. The Bible says that the blood of animals cannot take away sin, but it was a foreshadowing of an ultimate sacrifice that would take away the sins of the whole world. God is holy and just. God is light and in Him, there is no darkness. God showed us all along in the old testament that the wages of sin is death and blood has to be shed for the forgiveness of sins.

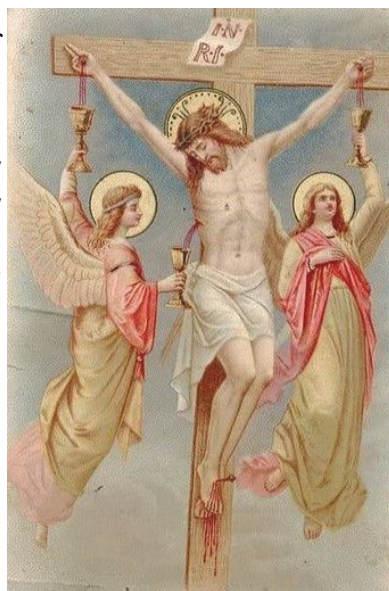
God made it clear that He is holy and sin will be punished. In order for sin to be dealt with, it takes life, and the shedding of blood to do it. The whole sacrificial system of the old testament had one message: God is holy, God judges sin, and in order for sin to be judged there has to be death which means the shedding of blood.

Jesus wasn't just a man born in Bethlehem; He was and is the Son of God. Jesus came to be the eternal sacrifice for our sins. He was born of a virgin, which meant He had no earthly father. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, which meant there was no sin transferred to Him from Adam. Jesus was the sinless Son of God, sent by God the Father for a specific mission to be the perfect, unblemished sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

We have all sinned, our blood is tainted by sin and evil. Only the pure, precious, sinless, holy blood of Jesus can be accepted as a perfect and holy sacrifice for our sins. Jesus has purchased you and me by shedding His blood for our sins. He paid our price so that we no longer have to be slaves to sin. God the Father accepted the sacrifice of His son Jesus as a substitute for us. We are therefore redeemed and have access to God through the blood of Jesus. Jesus satisfied the wrath of God, that was to come upon all of us, because of our sins. The righteous law of God says that every soul that sins shall die. We are all sinners and therefore our souls are destined to die. But now that Jesus paid our sin debt in full on the cross, we can be free to be the children of God. Jesus bought us out! He satisfied the law and wrath of God.

Ephesians 1:7-8 says *"So overflowing is his kindness toward us that he took away all our sins through the blood of his Son, by whom we are saved; and he has showered down upon us the richness of his grace—for how well he understands us and knows what is best for us at all times."* We can now receive forgiveness from God for our sins on the basis of what Jesus did for us. God forgives you, not because you just ask him, but on the grounds that His son went to the cross and shed his blood for your sins.

This is the grace we have access to through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, receiving Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.



Prayer To The Precious Blood

ETERNAL FATHER,
I OFFER THEE THE
PRECIOUS BLOOD OF
JESUS CHRIST,
THE MERITS, LOVE AND
SUFFERINGS OF HIS
SACRED HEART, THE
TEARS AND SORROWS
OF OUR IMMACULATE
MOTHER, AS THE
PRICE OF THE FAVOR I
WISH TO OBTAIN, IF IT
IS FOR THY GLORY AND
MY SALVATION.

Amen