



The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine



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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year



Feast of St Edward the Confessor on Tuesday

Twenty Eighth Sunday. Year A. 11th Oct	8.30am	Pro Populorum. (People of the Parish)
	10.30am	Brian Leyland, RIP
Monday 12th Oct: St Wilfred	9.30am	Mehari & Family
Tuesday 13th Oct: St Edward the Confessor	9.30am	Ann Foley & Family
Wed 14th Oct: Pope St Callistus I	9.30am	Frank Shaw, BR
Thurs 15th Oct: St Teresa of Avila	—	— (No public Mass today)
Friday 16th Oct: St Margaret Mary Alacoque	—	— (No public Mass today)
Saturday 17th Oct: St Ignatius of Antioch	—	— (No public Mass today)
Twenty Ninth Sunday. Year A. 11th Oct	8.30am	Pro Populorum. (People of the Parish)
	10.30am	Catherine Stephens

THANK YOU for your Offerings each week.

Retiring Collection NEXT Sunday for World Mission Day. APF.

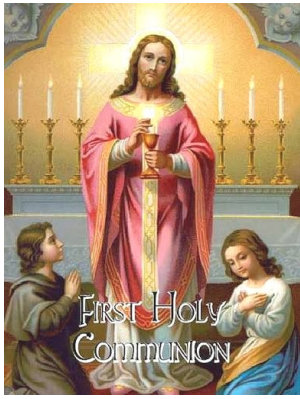
100 Club: Mary & Adrian Earnshaw (69) Please collect your winnings from the sacristy.

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

Safer Recruitment and DBS Representative :New appointment pending training.

MISSAL PAGES for today: Page 790.

Unchanging parts of the Mass in the pink pages. Prayers before Mass, Pg 510. Prayers after Mass, Pg 731.



FIRST SACRAMENTS PREPARATION.

Our next session is on Wednesday 21st October 6.30pm—7.30pm. Please email Fr Simon if you are unable to attend that evening.

Children are also expected to be attending Mass regularly. It is important that the children are familiar with the form of the Mass, so that they can enjoy the day when they make their First Holy Communion.

Each week please sign the “Golden Book” at the back of church. When we live our Faith to the full, Scripture describes us as “Those whose names are written in the book of life.” (Phil 4:3.) It will be brought up to the altar on the First Communion days next Easter to represent all our prayers and Masses offered to our Heavenly Father in preparation for that great spiritual event.



Let us pray for the children and their families that it will be a grace filled time to deepen their love of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

Sunday Morning Refreshments. Thanks to those who provided these week by week. It is a great service to the parish.

The Parish Council discussed dividing up the donations to four different charities. So the following have been suggested:

CAFOD. Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. It is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. It helps poor and vulnerable communities globally, regardless of their religion or culture. It supports long-term projects like clean water access, farming training, and healthcare. It delivers emergency relief during disasters and conflicts. It speaks out on global issues like climate change and unfair economic systems.

Aid to the Church in Need. A Pontifical Foundation, founded to help Christians in need where they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need through support, charitable work and generating awareness. Their objective is to advance the Christian religion by supporting and promoting the Church, especially in countries where Christians are suffering persecution or discrimination. Also seeking to further the other charitable work of the Church by providing practical assistance and pastoral care for persons in need.

St Catherine’s Hospice: One of our local hospices. Named after St Catherine of Alexandria, as it’s founder was local Catholic woman, Kitty Sharples (buried in the cemetery at St Mary’s, Leyland). St Catherine of Alexandria is one of the patrons of nurses

Catholic Education in Rwanda. A charity run in Rwanda by Cardinal Kambanda of Kigali, to provide teachers, including providing teachers able to teach children with special needs.

Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (Latin for "For Church and Pope") is a medal of the Holy See awarded by the Pope to clergy and laypeople for distinguished service to the Catholic Church. Established by Pope Leo XIII and honors individuals who show deep commitment to the Catholic faith and render long or exceptional service to the Church and the papacy.

On Sunday 25th October Bishop Tom Neylon will bestow the medal on our own Michael Thompson at the 10.30am Mass. Michael moved into the parish 50 years ago this year and has since taken on many roles in the parish and in the local community, so this award recognizes that long service and devotion.

There will be a Reception following in the Social Centre with a buffet Lunch for all who want to come along.

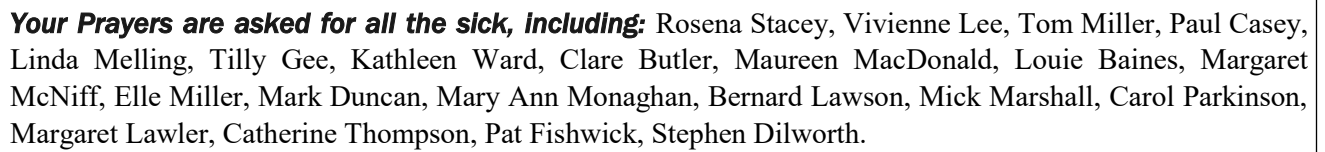
To help facilitate that, please note that there will be no tea & coffee after the 8.30am Mass on that day.

MASS CARDS: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be offered for any intention but if you wish to have Mass offered for someone who has died, there are Mass cards in the sacristy at £1 each. These are signed by the priest when you ask for the Mass. Please write the Mass Intention on an envelope and enclose your offering.

RECORD PLAYER: Does anyone have a deck they are not using that will play 78’s? Request via one of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from one of our parishioners in a local nursing home. Please see Fr Simon or Margaret Hill.

HEDGE CUTTING & GROUNDS. Many thank to all those who came along to help yesterday.

Thanks also to parishioners who have smartened up the War Memorial with new plants, new edging and gravel.



The Parish Centre is open during Sunday Masses, where toilets are easily accessible.



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.



Like & share our posts to get the word out on our great parish & parishioners!

All are welcome to come in for a cup of tea or coffee after Mass. Just come into the Social Centre opposite the church and say hello!



Saturday 24th of October 2026, 10:00-12:00. In the Social Centre.

Bring a bag of your baby's/kid's washed old/outgrown clothes sorted by size and leave with clothes that fit!

If you are looking for newborn clothes, please just come without any donations to take some things for your new arrival!

Tea, coffee, squash and cakes available to buy with proceeds going to hall hire.

If you have clothes that you would like to drop before the event or would be willing to help, please contact Andy at lunn.andrew@gmail.com, or see me after mass (one of the singers in the choir loft at 10.30 Mass.)



A reminder that if you intend to use it regularly and have signed up to Gift Aid, you can set it up to recognize your payment and the parish will still be able to receive your Gift Aid. You only need to do this once and it will recognize you after that by following the on-screen instructions.

It also has the facility to give to particular causes. So, for example, if there is a special collection or for the 100 Club, you will be able to use it for that as well.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, RETURNING TO THE PRACTICE OF THE FAITH OR JUST LEARNING MORE?

Our next meeting is at 7pm this Monday 12th October.

100 CLUB: Thank you to those who have joined or continue with the 100 Club. There is an updated list on the noticeboard. We now have just 6 numbers left, so if you would like to join with a chance of winning £50 each week, then please take a form from the back of church and return it to the parish, confirming that you have set up a Direct Debit from your account.

SOME HAVE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN SETTING UP A Direct Debit ON THEIR BANK APPS. IF THAT'S HAPPENED DO TRY AGAIN. EVEN IF IT SAYS THE NAME DOESN'T MATCH THE ACCOUNT NUMBER, IF YOU CLICK GO AHEAD ANYWAY, IT SHOULD STILL GO THROUGH & IS OKAY AFTER THAT. IT'S UNKNOWN WHY THIS HAPPENS WITH SOME BANKS.

The title of the account is: **St Catherine's 100 Club**

We need to fill all the numbers if we are to maximize the potential of running the whole thing.

David Barton is the contact person for the Club.

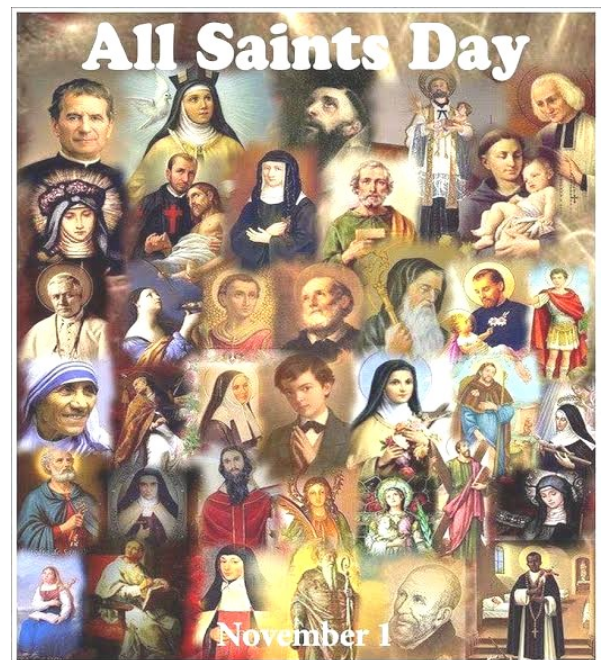
WARM SPACES COFFEE MORNINGS: These take place once a month during the winter months on Thursdays 10am—12 noon The next one is on Thursday 5th November.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS 1st NOVEMBER.

All Children are invited to attend the 10.30am Mass dressed as one of the Saints, to process into church and receive a prayer card afterwards in the Social Centre. Children from St Mary's Primary School will be assisting in the celebration of the Mass too.

It is a great way to allow the children to dress up instead of opting for Halloween costumes. Although All Hallows' Eve is a significant feast in the Church, the common celebration of this in the world around us is now so debased, as to bear no relation to the sacred meaning the Church teaches: that of praying for those who have died who may be in Purgatory and celebrating our eternal life with the Saints. Indeed the specter of ghouls and ghosts, cobwebs and spiders seems to direct attention away from heavenly things to hellish things. Not very wholesome for our children.

We had a great response last year with some very thoughtful costumes: from soldiers to Popes, from Nuns to kings. Plenty to choose from!



PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST: St Gregory the Dialogist writes that the King is God Himself, and the marriage is symbolic of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, the union of Christ's divine and human natures into one Person. The feast is symbolic of Christ's Church, which exists, we remember, in heaven and on earth. St. John Chrysostomos' commentary is similar to this interpretation. He adds that, at first, Christ invites the people of the Old Covenant, the Jews, to join this great marriage feast, which is the Church. But they fail to respond. He invites them a second time, and they are too busy with earthly concerns, to which St. John Chrysostomos states that *"when spiritual things call us, there is no press of business that has the power of necessity to call us away."* So it is then that the ordinary people of the "highways," the Gentiles, are invited.



Now, Christ has summoned us to His feast, that is to His Church, so that here we may partake of His sacred foods, those that are filled with Grace—the Holy Mass—and that prepare us spiritually for eternal life with Him, for life in that eternal aspect of the Church. But, for this feast we must prepare, or we shall be cast, like the man in the parable, into the outer darkness. Without this, being part of the Church here on earth, we are no better—NO BETTER—than those who rejected and crucified Christ, since failure to prepare ourselves is a form of rejection—it is a gross insult to the King—and therefore our ultimate fate too, in the life to come, will be no better.

We are blest by God to be members of His Church. We have been invited to partake of the feast and we have accepted the invitation. When we attend Holy Mass, we share in the feast that the King, Christ Jesus, has readied for us and doing this we prepare ourselves for an eternal feast in the life to come.