The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine

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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA (Hons) MA

Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year



Thirty-Third Sunday Year A: 15th November	8:30 am	Elaine Perks, Anniv & Holy Souls
	10:30 am	Eileen Peake, Anniv & Holy Souls
Monday 16th Nov: St Edmund of Abingdon	9:30 am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	11.30am	Funeral Service for Peter Jones
Tues 17th Nov: St Hilda	9:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Weds 18th Nov: Dedication: Basilicas of Ss Peter & Paul	9:30 am	Michael Purtil, Anniv & Holy Souls
Thurs 19th Nov: Feria	9:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Friday 20th Nov: Feria	7:00 pm	NOVENA & BENEDICTION Confessions following
Saturday 21st Nov:		No public Mass today
Christ the King. Year A: 22nd November	8:30 am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	10:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List

THANK YOU for your offerings each week.

100 Club: Maureen Shorrock (6). 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 804.

Unchanging parts of the Mass in the central pink pages.

Prayers before Mass, page 510. Prayers after Mass, page 731.

Your prayers are asked for all the sick, including: 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, Margaret Lawler, Catherine Thompson, Pat& Gerry Fishwick, Stephen Dilworth.

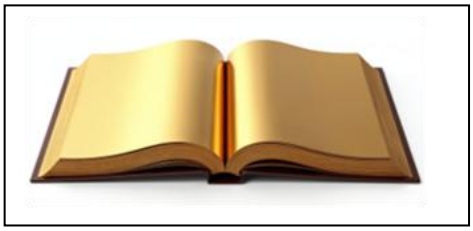
We pray for those who are housebound and for those who love and care for them.

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

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

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME 2027. We have a group of around 20 interested for a date to be confirmed late September/early Octobr 2027. As soon as flights can be booked we will move forward wit them.

FIRST SACRAMENTS PREPARATION. Our next session is **THIS** Wednesday, 18th November 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.

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 from the sacristy. 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

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INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, RETURNING TO THE PRACTICE OF THE FAITH OR JUST LEARNING MORE? Our next meeting for those interested in sharing more about our Catholic Faith is tomorrow evening, Monday 16th November at 7.00 pm. For more inofrmation contact Fr Simon.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS.

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!

GROUNDS TIDY UP DAY.
THIS SATURDAY 21st November.
9am – 12 noon.
As usual, everyone is invited to lend a hand for some or all of the time.
Fortified by bacon butties half way through!



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 us to connect with God and express our longing for His presence, especial ly during times when we 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 & helps maintain one's faith and devotion.

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EUXTON GALA: The Gala raised £6,000 after costs this year; the highest yet! So, as equal partners this year, the parish will receive £2,000. Thank you to all those who came along or took part, especially St Mary's Primary School and Holy Cross High School.

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DEACON GERRY FISHWICK: Gerry was taken into hospital and although now back home is still poorly. We keep him and his wife, Pat (who is also recovering from a recent serious illness), in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

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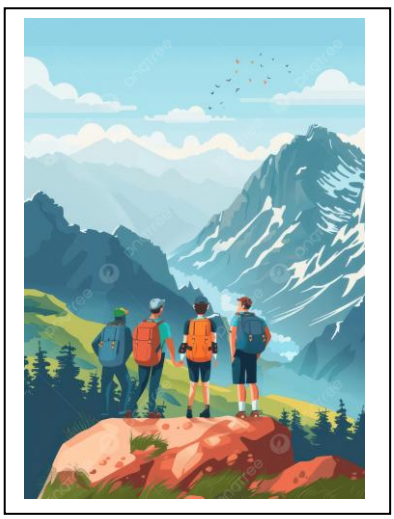
CHAPEL VEILS/ MANTILLAS: One of our parishioners has a friend staying with the Sisters at Tyburn Convent where she is making veils to raise funds for them. If you would like one, please speak to Fr Simon. They are available in the sacristy at £15.

Veiling acts as an outward sign of respect, interior humility, and devotion before the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It symbolizes setting something sacred apart—much like a chalice or tabernacle is veiled—and honours the humility and purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Under the 1983 Code of Canon Law, wearing a mantilla is optional and no longer a binding obligation. It was historically mandated for women prior to the reforms of Vatican II in the 1960s.



Tyburn Convent is an enclosed Benedictine monastery and shrine located near Marble Arch in central London, dedicated to perpetual Eucharistic adoration and the memory of the English Reformation martyrs. The convent sits steps away from the historic site of the Tyburn Tree gallows, where over 300 Catholics were executed for their faith between 1535 and 1681. Worth a visit if you are ever in London.

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MEN'S WALKING GROUP:

"Ask where the good way is and walk in it" Jeremiah 6:16.

In years gone by most parishes had a number of groups that catered for both men and women, giving them separate spaces to express themselves. Most of these have long gone (although the Catholic Mothers Guild continues on). Talking to a few parishioners recently, the idea of a men's walking group emerged. Obviously, it has health benefits but it might also be a space where men might informally share experiences and difficulties; living a Catholic life with a family and children and other matters of Faith; or just chatting!

Given that we hear so much about caring for our mental health, we also know that men are often not very good at it! So, not a formal space to "do" spiritual things but a fellowship and freindship with a Catholic ethos.

If you might be interested – perhaps starting in the Spring when the weather might be more hospitable – then just drop me an email to the parish address, so I can gauge interest.

We've had a number of people express an interest, so do let me know if there is anyone else.

We might think up a more inspiring name for it. No sarastic suggestions, thank you!

Fr Simon.



CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND.

A presentation by Edmund Adamus from Friends of the Holy Land.

THIS Saturday 21st November at 4pm in St Mary's Social Centre.

https://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/

An organization supporting beleaguered Christians in the Middle East.

All welcome to come and learn more about our Christian brothers and sisters in the land that Jesus walked. Edmund Adamus will also address us briefly at Masses that Sunday.

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THE ORDER OF ST LAZARUS.



As you know, from St Catherine's days, we have long held a Carol Concert (among other things, such as the Burns Night Supper) to support the work of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus. Our own Anthony Dickinson is the Grand Prior here in Great Britain and Fr Simon is the Chaplain to the Order in this country and the Vicar for Christian Unity internationally.

Investitures of new members were also occasionally held at St Catherine's and it is hoped that we will have an investiture next summer. The Order in this country has raised wonderful sums of money over the years for good causes at home and abroad.We are looking forward to investing new members next summer, so if you are interested to learn more, please speak to Fr Simon or Anthony Dickinson.

There are various branches of the Order, so if you are looking online, follow these links:

http://www.oslj.org.uk/ https://orderofsaintlazarus.com/

https://www.facebook.com/LazarusOrder

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.



St Mary's School Carol Service. Wednesday 16th December at 6pm.

Charity Carol Concert, Saturday 19th December,

Rasing funds for the charities of the Order of St Lazarus, in particular, education in Rwanda, under the patronage of Cardinal Kambanda of Kilgali.

Christmas Mass times. Christmas Eve: 6.35pm Carols.

7pm Mass. Christmas Day 8.30am & 10.30am.



ST HILDA, ABBESS OF WHITBY: Around 657, Hilda established a double monastery at Whitby on land granted by King Oswiu. Under her rule, separate communities of monks and nuns lived in strict poverty, charity, and obedience. She turned Whitby into a renowned centre for scholarship and Scripture study. Five monks trained under her guidance went on to become bishops, including St John of Beverley and St Wilfrid.

Hilda recognised the musical and poetic gifts of Cædmon, an illiterate cowherd at the abbey. She encouraged him to become a monk and compose religious verses, making him the earliest known English poet.

Hilda hosted this pivotal church council called to resolve differences between Celtic and Roman Christian practices, particularly the calculation of Easter. Though she favoured Celtic traditions, she graciously accepted the king's decision to adopt Roman customs in the interest of church unity.

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FR GERRY McCUSKER: Please keep Fr Gerry in your prayers. His beloved dog had to be put to sleep recently, and you know haw very fond of him he was.