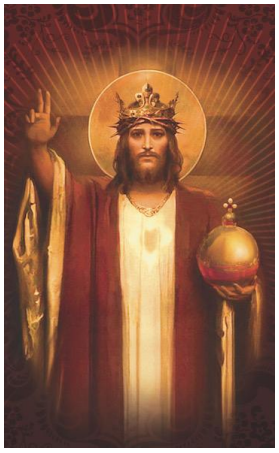
The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine

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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA (Hons) MA

Solemnity to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Christ the King. Year A: 22nd November	8:30 am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	10:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Monday 23rd Nov: St Columban	----	*No public Mass today*
Tues 24th Nov: St Andrew Dung-Lac	9:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Weds 25th Nov: St Catherine of Alexandria	9:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Thurs 26th Nov: Votive Mass for the Holy Souls	9:30 am	Holy Souls & Pious List
Friday 27th Nov: St Catherine Labouré	**7:00 pm**	**NOVENA & BENEDICTION** Confessions following
Saturday 28th Nov: St Catherine.	11am	Baptism of Roman Newby
First Sunday of Advent. Year B: 29th November	8:30 am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	10:30 am	A Cottam & E Melling, Holy Souls

THANK YOU for your offerings each week.
Retiring Collection TODAY for FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND.
NEXT week: Animate Youth.

100 Club:). 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 813.

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, 9th December 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

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, RETURNING TO THE PRACTICE OF THE FAITH OR JUST LEARNING MORE? Next meeting for those interested in sharing more about our Catholic Faith is Monday evening, 23rd November at 7.00 pm in the Presbytery. For more inofrmation contact Fr Simon.

As well as a few people who have come along to learn more about the Faith, we have been blest to have 6 people received into full communion with the Church over the last 18 months. We now have another 4 at various points along the way on that journey. While God's grace is at work, it is also a witness to the power of a welcoming and vibrant community here in our parish. God be praised!

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.

ANIMATE CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE: Please use your envelopes today if you have them but we will have them today but there will be a Retiring Collection NEXT week for Aminate, as TODAY we are having a collection for FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND. For both of these you can use the card machine at the back of church to make donations. Just press on the cause you wish to donate to on the screen menu. Thank you for all your offerings.

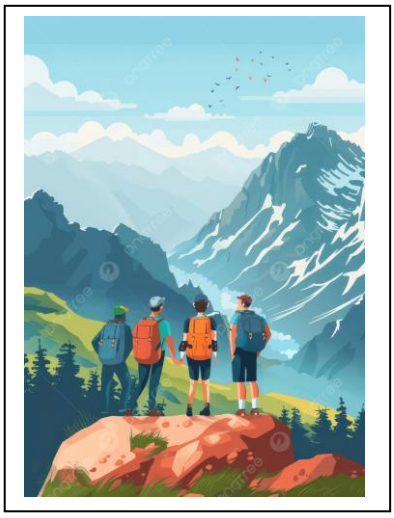
ARCHBISHOP'S LETTER FOR CHRIST THE KING:
There are copies of this at the back of church.

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.





CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND.
Mr Edmund Adamus from Friends of the Holy Land.
He will address us briefly at the end of each Mass today
And there is a retiring collection to assist their work supporting beleaguered Christians in the Middle East.
"Guided by Christian virtues of love and justice, we do this through practical means, by raising awareness and through prayer, as Christ taught.
At the beginning of the 20th century, Christians made up roughly 29% of the overall population of the Holy Land. Today they account for less than 2%. Those remaining face such difficult conditions that many will be forced to leave their homes. Soon this dwindling community may cease to exist at all without our help. This fact, little recognised by Christians around the world, is what drives our vision." https://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/



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.*

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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 14th/15th May, with Mass celebrated by His Eminence Antoine Cardinal Kambanda, the Spiritual Protector of the Order.**

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.



Gaudete Sunday. Third Sunday in Advent. Blessing of your cribs & baby Jesus (Bambino's, as they are often called).

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

Charity Carol Concert. Saturday 19th December at 7.30pm.

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NEXT WEEK:

Friday is also the Feast of St Cathrine Labouré, so do come along to celebrate it with our Novena to the Miraculous Medal on Friday at 7pm. We will also mark it on Sunday, although liturgically Advent takes precedence.