



The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine



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Presbytery: St Catherine's, Stanifield Lane, Farington. PR25 4QG. 01772 421174

Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year



Twenty Eighth Sunday. Year C. 12th October	8.30am	John Guinan, RIP
<i>Missio Appeal for Red Boxes</i>	10.30am	Mary Sherrington
Mon 13th Oct: St Edward the Confessor, King	9.30am	Private Intention. B.
Tuesday 14th Oct: Pope St Callistus, Martyr	9.30am	For work of Christians against poverty
Wed 15th Oct: St Teresa of Avila, Carmelite Reformer	11.15am	Requiem Mass for Abina Cottingham
Thur 16th Oct: St Margaret Mary Alacoque	9.30am	Harry, RIP
Friday 17th Oct: St Luke, Evangelist	7pm	NOVENA & BENEDICTION
Saturday 18th Oct: Feria	----	---- (No public Mass today)
Twenty Ninth Sunday. Year C. 19th October	8.30am	Pro Populorum (People of the Parish)
	10.30am	Victor Peake, Anniv

THANK YOU for your offerings to the parish each week.

Retiring Collection for APF: Missions NEXT Sunday. Thank you.

100 Club: Hilary Blackburn (83)

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

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: Pending appointment.

MISSALS: MASS CAN BE FOLLOWED: Sunday Pg 1072.

Unchanging parts of the Mass in the pink pages. Prayers before Mass, Pg 510. Prayers after Mass, Pg 673.



NOVEMBER AND THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS:

We offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass—the greatest of all prayers—for our deceased loved ones. There are envelopes at the back of church in which you may place the names of any of those you would like to be remembered at Mass during November. Each Mass celebrated for the whole of the month of November is offered for them. Please also place your offering for the Masses in the envelope and return it to church.

All Souls' Day is a day when we pray for the souls of those in purgatory. It is celebrated on November 2 every year. On this day, we remember those who have died, especially those in Purgatory. We pray that God will help them on their journey to Heaven. The Church teaches that Purgatory is a place where souls are purified before entering Heaven. Some souls are not ready to enter Heaven right after death. Our prayers can help them. This is why All Souls' Day is important. On All Souls' Day, we go to Mass and pray for the dead. Many visit cemeteries to pray for their loved ones who have died. The Church encourages us to pray for all the souls in Purgatory, not just our own family or friends.

***ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.
MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED,
THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN***

This year the liturgical calendar runs thus

Sunday 2nd November **All Saints.**

Monday 3rd November **All Souls**

To pray for the Holy Souls we will process outside to the cemetery after each Mass on Sunday 2nd November to bless the graves and offer brief prayers for all who are buried there.

Mass will be as usual on Monday 3rd November at 9.30am - offering the Mass of All Souls.

MASS SHEETS FOR CHILDREN: These will be provided on Sundays. They are taken from the "Wednesday Word". A site accessible to all if you want to follow up at home online. Called the "Wednesday Word", as they are published each Wednesday in readiness for the following Sunday.



VOTIVE CANDLES: Last week, we were encouraged to light a candle at one of the votive stands around the church. It seems that the message was taken to heart BUT, PLEASE, ONLY PUT THE VOTIVE LIGHTS IN THE HOLDERS AND NOT ALONG THE LEDGES THE HOLDERS SIT ON. Otherwise, they might easily fall off if the stand is knocked slightly or produce too much heat, which then puts us in danger of them setting themselves on fire.

CLOCK RESTORATION: Next year marks the 150th anniversary of the installation of the clock and bell in the tower. It was presented as a gift to the people of Euxton by William Ince Anderton, of Euxton Hall, to mark the coming-of-age of his eldest son.

The clock face is severely weathered, the clock was last renovated in the late 1980's, when Fr Cadogan had the previously black face and gold numbers repainted with a white face and gold numbers. The white paint is now peeling away revealing the black underneath. I thought to have the clock face renovated to its original colour (said by many to have been far more striking) for the anniversary. The company who service the clock and bell have given me a cost for the work - taking it away and refinishing it properly. It is a highly specialized job, and if not done properly, the paint will not last. However, with the scaffolding that would be needed, the cost would be around £20,000. Given that high cost, It is not a sum the parish should take on at the moment, with all the renovation work in the presbytery now progressing. So unless a generous benefactor emerges unexpectedly, it will have to be left in its present condition for the time being.



100 CLUB: For many years St Catherine's Church has run a 100 Club to assist with parish funds. It seems sensible to keep this going under our new circumstances. There are, in fact, several free numbers for new people to be able to join. Pay £1 each week with a chance to win £50 each week. This can be set up by direct debit or paid by cheque - monthly, quarterly or annually.



Thanks to two parishioners who have volunteered to run the 100 Club. We Will have a focus on it one weekend in the not too distant future. Thank you.



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, Eric Nielson, Margaret Lawler, Catherine Thompson, Martin Croft, Pat Fishwick.

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

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



ALTAR SERVERS: We are very blest to now have a team of seven altar servers, although there is always room for any new boys volunteer! (We have no one who attends the 8.30am Mass regularly at the moment.)

They have been doing really well, especially as we only had one servers practice before they started.

Can I ask if we can have another practice for all the servers this coming Saturday 18th October at 9.30am.

Any new boys who would like to serve can let me know and also come along.

Altar servers are much more than helpers during Mass; they are the little guardians of the altar, witnesses to the mystery of the Eucharist, and models of faith for the entire community. Their service reminds us that the Church is a family in which everyone, young and old, is called to collaborate in God's work. Being an altar server is not merely a practical task; it is a spiritual vocation. These young individuals are called to be examples of faith, purity, and devotion. Their service at the altar is a concrete way of living out Jesus' words: "Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant" (Mark 10:43). By assisting during Mass, altar servers learn to place God at the center of their lives and to serve others with love and humility. Moreover, the role of the altar server has profound theological significance. By being close to the altar, these young individuals are privileged witnesses to the mystery of the Eucharist, the moment when bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. Their presence reminds us that we are all called to approach God with a pure heart and to actively participate in the life of the Church.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TOILET IN CHURCH IS OUT OF ACTION FOR THE DURATION OF THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE PRESBYTERY.

The water for the toilet is connected to the house, where the heating system is being replaced. **The Parish Centre is open during Sunday Masses, where toilets are easily accessible.**



BOOKS & DVD's! There is a table of books at the back of church. Please feel free to take away any that take your fancy or that you might pass on to someone. All free!



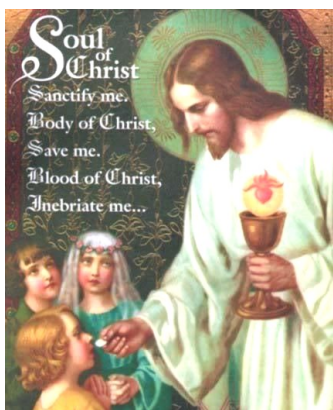
RED MISSION BOXES:

Thanks to Peter Worthington who has come forward to help organize this. **THIS SUNDAY Fr Edson Paguntalan MHM will join us at Masses to tell us about their work.**

PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING A RED BOX TO COLLECT YOUR CHANGE AND IN THIS WAY EASILY HELP TO SPREAD THE FAITH AND BE A PART OF THE CHURCH'S WORLD-WIDE MISSIONARY ACTIVITY.



Missio is the Pope's own charity for overseas mission. Missio helps God's love to be shared by supporting local missionaries to work alongside global communities that are poor or in need, regardless of background or belief, and works in partnership with the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society.



FIRST CONFESSION & HOLY COMMUNIONS.

Our First Communion preparation has begun, with forty or so children taking part. The next session is in the Social Centre on Wednesday 12th November at 6.30pm.



Children must sign the “Golden Book” at the back of church.

“Those whose names are written in the book of life.” Phil 4:3 .

This is to make a record of their prayers and attendance at Mass for each Sunday until their First Communion as a gift for Jesus. It will be carried up to the altar on the day of their First Communion.

Please note that attendance at Mass & the preparation sessions are a pre-requisite of being able to make First Communions in Eastertide of next year. If families are not able to make this commitment, then those children can defer and join the program next time round.

ALL SAINTS DAY. SUNDAY 2nd November. 10.30am Mass. To celebrate this great feast, children are invited to come to Mass dressed as a Saint! Around this time the remnants of the Christian celebration have degenerated into “Trick or Treat” with a focus on children dressing up as ghouls and ghosts, whilst people decorate their homes with fake cobwebs and witches. All rather ridiculous and certainly no longer much to do with our Christian festivals. Focusing on the saints is a bit of an antidote to this. There are thousands to choose: from the soldier St Sebastian to Joan of Arc in her



armour. From St Martin de Porres with his broom to our own St Catherine. Perhaps one of the saintly popes (though there are no mitres in the sacristy to borrow!)

The children will join us in the procession to bless the cemetery at the end of Mass and then join everyone in the Social Centre, where each child that has taken part will receive one of St Catherine’s Miraculous Medals.

SOME EXTRA HELP ON THE REFRESHMENTS, EVEN AS A “ONE-OFF” WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED THAT SUNDAY.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS.

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

Especially all our First Communion families, now that their preparation has begun. A great chance to get to know folks.

WE ARE SHORT OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP AFTER THE 10.30AM MASS. PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING TO HELP US CONTINUE ENABLING US TO MEET ONE ANOTHER AFTER MASS.



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.



NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL & BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. Fridays at 7pm. It lasts about 30 minutes. Devotions aside from Mass are a wonderful way of expressing our Faith and often calling on the Lord’s help and that of the saints in our lives.

“Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament ... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves upon earth. “
J. R. R. Tolkien