



Holy Cross Parish

Postal Address - 11 Bangholm Loan, Edinburgh EH5 3AH
Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hand
Tel: 0131 552 3957 E-mail: hx_mm@btinternet.com
Parish Website: hcrossmm.org.uk



Holy Cross is the Parish of the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland – number SCO08540

7th June 2020 – The Most Holy Trinity - A. page 81.

First Reading: *Exodus 34:4-6,8-9*, Psalm - Daniel 3:52-56: **“To you glory and praise for evermore”**

Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 13:11-13*;

Gospel: **John 3:16-18.** *“God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved”*

Next Sunday is Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Corpus Christi

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We welcome especially the children, parents and carers to Mass this morning. We miss seeing the children. Hopefully they miss seeing us. Not gathering is painful, but maybe the Lord is giving us an opportunity to deepen our sense that it is a gift to be able to gather to listen to and pray about God's Word, to give thanks in the Eucharist for Jesus' saving love for, and to be sent out into the world to live Jesus for others. As we wait to be called together again to celebrate the Eucharist and to be a community of disciples that can come together, could we take a fixed time of prayer and/or reading each day to simply thank God for the Mass and how he has called us to follow him. You might like to use the Maundy Thursday led by Margaret Linforth; this is on the website. You could take the initiative to ask a few friends who have access to a computer or tablet to put it on at the same time as you and then discuss it by phone, what's app or zoom.

Please keep in your prayer and hearts and children waiting to receive First Communion and First Confession. It is not clear as to when will be able to celebrate these sacraments, but we are trying to find a way forward. We also pray for one another that, out of love for one another and concern for everyone's good, we keep on following the government policy that is trying to keep us safe.

Sincerely,

Fr. Hand

Opening of Churches: I hope that most of you have been able to enjoy a little more freedom with the easing of restrictions now that we are in to phase 1 of that. In Phase 2 it will be with great pleasure that we are able to open the doors of our churches once again and welcome parishioners back. In this phase it will be for a very limited time and only for private prayer but never the less is another welcome step forward. This opening will come with measures in place to ensure proper hygiene and manage social distancing. While this is new to all of us when visiting any church it is vital we adhere to it for the wellbeing and safety of everyone as I am sure you will all understand. Because of the need to disinfect the benches after each use we will have to ask people coming to pray to arrive at the same time and leave at the same time. Full details of the opening times and details of how this will be managed to ensure the safety of everyone will be provided next week along with your weekly newsletter. (Vic Laing)

We pray for Margaret McPhail who has died. Her funeral took place on Tuesday at Warriston Crematorium.

We pray for Christine Corner who has died. Her funeral took place on Wednesday at Warriston Crematorium.

We pray for Denis McKay who has died.

Sacramental Preparation: We welcome the boys and girls preparing for First Communion and those who are either preparing for or have celebrated First Confession to the streamed Mass this Sunday at 10.00am We will be helping them deepen in their commitment to the sacraments.

From our parishioners

My name is Rebecca and I normally go to Mass at Saint Margaret Mary's. Most people would recognise me as being Head Altar Server and from time to time acting as M.C. Lockdown has been bearable, due to the fact that I can still keep in touch with friends and family through the use of social media. (But not as good as seeing them personally!) Though, this has given me the time to focus on and finish my Bachelor of Music (Honours) degree. Online classes have been very odd!

Not being able to see people in person is a big change, e.g.: Grandparents and friends from University. Not being able to see my hairdresser so I took this into my own hands and I now have purple hair!

I miss being able to go out and hang with my friends and family (even if it's taking the old dear (my mum) out shopping!). I miss going to Mass every week and seeing everybody, all the parishioners and fellow Altar Servers, (Even Father Hand, but only a wee bit! *(Dt 32:35, GH)*) and joining in with Nora and the wonderful music group! I am looking forward to hopefully being able to have my Graduation Ceremony in person but, I am most looking forward to seeing what my future with music holds.

I watch the streamed Masses each week from both churches with my mum, I enjoy still being able to go to mass and taking part even though I am singing and not serving! I think that the Masses are going well and it is a great way to still practice my faith during these unprecedented times. Thanks to all who have participated in the Masses.

A wee message to my fellow parishioners: Hope you are all keeping well and safe, miss not seeing all your lovely faces on a Sunday morning (that includes you Father!) still thinking of you and keeping you in my prayers, hopefully we may be able to see each other soon! I am missing our chats in the hall after Mass and especially Frank's Rolls, Morag's Coffee, Andrew's singing, Mark's Coffee and Tracey's home baking!

See you all soon!
Rebecca.

Hello readers! I'm Gordon, I'm 16 and I'm an Altar server at Holy Cross. Lockdown started out being pretty boring and I had very little to do seeing as my exams had all been cancelled. We've started getting work issued to us online by teachers now though and they've been keeping us all very busy, and I'm missing my previous idleness a bit. The online school system is very different from being in the classroom, and I'm missing being able to have a laugh with my peers and messing about with them at lunchtime.

I'm looking forward to the lockdown measures being eased further so I can spend more time with more of my friends, although it's nice that we can now meet people from one other household at a time.

I've watched a few of the online masses and I think they're very well done considering the limited time and resources available, but it can be hard to really get in the right headspace when you're just sitting on the sofa looking at a screen.

I think that as we've all made it this far, we'll be able to keep going with the lockdown, and it will most likely be easier from here on out.

My name is Jan and sadly still getting older at 21 years of age. I attend Saint Margaret Mary's Church. As fencing is a big part of my life, it has become a major trait that I can be described with. It is not a common sport in this part of the world and so if I am not known in the parish through fencing, if I introduce myself as Macieks ⁽¹⁾ son, then people know who I am.

I have many interests such as music, fencing, DIY and occasional photography. The lockdown has impacted some of those interests and hobbies of mine. I had projects ahead of myself which I wasn't able to complete, but now due to uni and work now having subsided, I am able to work on my projects and tie up some loose ends. An occasional trip to the hardware store keeps me socially entertained and allows me to continue my projects.

Due to the Lockdown and being in 3rd year of University I have developed stronger relationships with my colleagues. Unfortunately with all the friends the summer can't be spent as productive as we thought. Truly, I can't complain about Uni being shut and allowing us to finish the year with open book tests. But most importantly the time spent with the family has become wholesome and brings me great joy to be stuck at home with them, truly.

When the Lockdown lightens, I am looking forward to more social interactions and strangely... camping. It can become a bit loud in the house with 3 younger brothers, and so some peace and quiet is a little craving of mine recently.

I usually watch the Steamed Mass at the same time every Sunday with the whole family. This situation allows me to use it for self reflection and getting through some of the struggles present in my life. As sad as these circumstances are I still see positives which make me motivated and give me more time to catch-up with the family back in Poland.

I hope everyone keeps keep well and stays safe.

Jan

⁽¹⁾ Maciek Samulski (parish administrator and streamer of the Mass)

Holy Cross conference- St Vincent De Paul

The SVDP year-end was 31 March 2020 and over the past year we have collected £1,914 from parishioners. During this time we made donations and provided assistance to the following:

1. Purchase and delivery of food items for North Edinburgh Food Bank
2. Collected and delivered over 70 children's Christmas presents to Salvation Army in Edinburgh
3. Purchase and delivery of groceries to young family just arrived in the parish from England
4. Providing a week holiday accommodation at Seton Sands caravan park for single parent family who have not been on holiday in 3 years.
5. Purchase and delivery of groceries and kitchenware to single parent family just arrived from Germany
6. Purchase and delivery of groceries to family based in Pilton
7. Providing donations to twinned SVDP conferences based in South Africa X2 and southern India X2
8. SVDP made around 40+ visits to the housebound in the parish.

On behalf of all in the SVDP we wish to thank you all for your kind donations which makes our work possible. The need is felt even more so in the current COVID-19 crisis which affects us all but in particular those members of our community in desperate need of assistance be it material or emotional. Thank you. Yours in St Vincent and Blessed Frederic .

Thanks to St. Vincent de Paul for the work they have done over the last year.

Opening Hours of Mount Vernon Cemetery: Friday 4pm-8pm Saturday 8am-8pm Sunday 8am-8pm. Please note the toilets are closed, and that entrance is through the side gate. Please see poster on website.

Archdiocesan Online Giving

Online Giving just got easier! Many Parishioners have indicated that they would like the opportunity to still give their usual weekly offertory but cannot give in the normal way. This new **secure system introduced by the Archdiocese** provides a method for those who want to give an online offertory to their Parish. They can also gift aid their donation on the same page. This could be used on a weekly, monthly or one off basis. There will be a 2% administration charge for the service; note however that this will help us receive and pay out money we might not have got in

How do people give online? Simply click on the either of the links Paya Charity Donations below then click the http: link which appears.

Holy Cross Parish [PayaCharity Donations](#)

Input your name and contact details, card details and the amount of your offertory. Don't forget to tick the box for gift aid if you are a tax payer. This will generate a further 25p for every pound gifted.

Thank you in anticipation of using this important new means of supporting the Parish.

The theme for this year's Day for Life is "Choose Life".

During the coronavirus crisis calls from pregnant women are still being received. The archdiocese has a fund to support calls. There are also other organisations which Catholics are involved in such as SPUC, Life, Pregnancy, Counselling and Care (Scotland); information can be got from the parish office.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (May be used during streamed Mass): 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 now receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if you were already there,

and I unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

Stipends

Sunday 7th June Mass for the People

Monday 8th June Wilma Anderson

Tuesday 9th June Stefan Ross

Wednesday 10th June Philip and Nancy Kerr

Thursday 11th June Thomas Cannon

Friday 12th June Alice Casey

Sunday 14th June Mass for the People