



Holy Cross Parish

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

13th September 2020 – 24th Sunday of the Year - A. page 128.

First Reading: *Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9*;

Psalm 102: **“The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

Second Reading: *Romans 14:7-9*;

Gospel: **Matthew 18:21-35.** *“To be forgiven, you must forgive”*

Feast of the Holy Cross

Monday 14th September at 10.00am in Holy Cross Church.

This Mass will be streamed at 7.00pm Monday evening.

Please use the mobile number 0756454419 to book a place at the 10.00am Mass

The Mass will be celebrating the important letter by Pope Francis on the Environment, **‘Laudato Si’**, that was issued 5 years ago. If any parishioners would like to form a zoom group to help the parish be more aware of the issues the Pope is speaking about, please contact the parish office.

The feast of St. Mary Alacoque will be celebrated on 16th October.

Masses during week: Monday 14th September 10am Holy Cross, Tuesday 15th September 10.00am St. Margaret Mary’s, Wednesday 16th September 10.00am Holy Cross, **No Mass Thursday-Saturday morning.**

Masses next weekend:

Saturday 19th September 5.30pm Holy Cross; Sunday 20th September 9.30am Holy Cross, 11.30am St. Margaret Mary’s, 1.00pm Polish Mass St. Margaret Mary’s.

Holiday: Fr. Hand will be on holiday from 16th September to 30th September. Fr. Willie Slavin will be here for the weekends. Please contact Fr. Hand if you need to meet him before 12th September.

Sunday 20th September-Saturday 26th September: There will be no weekday Masses or Saturday morning Mass. There will be a Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service in Holy Cross on Wednesday 23rd September and a Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service on Thursday 24th September in St. Margaret Mary’s.

Sunday 27th September-Saturday 3rd October: Monday – Wednesday No Mass. Mass 10.00am Thursday 1st October St. Margaret Mary’s and Mass 10.00am Saturday 3rd October Holy Cross.

Booking for Mass Places:

Ring 07546454419.

Email hx_mm@btinternet.com.

Use parish website: go to **events** at the top of the first page. To help us make sure that we do not overbook for any Mass (one is now close to the limit) a small adjustment has been made to the booking arrangements. **From now on from midday Thursday only the designated booking mobile phone can be used, 07546454419.** The website booking function will no longer be operational from midday Thurs, day until after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday. Also it won’t be possible to book on the parish email from midday Thursday until after Mass Sunday. Having 3 or 4 ways of booking right up to Mass time ran the risk of not being able to calculate easily when we had hit our limits. **Please remember that you don’t have a definite place if your booking has not been confirmed.** We ask you to co-operate with the booking system as our numbers are beginning to increase.

Liturgy : 12th/13th September 5.30pm Singing; 9.30am Organ hymn music 11.30am Singing
19th/20th: 5.30pm Singing, 9.30am Singing, 11.30am Quiet

Volunteers Needed

Could you help with the important task of welcoming and passkeeping at our Sunday and Weekday Masses

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We may be a bit dispirited this weekend with the re-introduction of restrictions. The purpose of these restrictions, like those we have with regard to Mass, is to control the spread of the Covid virus. Hopefully we can lift our eyes and see beyond the difficulty of seeing family and friends and accept the tightening up as a service to our family, friends and society. Also we can take the opportunity to accept more fully all that surrounds celebrating Mass just now. Doing this, we are playing our part in the battle against the virus.

As you know the archdiocese has asked parishes which are able to offer help to the diocese and the Retired Priests Pension Fund (AICF). The pastoral council this week decided that we could offer this year £15,000 to the Pension Fund, which is in severe difficulties. We are now in the process of assembling a financial report on the financial situation of the parish and also examining two surveys that were done of our parish buildings before the lockdown. In the light of the results of these financial and fabric surveys we will assess whether we can give another £15,000 next year. At the moment we have £200,000 in the parish bank account.

Given the fact that some of the charities and organisations that depend on the special collections taken at Sunday Masses, it has been proposed that we use parish funds to give what each group got in the 2019 collection. Next week we will publish the lists of special collections and what they were given in 2019. We will also show how you can donate to the collections. A donation to the St. Vincent de Paul will be part of this effort.

As well as the Feast of the Holy Cross on Monday and the encouragement to learn more about the Church and Climate Change, we have arranged talk and discussion on **10th November on how the effects of Covid will affect our individual lives and society in general.** The talk will be given by Professor Mark Smith of the parish; how we will actually organise the evening will depend on the situation with regard to how we can meet.

We have also organised an evening on **1st December with Fr. Andrew Gardener** who will be leading us in an evening of reflection and prayer at the start of Lent. Again how we actually do this will depend on whether we can meet or not.

Please make an effort to take part in these activities even at a distance. I think it is important we try and go ahead with as normal a parish life as we can.

I hope you are all well.

Sincerely,

Fr. Hand

Online Giving: If you wish to use the new Offertory giving link click on the following link [PayaCharity Donation Portal](#). The parish has done well using this new diocesan method of paying. Thanks for that. Perhaps others would consider using this method.

Virtual Tea/Coffee: Join other Parishioners for a **Virtual Tea or Coffee** after Mass at 11:00 to 11:30 on Zoom. Meeting ID: 734 9918 6205 Password: 5Dhvjj

Confirmation, First Communion and First Confession

Arrangements are being made for the celebration of the First Communions. First Communion parents will receive letters about this on Friday or Monday. The only practical way of celebrating the First Communions is to have them in small groups in the autumn and winter. They will be on weekday evenings. Unfortunately for space reasons only the child making First Communion, their parents or guardians and brothers and sisters will be able to attend. We hope to have a celebration for all of the children in late May or early June, depending on the situation with regard to the virus.

First Confessions for those children now in Primary 4 who didn't make them previously are being arranged.

Penance: Primary 3 parents will be asked before Christmas to register their children for the two year period of preparation leading to the Sacrament of Penance and the Sacrament of Communion.

Confirmation: Primary 7 will be beginning preparation for the Sacrament for Confirmation this year. The date given to us by the Archbishop is 15th May next year. At the moment the Archbishop's plan is to have the Confirmations in three groups during that day. We will have more information after Christmas. All of this is subject to the what the situation is with regard to the virus. Parents and children will be asked to sign up before Christmas for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

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)

Stipends:

Saturday	12 th September	5:30 (vigil)	Winnie McGregor
Sunday	13 th September	9:30am	Mass for the People
		11:30am	Thomas Reddington
Monday	14 th September	10:00am (HX)	Mass for the People
Tuesday	15 th September	10:00am (SMM)	Hamish McGlynn
Wednesday	16 th September	10:00am (HX)	Helen Cadger
Thursday	17 th September	10:00am (SMM)	No Mass
Friday			No Mass
Saturday	19 th September	10:00am (HX)	No Mass
Saturday		5:30pm (HX)	Margaret Bell
Sunday	20 th September	9:30 (HX)	Kataie Boyle
		11:30 (SMM)	Peter Mooty

HX – Holy Cross church

SMM – St. Margaret Mary's church