



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

18th October 2020 – 29th Sunday of the Year - A. page 143.

First Reading: *Isaiah 45:1,4-10*; Psalm 95: **“Give the Lord glory and power”**.

Second Reading: *1 Thessalonians 1:1-5*

Gospel: **Matthew 22:15-21**. *“Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.”*

Feast of St. Margaret Mary: Friday 16th October.

Thanks to those who supported the this parish feast day Mass.

Masses next weekend:

Saturday 17th October 5.30pm Holy Cross; Sunday 18th October 9.30am Holy Cross, 11.30am St. Margaret Mary's, 1.00pm Polish Mass St. Margaret Mary's.

Sunday 18th October-Saturday 24th October:

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday - Holy Cross 10:00am

Tuesday, Thursday – St Margaret Mary's 10:00am

Booking for Mass Places: Please make sure you are following the booking system.

Note that from Thursday midday only the mobile phone can be used.

Ring 07546454419 or

Email hx_mm@btinternet.com. or

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.

Liturgy: 17th /18th Oct: 5:30pm Singing, 9:30am Singing, 11:30am Singing

24th/25th Oct. 5:30pm Singing, 9:30am Quiet 11:30am Quiet

Preface and Eucharistic Prayer: Preface for Sunday V and EP I

Volunteers Needed

We need passkeepers and welcomers to offer their help with regard to the First Communion Masses. We want to celebrate them as well and as safely as possible. Contact Vic Laing or parish office if you can help.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Can we live hopeful and joyful lives in the middle of the restrictions we are in? Some of us may be doubtful as there seems to be no ending to the Coronavirus crisis. Perhaps St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, one of the patrons of our parish, may help us to travel the pilgrimage of faith we have found ourselves in. She encouraged in the Church the devotion to the Sacred Heart. This devotion grew in the Church to help all Christians see that Jesus is love and that we are always held in the heart of Jesus. Not everyone may warm to the imagery of the Sacred Heart and sometimes of the style of the prayers associated with the devotion. Everyone however can commit to the belief in the warm, tender love of Jesus for all of us. Could we pray this week

for that awareness of Jesus' love for us, so that we can take confidence in the present and in the future. Confident in that love we can share it with others, and so we can journey on together in the knowledge that we are in the hands of God.

As you will see in this newsletter parish life is continuing, and I draw your attention and prayers to the preparation for the First Communions in November, the work going on to respond to Pope Francis' call to the Church to respond to his letter on the Creation and Climate change, the discussion on 10th November to provide an opportunity to understand how the Coronavirus is challenging us in the Church and Society, and then on 1st December Fr. Gardener's visit to lead us in an Advent reflection.

Fr. Hand

Laudate Si: Pope Francis's letter on Creation, Climate Change and the Environment.

The whole Church is being encouraged to pay attention to these issues. We have had a preliminary meeting and decided to contact the diocesan Justice and Peace Commission and SCIAF to find out possible ways ahead. We also intend find out more about Eco Congregations which supports parishes in becoming more aware about how they make changes which support the environment. We need more people willing to develop these issues in the parish. Anyone wanting find out more please contact the parish office.

How could the effects of Covid affecting our Society and Church: There is a lot in the media just now about how the Covid virus is likely to have serious effects on our society. **On Tuesday 10th November at 7.00pm we invite 15 parishioners** to come to Holy Cross parish hall and hear our parishioner Mark Smith, Professor of Social Work at Dundee University, share his thoughts on various areas we need to pay attention to. There will an opportunity for us to share our thoughts and feelings and then a general question and answer session. If you are interested, please contact the parish office by email or phone.

The hall will be laid out strictly in accordance with all government policies with regard to meetings. All participants are asked to wear face masks unless exempt.

A date will be given next week as when there will an opportunity using Zoom for parishioners to hear Mark's talk and then to take part in a Zoom discussion.

Advent Reflection: On Tuesday 1st December 7.00pm, Fr. Andrew Garden, parish priest of St. David's, Dalkeith, will lead an Advent Reflection in Holy Cross church

Given the present situation with when and how we can meet, we intend to try various ways of meeting, ranging from physically meeting to only the use of U Tube or Zoom. We will also use a mixture of means. In this way we hope those who feel able to come out and those who prefer not to physically meet at the moment may feel able to take part in parish events,

Confirmation, First Communion and First Confession

First Communion: St. Margaret Mary's: 1st November at the Polish Mass; Saturday 7th November 10.00am Mass; Sunday 8th November Polish Mass at 2.30pm; Saturday 14th November 10.00am and 1.00pm; Saturday 21st November 10.00am Sunday Class children.

Holy Cross: Sunday 22nd November 2.00pm; Saturday 28th November 10.00am and 1.00pm; Sunday 29th November 2.00pm.

This means the 10.0am Mass on Saturday mornings 7th, 14th and 21st November is transferred to St. Margaret Mary's. Because of the restriction on numbers only the parents or carers and the brothers and sisters of the children making their Communion can take part in these Masses. Thanks to the school staffs and our catechists who are working hard to prepare the children for the First Communions.

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.

First Communion 2021. More information will be given in December

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.

Archbishop's Pastoral Letter: Please see the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter on his website: www.archedinburgh.org or on parish website.

We pray for Daniel Macura, who will be baptised in St. Margaret Mary's church today.

Foodbank: Edinburgh Foodbank is going to be using St. Margaret Mary's Hall on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Friday morning. We are glad to be able to help this important work. It will start on Monday 26th October.

Thank you from SVDP

Just to say thank you to all those parishioners who have donated electronically to SVDP during these restricted times. The need is ever present, but your generosity is and continues to be hugely appreciated. We pass on their thanks to you.

Yours in St Vincent and Blessed Frederic.

Holy Cross SVDP

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

200 Club - September draw

The September draw for the 200 Club took place online after Mass on Sunday 4th October.

The monthly prizes are 1st Prize - £100 and 2nd Prize - £50.

The result was:-

1st Prize No 64 David Shearer - £100

2nd Prize No 29 Balfour Thomson - £50

There are still numbers available for new members of the 200 Club. Please

contact Robert McGee on 07733003081 or robertbmcgee@btinternet.com for more information.

Bishops' of Scotland Message to Clergy and People

Let us not grow tired of doing good. (Gal 6:9) The Covid-19 Pandemic has presented the Church with unprecedented challenges. It has brought about the temporary closure of Churches and, following the resumption of public worship, the introduction of rigorous health and safety measures to prevent transmission of the virus.

Since the resumption of public worship our parishes have been meticulous in controlling infection and ensuring the safety of all those who cross the threshold of a Catholic church. The Bishops wish to commend the work and cooperation of priests, parishioners and volunteers whose extraordinary efforts have ensured that Catholic churches are among the safest places for people to attend in the midst of this Pandemic.

However, we are now at a fragile point. The rate of Covid-19 infections is on the rise across Scotland and public anxiety is increasing. At this critical moment, we ask that we all persevere in our efforts to reduce the risk of transmission and to ensure that our

parishes and communities adhere to all infection control measures that have been put in place.

Our discussions with the Scottish Government assure us that Government is aware of our extremely careful protocols and trusts us to see to our public worship and parish life with the discretion of responsible citizens. We, for our part, assure Government that we are employing this discretion for the good of public health in accordance with the law. On that basis, we have every confidence that, if parishes continue these high standards, public worship and parish life can carry on and we will continue to attend to the spiritual welfare of the nation.

From long experience of plagues and disasters, the Church knows how the want of prayer and faith can do great harm to the spiritual wellbeing of nations, and how our public worship - owed to God - can bring His special divine assistance in times of national trouble. Now, more than ever, our church doors need to be open, and consolidating our hard work to date will ensure this blessing for ourselves and for our country.

From SCIAF: All of us at SCIAF want to say a huge thanks to you and your parish for supporting us during these difficult times. We look forward to giving you a total which has been raised for our **WEE BOX BIG CHANGE appeal** later in the year.

See Holy Cross Website and e mail.

Edinburgh Jesuit Centre: Please see poster on Holy Cross website and email.

The Climate Emergency, COP and the Coronavirus. How do we respond? Adrian Shaw, climate officer for Eco-Congregations. 20th October 7.30pm. Login using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2365092814> or Meeting ID: 236 509 2814.

It will also be livestreamed on its Facebook page!

40 Days for Life:

A peaceful prayer vigil will take place outside the Chalmers Clinic in Edinburgh from 23 September to 01 November. The purpose is to pray for an end to abortion; parishioners are asked to consider taking part for an hour or so. For more details

visit www.40daysforlife.com/edinburgh

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	17 th October	5:30 (vigil)	Harry McCusker
Sunday	18 th October	9:30am	Intentions of Theresa Canning
		11:30am	Mass for People
Monday	19 th October	10:00am (HX)	Joan Hume
Tuesday	20 th October	10:00am (SMM)	Anne McDonald
Wednesday	21 st October	10:00am (HX)	Eileen Gillon
Thursday	22 nd October	10:00am (SMM)	Intentions of Tippett Family
Friday			
Saturday	24 th October	10:00am (HX)	Special Intention
Saturday		5:30pm (HX)	Mass for People
Sunday	25 th October	9:30 (HX)	Ian Stoddart
		11:30 (SMM)	Special Intention

HX – Holy Cross church

SMM – St. Margaret Mary's church