



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.commmkm

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

4th July 2021 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time– year B

First Reading Ezekiel 2:2-5; Psalm 122(123) *"Our eyes are on the Lord till he shows us his mercy."* Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Gospel: Mark 6:1-6

Mass Times: 5.30pm vigil HX; 9.30am HX; 11.30am MM; 1.00am MM (see end of newsletter for details).

Sacrament of Penance: If you would like the Sacrament of Penance please contact Fr Hand.

Streamed Mass: 4th July 11.30am 11th July 9.30am

Go the parish website to click on the link for the streamed Mass.

Maciej is always willing to provide information: phone on 0131 552 3957.

Booking for Mass: Please book, using the **mobile number 07546454419** or **Online** use the normal Holy Cross Website booking system (**EVENTS**) to submit your request. From next week the heading '**EVENTS**' is being change to **BOOKINGS**.

Please note that the online bookings are open from Monday 9.00am to Thursday 12.00 noon. The mobile phone is open from Monday 9.00am to Saturday 12.00 noon. If there are spaces and there is someone available to take the phone it may be answered after that.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We have put a reminder about our safety policies in the newsletter. We realise that some people are finding the situation at the moment burdensome and difficult. Changes are very likely to come in the summer, but at the moment it is important for us to maintain what we said we would do. We thank God that there are many fewer deaths and cases of serious illness, but we cannot take lightly the Edinburgh infection rates of 400 per 100,000 of population. Please continue to observe the policies.

Fr. Hand

We pray for Fr. Bobby Taylor who was ordained in Galashiels on 29th June.

We pray for Ivy Potter, daughter of John and Kaleigh Potter, who is being baptised this Sunday in Holy Cross church.

We pray of Annie Thorburn whose funeral service will take place on Tuesday at Mount Vernon.

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage

Due to the pandemic, there is no Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes again this year, but you can join our Virtual Pilgrimage from Friday 9th July to Friday 16th July by logging on to [Virtual Pilgrimage | edinburgh-lourdes.com](https://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com). There you will find our daily programme and can click on each day to follow the different events offered. We hope you will join us in prayer for all or part of the Pilgrimage.

Heating and the Environment Meeting: 7pm Monday 5th July

The Fabric Committee and the Laudato Si Group at the moment are considering the fact that the Holy Cross house and hall boilers are 27 years old. Teresa Keenan will outline some climate friendly possibilities. Please feel free to join this meeting.

We need some parishioners to have looked seriously at these issues so that we can better discuss the possibilities about the heating of our buildings in the years to come. We asked by Pope Francis to look at the whole questions of our use of fossil fuels.

Also the meeting will be useful if you are considering changing your domestic heating at any stage.

This first meeting will be conducted by Zoom to outline the issues and possibilities and will be followed by an on-site meeting later in the summer to discuss the issues further.

The link is: <http://heating.hcrossmm.org.uk>. It would be useful to know how many people will take part and so if possible would you email the office if you intend to be at the meeting.

Would you like to join the gardening team? Do as much as you like or as little as you like!

The gardens of our two churches are much appreciated. We do, however, need more help to keep them up to the standard we are used to. We need help in weeding, moving and general gardening. You don't have to be a specialist; your willingness to offer your time is sufficient. Please leave your details at the parish office and someone will contact you.

Safety in the Church: Policies July 2021

A reminder of what you are asked to do in keeping one another safe. This is also a reminder of how to help the passkeepers and cleaners who as well as their normal duties have to help you follow the Church directions of how to follow the Church directions.

- Booking the seats is important in helping us allocate safely places in the church.
- Put on your mask on approaching the church
- Observe the 2 metres distancing
- Take care not to congregate outside the doors of the churches and halls
- Sanitise your hands both on entering and leaving.
- Go directly to your seat as shown by the passkeepers
- Protect other parishioners by not going to talk to others in the church unless you have an important reason.
- Come forward for Communion as invited by the passkeeper.
- Communion is to be received on the hand. Please keep your hand flat. If you offer a cupped hand and the priest touches your hand accidentally he has to go and sanitise his hands.
- After Communion please do not kneel at the altar rails or touch anything unnecessarily.
- After Communion continue to leave by the side door. Some people are faster than others. Please be patient and maintain the 2 metres distance if at all possible.
- Do not linger immediately outside of the church.
- The church is sanitised and aired after each use. This requires helpers? Are you willing to help.

At the parish councils on 14th July we will look at some of the liturgical changes that the bishops have proposed for level 2 and then for levels 1-0. Some changes are being proposed with regard to music and singing. We do not propose any changes until after the meeting on 14th July. Each parish has to consider how to introduce the proposed easing of the lockdown with regard to the church.

The bishops will continue to advise us on any changes proposed in the coming months.

Holidays: We ask everyone to follow the government policies about people leaving the country on holiday and returning from holiday. Also, if anyone has visitors from overseas, especially from 'amber' countries, please make sure that they understand what is required of them.

Laudato Si: There is a meeting of the group this Tuesday 2.00pm. If you would like a Zoom link please contact the parish office.

Nonviolence - Responding to the Cry of the Earth (attachment)

Pax Christi is hosting a Zoom event titled Nonviolence, Responding to the Cry of the Earth. It takes place at 7pm on **Monday 5 July and features a variety of speakers. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/NonviolenceJuly>**

A letter to J&P about Assisted Dying.

You will have seen that a cross-party group of MSPs led by Lib Dem Liam McArthur is proposing to introduce Assisted Dying legislation in the Scottish Parliament, beginning consultation this autumn.

I thought you might like to see the email I have sent the MSPs concerned. My case was that even to have a political conversation about Assisted Dying will be distressing for a large number of Scots, including disabled and elderly people and those with mental health issues, and that it will introduce no conceivable good which is not already possible via the hospice movement anyway. (In Catholic terms, obviously, we would say that people who are 'assisted to die' in hospices are treated via the Thomist principle of double effect, where they are given enough morphine to prevent pain on their pathway to death, but that is very different from 'right to die' legislation, which involves the state in saying it no longer considers itself bound to protect the lives of certain of its citizens.)

I would think we would want to have a concerted campaign of letter-writing in the autumn, if the consultation does happen, but I couldn't forbear pointing out at this stage that even having the conversation at all is not only unnecessary but dangerous and distressing to vulnerable Scots. I paste the letter below.

Best wishes, Sara Parvis

COP 26: Scotland's Bishops have announced their intention to set up a 'Care of Creation Office' ahead of the COP26 meeting in Glasgow later this year. COP26 is the twenty sixth conference of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is to take place at the Scottish Event Campus in Glasgow from 1 to 12 November 2021. It has been widely reported that Pope Francis is expected to attend, though this has not yet been confirmed. A briefing for Faith Communities can be found at bit.ly/COP26briefing

Ask your MP to vote against abortion up to birth

The abortion lobby, led by the UK's largest abortion provider, BPAS, has worked with Diana Johnson MP to bring forward an amendment to hijack the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill to **introduce abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth** to England and Wales. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would leave England and Wales with one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. We are expecting that this radical proposal will be voted on by MPs this Monday.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool that makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to vote against the motion. Please click the link below to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds!

www.righttolife.org.uk/StopAbortionUpToBirth

Foodbank: Edinburgh Food Project at St. Margaret Mary's. The foodbank has now re-opened.

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.

Prayer at Communion (*May be used during streamed Mass*):

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for your presence in this Eucharist: in the people gathered, in the priest, in the Word proclaimed and the sacrament of your Body and Blood. May we always recognise you in our midst; may we come one day to see you face to face, to be with your forever. Amen. (Archdiocesan Year of the Eucharist. Fr. Michael Regan.)

Preface and Eucharistic Prayer: Preface Sunday of the Year I. EP III

Saturday	3 rd July	5.30pm HX	Charlie Gallagher
Sunday	4 th July	9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM	Mass for the People Ann Carolan
Monday	5 th July	10.00am HX	
Tuesday	6 th July	10.00am MM	
Wednesday	7 th July	10.00am HX	
Thursday	8 th July	10.00am MM	
Saturday	10 th July	10.00am HX	
Saturday	10 th July	5.30pm HX	Joe Rea
Sunday	11 th July	9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM	Mass for the People Dessie McGovern

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.

Sunday Streamed Mass will be available on our website 9.30am one week and 11.30am the other.