



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 SC008540

18th July 2021 – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time– year B

First Reading **Jeremiah 23:1-6**; Psalm 22(23) "The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want." Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18; Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

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: 18th July 9.30am 25th July 9.30am

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

Please note that due to holidays there may be some difficulty in streaming the Masses on 18th and 25th July. Please check with the parish office.

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 (**BOOKINGS**) to submit your request.

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 will be both happy and apprehensive at the changes to the Covid policies announced by the Scottish and UK governments. We are moving along but still deep within the pandemic. I know personally more people suffering from Covid now than at any time during the pandemic. I know we as a parish will be keeping in mind and in our prayers the needs of everyone in the parish. We will make the changes but will do it at our pace to try and cater for the needs of everyone insofar as we can. The instruction from the Archbishop is to make the changes if we think it is safe to do so. Any changes will not take place before Sunday August 1st. There will be more to be said next week after the pastoral council of Wednesday.

Fr. Hand

Change in Covid Regulations.

From Archbishop Cusley

- We can move to one metre of physical distancing instead of two metres. That means most churches will be able to increase their capacity.
- Congregational singing is allowed, albeit behind face coverings (singing is already allowed in Level 1 areas).
- The maximum attendance at weddings and funerals will rise to 200.

Please note that all other procedures you have in place should remain:

- Face coverings must still be worn inside church, unless exempt.
- Names and telephone numbers of those attending church must still be taken.
- Sanitiser should still be made available for parishioners.

The pastoral council will be considering on Wednesday evening how these changes affect the parish. We want to consider how best to implement them; we need to respect the needs both of those who have come back to Mass and those who feel unable to do so.

In the meantime please observe the existing guidelines. Any changes will not take place before Sunday August 1st.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 25th July

Pope Francis has called for a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. He is calling on the Church to value all generations; each generation has a contribution to make to the work of Jesus and the Church. On this day he is calling on grandparents and the elderly to continue to share in the spread of the Gospel. He says, 'Because there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to your grandchildren. You just need to set out and undertake something new.'

Please read the Pope's message that was attached to the newsletter last week. After the summer we can consider how to follow through on it. Some parishes have grandparents' groups involved in developing the life of the parish.

Heating and the Environment Meeting: 7pm Monday 26th July

This meeting had to be postponed because of illness. It is re-scheduled of Monday 26th July at 7.00pm to take place in Holy Cross hall. It is looking at alternatives forms of church and house heating rather than fossil fuels. All are welcome but please let the parish office know if you would like to come so that we know the numbers.

Pastoral Council: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 21st July at 7.00pm. The two main topics will be the Holy Cross centenary preparations and the effects of the change in Covid regulations.

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.
- **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.

We pray for Fr. Martin Eckersley who was ordained in the Cathedral last Saturday.

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

We pray for Desmond McGovern whose funeral will take place on Monday 19th July at Seafield Crematorium.

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

Please leave your details at the parish office and someone will contact you.

Holy Cross conference- St Vincent De Paul

The SVDP year-end was 31 March 2021 and over the past year we have received £1,039 from parishioners. During this time we made donations and provided assistance to the following:

1. Cash donations to the North Edinburgh Food Bank
2. Collected and delivered over 70 children's Christmas presents to the Salvation Army in Edinburgh
3. Purchase and delivery of groceries to a local family
4. Assistance with payment of an overdue electricity bill for a family based in Pilton
5. Purchase and delivery of groceries to a young man living in temporary accommodation, pending allocation of suitable permanent accommodation
6. Providing donations to twinned SVDP conferences based in South Africa (2No.) and southern India (2No.)
7. SVDP were unable to make home visits to the housebound in the parish due to the COVID restrictions. However, they assisted with phone calls to elderly parishioners to check on their welfare in these difficult times

Sadly, one of our long standing members, Jean Gorman passed away in January this year. A lovely lady with a heart of gold; we will miss her.

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 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.

Teams of Our Lady: a sharing group for couples

Married couples are invited to come together to grow in their faith by joining the local Teams of Our Lady initiative. Up to 6 couples meet to share together for mutual support, fun and sharing. Groups often include a priest too. Teams began in the Notre Dame (Our Lady) parish in Paris in 1939, and have spread widely. They are ecumenically open, and all ages are welcome.

One couple who take part in Edinburgh said: "Teams gives us the chance to connect with other couples at various stages of the marriage and faith journey, from other parishes, from other cultures.

"It's a great place to learn and reflect on our marriage. The simple format of the meetings helps each couple and our accompanying priest give their news: what goes well for them, what goes less well and what helps each of us in our lives and spiritual journey.'

To hear more, contact northernngb@teams-transatlantic.org who will put you in touch with someone from the local group to talk more about it.

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 you forever. Amen. (Archdiocesan Year of the Eucharist. Fr. Michael Regan.)

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

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| Saturday | 17 th July | 5.30pm HX | |
| Sunday | 18 th July | 9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM | Peter Gorman and Chris Lewis Mass for the People |
| Monday | 19 th July | 10.00am HX | |
| Tuesday | 20 th July | 10.00am MM | |
| Wednesday | 21 st July | 10.00am HX | John Bruntisfield. |
| Thursday | 22 nd July | 10.00am MM | |
| Saturday | 24 th July | 10.00am HX | |
| Saturday | 24 th July | 5.30pm HX | Philip Kerr |
| Sunday | 25 th July | 9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM | Eileen Murdoch Mass for the People |

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.