



Holy Cross Parish

Postal Address - 11 Bangholm Loan, Edinburgh EH5 3AH

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hand

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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

26th^h September 2021 – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – year B

First Reading Nm 11:25-29; Psalm 18."; Second Reading: James 5:1-6; Gospel:

Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48

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: 26th September 11.30am 3rd October 9.30am

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

This week Thursday morning Mass in St.Margaret Mary's is at 11.30am

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Please welcome **Fr. Eddie McGhee** for his first visit to the parish. Fr. McGhee is a retired priest of the Galloway diocese. He recently retired from a parish in Kilmarnock and from being the Catholic chaplain in Kilmarnock Jail. He will be here for this weekend and the next.

Fr. George Suszko is being transferred by the Pallotine Fathers to their parish in Florida. Please keep in him in our prayers as he makes this change after 23 years in this archdiocese.

There has been some confusion about how Communion is to be given. The bishops' instruction at the moment is that it is to be given on the hand. This I understand is because a possible place for the virus to exist is at the back of the throat. I am always available to discuss this.

Fr. Hand

**Laudato Si Rosary: St. Margaret Mary's at 3.00pm
on 26th September.**

You are welcome to St. Margaret Mary's for an outdoor Rosary based on Pope Francis's themes on climate and creation from Laudato Si.

Fr. Hand: Fr. Hand will be on holiday from Wednesday 29th September until Thursday 14th October. If you need to contact him, please do as soon as possible. **He will also be on retreat from Monday 8th November until Friday 12th November.**

If you need pastoral help please ring the parish house as normal; the answering machine is checked several times a day. If you need a priest in an emergency, contact Maciej Samulski, and he will help look for a priest.

Returning to Church

The following changes to our present way of working are based on our response of 22nd August to the Bishops' letter of 10th August.

The basic points of our response were:

- The bishops are emphasising that aerosols are a bigger danger of infection than surfaces.
- Ensuring Good Ventilation.
- Maintaining good hygiene on entering and leaving the church.
- Practising respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette
- Wearing masks or face coverings.
- Test and Protection is to be maintained.
- As far as we are aware we are still to keep the Mass to a moderate length so that the congregation is not in the church longer than necessary.
- We will keep the 1 metre distancing for the present, though we will adapt if necessary by putting two people into the presently sealed off benches.
- We are still to avoid congregating or crushing together.
- *We would like to add: **Whatever other changes happen we will do everything to avoid having the churches so full that some might feel uncomfortable or apprehensive.***

The following proposals are made in line with the Bishops' letter and our analysis of the needs of the parish. Please feel free to comment on them; we will be monitoring the effectiveness of them regularly. As always we will be evaluating them in the light of the infection rate.

Booking: In line with the proposals of the bishops **we will cancel our booking system** starting this weekend 25th/26th September. Please come in good time for Mass, as if the numbers go up the passkeepers will have to have time to help parishioners to seats. We think it is important to try and fill up the church from the front, so that we can see which seats are free. We ask your co-operation with this.

Test and Protect: Legally we have to fulfil the requirements of the Test and Protect scheme. To help us do this we have drawn up lists of people who are normally at a particular Mass. If you normally go to a particular Mass please check your name is on the list. After that you don't have to do anything, other than if on a particular week you are not going to be at that Mass phone the present mobile **(07546454419)**, formerly for booking, or email the parish. If you are at a different Mass or have a visitor please sign in at the back of the church.

Sanitising the churches: In line with the bishops' comments that the main danger of infection is air borne aerosols, we will work at increasing the airflow through our churches. We will reduce the work and effort required with regard to sanitising the churches. Each church is cleaned thoroughly every week. Holy Cross will also be sanitised after the 9.30am Mass. St. Margaret Mary's will also be sanitised after the 11.30am Mass and after the 1.00pm Mass. Both churches will be sanitised after funeral Masses, Baptisms and special Masses.

Offertory procession and bringing back our servers: Because of the present high rate of infection we are delaying these for several weeks. Do however contact Fr. Hand now if you are interested in serving.

The other points of our letter of the 22nd August still stand, including Communion is still to be received in the hand.

We pray for David Tippett who has died. His funeral Mass was at St. Margaret Mary's on Thursday 23rd September.

We pray for Gordon Harrison who has died. His funeral will be at St. Margaret Mary's on 8th October at 1.30am

Dementia: Hope on a Difficult Journey An event for those supporting friends or family with dementia will be held at the Gillis Centre, Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, from 2-4pm on Saturday 6 November. A talk will be led by Dr Adrian Treloar, and there will be a chance to share experiences before a time of prayer

in St Margaret's Chapel, onsite. Light refreshments will be served. The event is organised by the Archdiocesan Marriage & Families Commission. To register please visit bit.ly/DementiaEvent2021

Safeguarding Webinar for all who have a PVG

The Bishops of Scotland invite clergy, religious, church employees and volunteers across Scotland to a national safeguarding webinar at 11am on Saturday 2 October. It will be a chance to find out more about the safeguarding document *In Gods Image v2* and reflect upon its implications for your safeguarding role. The link to register is: bit.ly/3gQRdPu

Tea and Coffee after 9.30am Mass (Holy Cross church): Hopefully, it won't be long until we can offer hospitality after Mass on Sundays. It's been a long time since many of us have had a proper catch up after Mass and been able to meet people who have moved into the parish. If you are able to help on the rota, please get in touch with me, Pat Shearer by phone/text on 07484 366042 or email patricia.shearer@btinternet.com). The more we have on the rota the merrier and the fewer times you'll be needed during the year!

Courses at Gillis Centre

Applications are now open for a variety of courses run by St Mary's University at the Gillis Centre Campus in Edinburgh, starting this autumn. testimonies from students on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel (bit.ly/ArchYouTube). All details

Season of Creation: 1st September-4th October (Feast of Creation)

Our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. Pope Francis. LS

Laudato Si Rosary: St. Margaret Mary's at 3.00pm on 26th September.

Laudato Si tips for parishioners for the newsletter & facebook.

Adapted from *Caring for Our Common Home* (SCIAF)

<https://www.sciaf.org.uk/resources/81-caring-for-our-common-home>

Save Energy at Home

Set your house heating thermostat to 18°C - 21°C

Washing your clothes at 30°C will cut the carbon footprint by of each wash by 40%

If you have a dishwasher, use a programme set at 50°C or less, and always ensure you wash a full load

Switch off electrical appliances properly – don't leave on stand-by

Draught proof windows and doors. Find advice at:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/draught-proofing/>

Home Energy Scotland gives free advice on cutting home fuel bills and possible eligibility for grants for installing home insulation or solar panels.

Tel: 0808 808 2282

26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, Glasgow 1st-12th November.

Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition:

If you haven't already, please consider signing the [Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition](https://thecatholicpetition.org/?source=direct_link_&atwww.stmarys.ac.uk/edinburgh). An opportunity for Catholics worldwide to listen to Pope Francis and act out our faith." https://thecatholicpetition.org/?source=direct_link_&atwww.stmarys.ac.uk/edinburgh

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.

Please take a diocesan events diary from the back of the church

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

Preface and Eucharistic Prayer: Preface of Sunday I EP of Reconciliation I

Saturday	25 th September	5.30pm HX	Mass for the People
Sunday	26 th September	9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM	Angela Moore
Monday	27 th September	10.00am HX	No Service
Tuesday	28 th September	10.00am MM	No Service
Wednesday	29 th September	10.00am HX	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Thursday	30 th September	10.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Saturday	1 st October	10.00am HX	No Service
Saturday	1 st ^d October	5.30pm HX	
Sunday	2 nd October	9.30am HX 11.30am MM 1.00pm MM	Alastair Fraser Joe Andrades

Directions from the Passkeepers: Please co-operate with the passkeepers when coming out for Communion and coming out of the benches after Mass. We want to carry out the various movements of people before, during and after Mass as safely as possible.

Not going to your normal Mass: Please ring on 07546454419 to let us know you are not going to your normal Mass.