



## 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](http://hcrossmm.org.uk)



Holy Cross is the Parish of the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland – number SC008540

### 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - year B

**Mass Times:** 5.30pm (vigil); 9.30am HX; 11.30am MM; 9.00am MM (in Polish) (see end of newsletter for details).

**Streamed: 28<sup>th</sup> January Sunday Mass 11.30am 4<sup>th</sup> February Sunday Mass 11.30am**

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

**Confessions:** HX after 10.00am Mass Saturdays; MM 11.15am Sundays, or on request.

### Dear Parishioners and Friends,

A group of parishioners met this week to begin this year's work on the second half of the Synod taking place in Rome in October. Pope Francis has called together this Synod for the whole Church to consider where the Spirit is leading it in the present and future. He thinks it important that the whole Church, from its parishes to international organisations take part in this time of prayer and reflection.

A Synod is normally a representative group of bishops with some lay people coming together to reflect on a particular topic. This Synod is much more representative than that, with many more lay people present. The Pope has placed great emphasis on the whole Church at every level really listening to one another. He also emphasises listening to every voice in our world. That is not to say we have to agree with every voice, but it does mean a readiness to respect other people's thoughts.

Our plans for inviting people to follow up what was said by the parish in last year's listening sessions will be put forward in several weeks.

Sincerely

Fr. Hand

**Fr Hand will be on holiday** from Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Fr. Henry McLaughlin will be celebrating Mass this weekend. If you need pastoral help, please ring the parish number; if it is not answered please leave a message. The answering machine is checked regularly.

**Services:** Please check the Mass timetable for services when Fr. Hand is away.

**Thrift Shop:** Because of health reasons Joan Tillbrook has retired from running the parish thrift shop at St. Margaret Mary's after many years of service. We thank her for this work and remember the parishioners who worked there with and before Joan. The shop will be closed temporarily while we consider the way ahead for it.

**SPUC White Flower Appeal 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February:** The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child works to protect the rights of the unborn child. There will be a retiral collection to support the work they do.

**Sacramental Preparation:** Thanks to the parents and children preparing for the Sacraments of Penance, Communion and Confirmation, who took part in the Masses of Enrolment at St. Margaret Mary's and Holy Cross last Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Finance Committee meeting:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 7.00pm.

**Laudato Si Meeting:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 10.45am parish house

**Diocesan Catholic Directory:** Copies of this directory with a lot of information about the diocese are on sale at the back of the church, priced £3.

**Hymn Singalong:** Come along to St. Margaret Mary's church on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 11.00am-12.00 noon** to sing and practise some of the hymns we use the parish. The musicians will be sharing material and this is an opportunity help develop the singing in the parish.

### **Preface of Sunday IV P 111**

**Readings:** First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20;

Psalm 94: "O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'"

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Gospel: **Mark 1:21-28**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	5.30pm HX	Mass for the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Mass for the Parish Mass for the Parish
Monday	29 <sup>th</sup> January	10.00am HX	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup> January	10.00am MM	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup> January	10.00am HX	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> February	10.00am MM	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup> February	10.00am HX	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	5.30pm HX	Sister Francis
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Joyce Keller Mass for the Parish

### **From Archbishop**

**Jubilee 2025** - The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. The theme is *Pilgrims of Hope*. For more information, visit the official website <https://www.giubileo-2025.it/en>. A Facebook page has been set up that will highlight resources and events in Scotland - search 'Holy Year Scotland 2025'. To help us prepare, the Holy Father has established 2024 as a Year of Prayer dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world". Resources will be available soon.

**Valentine's Retreat** - The Archdiocesan Valentine's Retreat for married and engaged couples takes place at St Kentigern's Church, Parkgrove Avenue, Barnton, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR on Saturday 10 February 2024, 2-5pm. It is an ideal way for couples to spend time together in quiet reflection and prayer, in thanksgiving to God for each other and all the positive things that spring from your relationship. Creche available for children of primary school age and older. Register at <https://bit.ly/valretreat>

**Stations of the Cross** - Join people across the Archdiocese each Monday throughout Lent for our annual Stations of the Cross. It takes place on Zoom at 7:45pm, beginning on 19 February, and lasts around 30 minutes. We will be praying for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/lentstations](https://bit.ly/lentstations)

**New Dawn Day** - New Dawn in Scotland hosts a conference and parish healing service at Ss John Cantius & Nicholas Parish, West Main Street, Broxburn, EH52 5RJ on Saturday 3 February from 9:30am. Speakers are Fr Frankie Mulgrew, priest from the Diocese of Salford (and a former comedian), and Terry Quinn, an International Catholic Evangelist and bible scholar. Visit <https://newdawninScotland.com/>

**Free places at SPUC Youth conference!** - SPUC's Youth Conference is a weekend which brings together 200 like-minded young pro-lifers to learn effective strategies and fuel your passion for defending the most vulnerable among us – unborn children and their mothers. The Conference runs 23-25 February at Yarnfield Park Training Centre in Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0NL. The Archdiocese has five fully funded places available, including travel. To apply: <https://bit.ly/youthconference24> or contact the Pro-Life Office: [prolife@staned.org.uk](mailto:prolife@staned.org.uk)

**World Day of the Sick – 11 February** - The World Day of the Sick was introduced by St Pope John Paul II to help us remember to pray for all those who are ill and for their caregivers. He chose this day because it coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Lourdes being a place of pilgrimage renowned for healing. Please pray for the sick of our parish and the family members, friends and professionals who help them.

**Retreat for young adults** - The ARISE retreat on Saturday 24 February is for 16-35 year-olds across Scotland to gather for a day of faith, fun and friendship at St Albert's Chaplaincy, George Square, Edinburgh. The day includes Mass, Adoration, talks, small group discussion, opportunities for Confession and more. Tickets £15 which includes lunch & dinner. Register at <https://www.youth2000.org/events/Edinburgh>

**Lourdes Mass** - The February Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes takes place at 3pm on Sunday 4 February at St John the Baptist Church, 37 St Ninian's Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh EH12 8AL. The Mass is organised by the Edinburgh Lourdes Pilgrimage team. Refreshments in hall afterwards. All welcome.

**Remembering Service** - A service for those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. Sunday 3March, 5:00pm at St John the Baptist RC Church, Edinburgh. Ecumenical and open to all.