



Holy Cross Parish

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Holy Cross is the Parish of the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland – number SCO08540

10th November 2024 – 32nd Sunday Mass - year B

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

Streamed: 10th November Sunday Mass 11.30am; 17th November 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.

Fr. Hand will be celebrating the 9.00am Polish Mass next Sunday. This is to help develop our relations with the Polish community, who are part of our parish community.

Fr. John Peter from the Cathedral will be here to celebrate the 9.30am Mass in Holy Cross.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Many of us will be watching with interest how the United States election has played out. One of the major elements that seems to have been at work could be described as major sections of the voters being unaware of what other sections were feeling and thinking. Quite often they attribute very negative feelings to those who disagree with them. It ends up with everyone feeling nobody listens to them.

Pope Francis is aware that this unease can happen in the Church as well. This is one reason he has called the Synod. He is calling on the whole Church to listen to one another.

As a parish we are called on to find ways and activities through which we can listen to and be with one another. As a parish we pray for the gift of the Spirit to help us listen to one another, while also being willing to talk with and share with our fellow parishioners. We remember that in carrying out any parish activity we are listening and sharing with one another.

Sincerely

Fr. Hand

Parish Tea Party

St. Margaret Mary's after the 11.30am Mass Sunday 17th November.

To be a parish we pray together, but we also need to meet socially as well. Come along and support this event.

Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches, Cake, Music. Entry by donation.

Introduction to the New Lectionary

Saturday 30th November 10.45am -12.45pm

- We will be looking at the great importance to the Word of God during the Mass.
- We will try to understand the importance of the Lectionary in our being formed and shaped by and in the Word of God.
- We will look at some important facts about how the Lectionary is organised.

Please sign up to take part in this opportunity to continue our deepening awareness that our Church and parish is centred on the Word of God.

Grandparents and Elderly Group

A Time of Prayer for all parishioners those who have died and for all parishioners who have been bereaved.

This is not just for members of the Grandparents Group but for everyone.

Wednesday: 13th November 2.00pm-2.30pm Holy Cross
Come to the hall afterwards for refreshment.

Saturday/Sunday 14/15 December Babinelli Sunday

Health and Safety: Fire Drill

The fire drill planned for this weekend has been cancelled due to illness. It will now take place in two weeks time.

Feast of St. Margaret of Scotland: Saturday 16th November at 10.00am at Holy Cross church. Please make an effort to take part in this Mass to celebrate one of Scotland's patron saints.

Seniors Christmas Lunch – 7 December 2024 - Invitations have been sent/given out this week. If you haven't received one and think you should, please contact Christine Watters (07961 683809) to book a place.

We need helpers and drivers on the day. If you can help, please either contact Christine or put your name and contact details on the list in the porch

Report from SCIAF meeting on 26th October 2024: Please see report at the back of the newsletter.

Sacramental Preparation:

Welcome to the Primary 7 young people who will be at the Masses this Sunday to celebrate the first rite of the preparation, that of enrolment.

Mass for St. David's Children and Parents preparing for Penance, Communion, and Confirmation Thursday 14th at 2.00pm in the school.

Father Tommy Greenan's Book "Song of the Poor" - Many thanks to everyone who bought the book last week. If you still want to have one, please speak to me (Pat Shearer) and I will get it for you.

Continuous Reading of the Gospel of Luke: This will now take place on Wednesday 4th December in St. Margaret Mary's.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: This catechesis, based on the Montessori method is being run for children in Gillis Centre. Please see poster at the back for more details.

One month to stop assisted suicide! The most vulnerable in our society are at risk. MPs will vote on whether to introduce an extreme assisted suicide law on 29 November. To protect the vulnerable from this radical law change, contact your MP and ask them to vote NO.

Take action now - it only takes 30 seconds to contact your MP using the tool here:

www.righttolife.org.uk/mpcontactnow

We pray for Pina Coletti who has died. Her funeral arrangements have yet to be announced.

We pray for Fr. Gordon Brown who has died. His funeral arrangements have yet to be announced.

200 Club draw - October

The draw was made for the October prizes at Holy Cross after Mass on Sunday 3rd November.

1st prize £100 No 75 Susan Lonie - Holy Cross

2nd prize £50 No 55 May Pitkeathley - Holy Cross

200 Club draw - September

The draw was made for the September prizes at St Margaret Marys Hall on Monday 7th October.

1st prize £100 No 60 Rachel McGee - Holy Cross

2nd prize £50 No 48 Maura Daly - Holy Cross

The 200 club is a great way for all parishioners to support our Parish Community activities. The cost is £3 per month or £36 per annum payable by standing order with a chance to win monthly prizes of £150 and the Christmas draw prizes totalling £1,000. There are still numbers available if you wish to join the 200 club for this year.

Just send an email to RobertbMcGee@btinternet.com

Fabric Meeting : This takes place in the parish house at 7.00pm on Tuesday 12th November.

Health and Safety Group: Meets in the parish house at 10.45am on Monday 18th November.

Preparation Group for Lectionary Day on 30th : Meet in parish house at 7.00pm on Monday 18th November. All are welcome.

Archbishop Romero Lecture: The annual Romero Lecture took place recently in the Sacred Heart, Lauriston. You watch it on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvOQa84zDxY>

SCIAF Mass: There is a SCIAF Mass in the Sacred Heart at 12.00 noon on Saturday 16th.

Diploma in Catechetics: Take the Diploma in Catechetics and make the Holy Year 2025 a time of newness and deepening in your life of faith. The course is run by the Archdiocese and starts in January. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, guided reading from the Catechism and regular 1-to-1 support. To mark the Holy Year the course is being offered at £125 (normally £200). Find out more and register at bit.ly/diploma2025

Preface for Sunday IV EP of Reconciliation II Parish Mass book page 149.

Readings: First Reading 1 Kgs 17:10-16; Psalm 145: "*My soul, give praise to the Lord.*"

Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28; Gospel: **Mark 12:38-44**

Saturday	9th November	5.30pm HX	Robert Barrett
Sunday	10th November	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Special Intention of David Park
Monday	11 th November	10.00am HX	
Tuesday	12 th November	10.00am MM	Jane McNaught
Wednesday	13 th November	10.00am HX	
Thursday	14 th November	10.00am MM	
Saturday	16 th November	10.00am HX	Feast of St. Margaret
Saturday	16th November	5.30pm HX	
Sunday	17th November	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Glancy and Sheridan Families. Jose Rodrigo da Costa`

On Saturday 26th October a group of HX parishioners met with Mark and Jenna from SCIAF in the HX parish hall.

They gave us an interesting presentation about their work on “Integral Human Development” which is a rather formal way of saying that when SCIAF goes out to help people, they try to look on everyone they help as a whole person with gifts and talents rather than as someone simply to be fed or given aid. They try to help communities develop their knowledge and resourcefulness so that they will have less need of aid in the future. Since climate change is having a big impact on crops, soil and water supply (too much or too little) they also try to help communities find new and more resilient ways of managing their land and their crops.

They described 2 of SCIAF’s newest projects, with a view to our parish becoming involved with one of them.

- The first of these is in Zambia where recently there have been drastically shorter rainy seasons with generally hotter temperatures. The project is being undertaken in an area still scarred by previous heavy mining ventures. Here SCIAF is helping local farmers to experiment with fast-growing drought resistant crops and any knowledge gained is shared with other farmers. Seed banks are being created to allow for greater sharing among farmers. Excess food can be sold at local markets for the benefit of all. Improved access to water is also being provided, with villagers taught how to install and manage village water pumps.

· The second project is in Malawi where recent storms (the most recent being cyclone Freddy) have left land and vulnerable households flooded, without access to clean water and with many issues around poverty. Here, SCIAF is helping with water management training, new approaches to irrigation and tree management, new apprenticeships and access to savings & loans (almost impossible for poor families to access from local banks, etc).

We will have a further parish meeting to discuss the projects in more detail and work out how best to support one of the SCIAF projects. Further details will be published in the newsletter

From the Archbishop

Youth Day – Wonder Woman St Margaret! - The Archdiocese is hosting a youth day for p4-p7 children at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on **Saturday 16 November** to coincide with the Feast of St Margaret. Includes games, talks and activities, concluding with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Leo. Register at <https://bit.ly/youthdaymargaret>

Ceilidh Ball - The national Young Adults' Ceilidh Ball is at Central Hall, 2 West Tollcross, Edinburgh, EH3 9BP on **Saturday 16 November** at 7:00pm. Includes live band and buffet. Details and tickets (£40) at bit.ly/edinburghceilidh Queries: Fr Robert Taylor frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk

Buy your new Missal - From Advent, the Church will be using a new Lectionary. The Lectionary is the book of Scriptural Readings proclaimed at Mass. In the new Lectionary, the order and selection of readings will be the same, but their *translation* into English will be slightly different. You can buy a new Missal (or your first one) from various outlets: www.rpbooks.co.uk, www.ctsbooks.org, and <https://www.hachette.co.uk>.

Safeguarding Conference - Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators (PSCs) are invited to the National Safeguarding Conference at Strathclyde Technology & Innovation Centre 99 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1RD, on Saturday 16 November 2024. The conference theme is *preventing abuse in faith organisations*. Please make your PSC aware of this event, and clergy are also welcome to attend. Registration to attend in person or online: <https://buff.ly/3T8KFhV>

Healing weekend - Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew and rebuild your life after experiencing the trauma of abortion. Healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgemental environment to help deal with painful emotions. Participants can experience forgiveness, find peace and restore their life. The next Scottish retreat is in November. Contact Andrea at sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk or on 07816 942 824.

Advent Rosary - The annual Archdiocesan Rosary takes place each Monday at 7:45pm through Advent, beginning on 2 December, Join us to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions Register at bit.ly/adventrosary

Defending Human Dignity - Pope Francis tells us that human dignity exists "beyond all circumstances." He asks us all to defend human dignity in every cultural context and every moment of human existence, regardless of physical, psychological, social, or even moral deficiencies. "Safeguards" concerning assisted suicide don't work, as shown in Canada and Holland. If you are worried that this may happen in Scotland, please contact your MP and MSPs: <https://writetothem.com>

Zoom series on new Lectionary - The Archdiocese is hosting a series of 45 min talks on Zoom to take a closer look at the new Lectionary which is being introduced in Advent. Join Fr Jamie McMorris at 7:00pm on **Wednesday 4 December**, Wed 11 Dec, and Wed 18 Dec. The sessions are free to attend. Register at bit.ly/lectionaryadvent