



Holy Cross Parish

Postal Address - 11 Bangholm Loan, Edinburgh EH5 3AH

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hand

Tel: 0131 552 3957 E-mail: office.holycrossedinburgh@staned.org.uk

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

17th November 2024 – 33rd 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: 17th November Sunday Mass 11.30am; 24th 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 this 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.

There will be no Mass this Thursday in St. Margaret Mary's. All diocesan priests have been called to a Priests' Assembly. **There will be a Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service.**

Fr. Hand will be on retreat from Monday 25th November to Friday 29th November. If anyone needs to see him before then please phone him soon.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Part of the parish response to the consultation on the Synod was a concern with deepening our taking part in the Mass and in expressing the love of Jesus we experience there in our lives committed to living Jesus' teaching individually and through the Church's institutions like SCIAF. Also it was felt that parishioners need to meet socially to help develop our sense of Christian community.

Take the time to come to the SCIAF follow up, to the morning on understanding more fully the lectionary and its place in forming us in God's word, and to the parish tea party this Sunday 17th.

Catholic Education: The Church in Scotland devotes the next two weeks to praying and thinking about Catholic Education. The Catholic schools in Scotland are different communities from forty years ago. They still perform their valuable function of proclaiming the Catholic values on which they are based. They do this in face of many of the parents of the children in them not practising their faith; perhaps only ten percent of the parents would come to Mass regularly in the parish. This poses serious questions as to how we prepare children for the sacraments when there is little support from their parents for them taking part in the life of the parish. As a Church we need to pray and think about how we can relate to the reality of most people in our schools not being involved in the life of the Catholic community. Should we take a different approach as to who should be involved in sacramental preparation and as to how and where we should do that preparation?

Sincerely

Fr. Hand

Parish Tea Party

St. Margaret Mary's after the 11.30am Mass this 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.

Visit of Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem: Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzabella will be at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh on Sunday 1st December. His Eminence will preach at the evening Mass that will be presided at by Archbishop Cushley. Mass begins at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Next Sunday (24th November) will be special collection for the Day of the Poor fund. Archbishop Cushley has asked that a special collection take place at Mass that day for elderly Christians in need in Palestine. Your donation will be given directly to the Beit Afram Home for the Elderly, so that elderly people living amidst the violence of war and in need of care are not abandoned and that their costs to live with dignity are covered. Please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East. Find out more at www.lpj.org/en

Special Collection for SCES - The annual special collection for work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service will take place on Sunday 1 December.

Introduction to the New Lectionary Saturday 30th November 10.45am -12.45pm

- We will be looking at the great importance to the Word of 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.

Continuous Reading of the Gospel of Luke

This will take place on Wednesday 4th December 7.00pm in St. Margaret Mary's.

It will last between 60 and 75 minutes

The major part of the reading is in English. We have also used Yoruba, Ibo, both from Nigeria, Tagalog (Philippines) , Malayalam (Kerala), Irish, Scots, Bangladeshi, for some of the smaller parts. We hope to recruit other parishioners from other parts so of the world to read this time. Please contact Fr. Hand or Margaret Webb if you are willing to read in your own language whether European or from any other part of the world.

Sacramental Preparation: The children preparing for Penance and First Communion will be at the Masses next week to take part in rite of enrolment. It is important that all the children and parents involved should be there. Please notify Fr. Hand if you cannot be there.

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.

Grandparents and Elderly: Thanks to those who supported the time of prayer and and social time after it last Wednesday.

We will give more details next week of **Bambinelli Sunday on 14th/15th December.** This is an Italian custom of grandparents and parents bringing their children to Mass to have blessed the 'baby Jesus'. of their cribs. If they have a simple and small enough crib they can bring that as well. This is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to introduce the children to the meaning of Jesus.

Of course the blessing is not confined to the cribs of children; everyone is invited to bring a figure from the crib for a blessing.

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

November Remembrance Book: There are remembrance books in the churches. You are welcome to write your November intentions in them.

Parish events:

Seniors Christmas Lunch – Sat. 7th Dec. after Midday Mass in Holy Cross Hall

Family Carols in the Car Park - Sun 15th Dec. 6.30pm, Holy Cross Car Park.

Christmas Hamper & Bottle Draw - Sun. 22nd Dec. After 11.30am Mass in St Margaret Mary Hall

Aid to the Church in Need Scotland #RedWednesday Event – in the Scottish Parliament 6pm – 8 pm on Wednesday 20th November 2024.

Aid to the Church in Need will present findings from our 2024 *Persecuted and Forgotten* report, which details the global picture for Christian Persecution and focuses on some of the most troubling countries in the world. Contact: 01698 337470 or email acn.scotland@acnuk.org

Health and Safety: Fire Drill

The fire drill planned for this weekend has been cancelled due to illness. It will now take place next week 23rd /24th November

SVDP - Children's Christmas Presents Appeal 2024 - Holy Cross St Vincent De Paul (SVDP) would like to ask parishioners to donate Christmas presents for the children of those families who are finding things difficult, particularly at this time of year.

The presents should be for children up to 14 years old. Please do not wrap them.

There will be a box at the back of the church at the **Masses of the weekend 7th/8th**

December. Any donations will be gratefully received and very much appreciated.

On behalf of the SVDP we would like to thank you for your continued support.

SCIAF: Report from SCIAF meeting on 26th October 2024: Please see parish website.

Follow up to the SCIAF day on Saturday 26th October. This will take place at Holy Cross at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th December after the Advent Service. All who took part are welcome as are any other interested parishioners.

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

We pray for Fr. Gordon Brown who has died. His funeral will take place on Friday 22nd

November at 12 noon in St. Peter's, Morningside, Edinburgh

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.

Thrift Shop: Those involved in the thrift shop are asked to meet in St. Margaret Mary's Hall at 1.00pm on the 24th November.

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

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

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.

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 V EP of Reconciliation II Parish Mass book page 157.

Readings: First Reading Dn 12:1-13; Psalm 15: "*Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.*"

Second Reading Hebrews 10:11-14.28; Gospel: **Mark 13:24-32**

Saturday	16th November	5.30pm HX	Mass for the Parish
Sunday	17th November	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Glancy and Sheridan Families. Jose Rodrigo da Costa`
Monday	18 th November	10.00am HX	Gordon and Quinn family
Tuesday	19 th November	10.00am MM	
Wednesday	20 th November	10.00am HX	Fr. Gordon Brown
Thursday	21 st November	10.00am MM	Communion Service
Saturday	23 rd November	10.00am HX	
Saturday	23rd November	5.30pm HX	Daniel Vaz
Sunday	24th November	Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM	Special Intention (Lamont)

From the Archbishop

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

Diploma in Catechetics - Take the Diploma in Catechetics and make the Holy Year 2025 a time of discovery 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