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

1st November – All Saints Solemnity Sunday - year A

Mass Times: 5:30pm HX (vigil); 9.00am MM (in Polish); 9.30am HX; 11.30am MM; (see end of newsletter for details).
Please check the newsletters for the coming weeks for details of weekday Masses/ services and also for the Masses for All Souls.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,
We warmly welcome Fr John Peter from the Cathedral to our parish this weekend. We are delighted to have him with us.
We are pleased to announce that Fr Hand's operation went well and that he has begun his recuperation. He is diligently following the exercises recommended by his doctors. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues to regain his strength, and we wish him a smooth and speedy recovery.
This Sunday, we are celebrating the **Feast of All Saints**.
On Monday, **2 November**, Holy Mass will be celebrated at St Margaret Mary's at **7.00 pm**.
Yours sincerely, parish team

Roof Fund collection: There is a **special collection** this weekend in support of our Parish Roof Fund. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Sacramental Preparation: The Wednesday evening 6.00pm classes started on 28th October. The Wednesday Confirmation class will start around the middle of January.

Soup & Sandwiches - Sat. 7th Nov. 11am - 1pm Holy Cross Church Hall
The Parishes next social activity is our Soup & Sandwiches event, Sat. 7th Nov. from 11am to 1pmin Holy Cross Church Hall. Tickets £5 on sale after all weekend masses. We also plan to run a home baking stall so please donate home baking on the day, or speak to John Allan.

October Rosary Club:, the Missionaries of Charity are running a Rosary Club for children from 3rd October every Saturday of October at 3.30 PM in St. Margaret Mary's church and hall to explore more

Deepening our appreciation of the Eucharist – Over 4 Sunday afternoons on the autumn you are invited to come to St Peter's, 77 Falcon Avenue, EH10 4AN for a series on deepening our appreciation of the Eucharist. Pamphlet on notice board.

Seniors Christmas Lunch – Saturday 5 December 2026
Invitations are being distributed for the Mass/Communion Service and Lunch and, of course, not everyone is on our list. Please contact Christine Watters on 07961 683809 to be added to the list if you are one of our seniors and would like to join us (there will also be a form at the back of both parish churches to add your name and contact details). Mass/Communion Service is at 12 noon in Holy Cross followed by the Christmas lunch in the hall.
To make the day a success, we need help from lots of people for:

- driving those who need help to get to and from the church,
- for welcoming everyone, serving the meal and washing the dishes (we have a dishwasher!)
- for setting up and clearing up the hall afterwards. There is a form at the back of both parish churches.

Please take time to offer your help for anything you can do by putting your details on the form.

Census: We have started the work on the census. We ask your co-operation with the efforts of the organising group. We are trying to develop our ways of communication; that obviously involves having good information. Please take a census form and return it.

We pray for Margo Croan, who has died. Her funeral Mass took place in Holy Cross on Thursday 29th at 11.30.

Save the Date: SCSSA National Safeguarding Conference: The Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (SCSSA) National Safeguarding Conference will take place on **Saturday 7 November 2026** at the Technology & Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

Volunteer to Support Children with Special Needs in Edinburgh: Three new adult volunteers are needed for the newly forming Children SPRED (Special Religious Development) group meeting at George Square in Edinburgh on Fridays from 3pm-4pm. The spiritual programme for children with special needs fosters communion with Jesus Christ within the Catholic community of faith. Please contact Sister Mary Benedicta Maier, RSM (srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk) if you are interested in learning about becoming a SPRED volunteer catechist for this new Edinburgh children's group.

Eucharistic Prayer Preface Sunday.- Parish Mass book page 184;
Readings: First Reading Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; Psalm 24: **"Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord."** Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3; Gospel: **Matthew 5:1-12a.**

Saturday	**31st October**	**5.30pm HX**	
Sunday	**1st November**	**Polish Mass 9.00am MM** **9.30am HX** **11.30am MM**	**Feast of All Saints**
Monday	**2nd November**	**7.00pm MM**	**Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed**
Tuesday	3rd November	10.00am MM	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Wednesday	4th November	10.00am HX	Mass
Thursday	5th November	10.00am MM	Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service
Saturday	7th November	10.00am HX	No service
Saturday	**7th November**	**5.30pm HX**	
Sunday	**8th November**	**Polish Mass 9.00am MM** **9.30am HX** **11.30am MM**	

Special Collections: National, Diocesan and Parish January -December 2026
Note 'Sunday' includes 5.30pm Mass on Saturday

Sunday	
1/11/2026	Roof Fund
08/11/2026	Day for the Poor
22/11/2026	Catholic Education
06/12/2026	Roof fund
27/12/2026	Crib

From Archbishop:

Diploma in Catechetics 2027 – Registration Now Open
Registration is now open for the Archdiocese's Diploma in Catechetics 2027, beginning Thursday 28 January. The course offers 36 weekly Zoom sessions exploring the Catholic faith, with expert speakers, guided readings and one-to-one support. The cost is £220 (bursaries available), with places limited to 100. Please encourage parishioners to consider enrolling and share the attached poster and the following registration link in parish newsletters: bit.ly/2027catechetics. For enquiries, email diploma@staned.org.uk.

Travel with the Archdiocese to World Youth Day in Seoul
Young adults aged 19–35 are invited to join the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, from 1–9 August 2027. The approximate cost is £3,000 per person, including flights, accommodation and meals. Registration closes on Friday 6 November. To register, visit bit.ly/archwyd. For enquiries, email youth.office@staned.org.uk.

Retreat Day
Are you a young woman thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Come to *Explore,* a retreat day to reflect upon and explore God's will for you. It takes place on 10:00am-7:00pm Saturday 14 November, at 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, EH9 1SN. Includes Mass, reflections, prayer, a holy hour, and a chance to socialise over pizza. To register email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO at religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

GodTalk: The Book of Job
GodTalk is a new venture from the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre which begins on Tuesday 3 November. This first short course will explore the Book of Job in which is found the greatest poetry and the most challenging theology of the Hebrew bible. Participants will be guided through selections of the text and explore the challenges of biblical criticism and the theology of evil and suffering that Job raises. No prior knowledge is assumed but GodTalk aims to go beyond the basics. Tuesdays 3, 10 and 24 November and 1 December at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston, led by Fr Adrian Porter SJ. All welcome.

Mass for the Faithful Departed
Archbishop Cushley will offer Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, especially those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery in Edinburgh on Monday 2 November, at 10:00am in the Cemetery Chapel at Mount Vernon Cemetery, 49 Mount Vernon Rd, Edinburgh, EH16 6JG.

Young Adults Mass
The Archdiocesan annual Mass for young adults takes place on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday 22 November, at 7:00pm in Sacred Heart Church, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ. Celebrant: Archbishop Cushley. Social afterwards.

Red Wednesday Mass – St Mary's Cathedral
Archbishop Leo Cushley will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 18 November at 7:00pm to mark Red Wednesday, an annual initiative organised by Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). The Mass will be an opportunity to pray for Christians around the world who face persecution and discrimination because of their faith, and to show solidarity with those who suffer for their beliefs.

Archdiocesan events
More events are listed at archedinburgh.org/events