

SAINT ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER PARISH.



Incorporating the Parishes of:

St. Mary of the Angels & St. Clare Church, Elbow St, Levenshulme, M19 3PY

St. Richard Church, Sutcliffe Avenue, Longsight, M12 5TN

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Kris Louis Aneke, MSP

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Martin Dowd

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SUNDAY 17th August 2025. Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings are on Page 124 in the Sunday Mass Book.

Reflection: THEME: DIVISION NOT PEACE"

There is a book titled, *More Difficult Sayings of Jesus*. There is no doubt that some of the sayings of Jesus in the New Testament are difficult to comprehend. They need a lot of explanation before we can begin to understand them. One of such sayings is in our Gospel passage of today.

Jesus says that he has not come to bring peace on earth but division. How can he say that? Everybody knows that peace is to be preferred to division, peace is far more desirable than division. There is the saying that "united we stand, divided we fall." So, what on earth does Jesus mean by his statement?

What Jesus means is that he has not come to bring peace at all costs. For instance, we cannot have peace at the cost of truth, justice, fundamental human rights. In the graveyard, there is peace, absolute peace, but all the inmates are dead. That is the kind of peace you will get at the cost of truth, justice and human rights. That is not the kind of peace that Jesus has come to bring, peace at all costs. His is a Peace that is based on principles; it does not compromise on principles. That is where divisions will set in.

Most people in our world today as in the time of Jesus has no principles. They are prepared to compromise on principles just as long as they can get what they want, just as long as they can have peace, as they understand it. They can sell their consciences, tell lies, cheat, forge documents, belong to a cult. The true disciple of Christ cannot do that, will not do that. He or She will stand for principles and refuse to make any compromises where they are concerned.

Now, what Jesus is saying is that such an attitude will earn the disciple opposition from the majority of people since they do not believe in principles. Even members of his or her family will oppose him/her. They will advise him/her to be "reasonable", to do like everyone else. Why does he/she alone want to be difficult or different? They will try and convince him/her to change his/her mind and if he/she remains adamant, refuses to yield, they will become vicious. They will attack from all sides; that is, they will persecute him/her.

In many cases in the past, Christians who stood for principles have been killed, sometimes by their own kith and kin, members of their own families. That has been the lot of the countless martyrs of the Christian faith. They chose to be true disciples of Christ by standing for what they believed in, by upholding the principles of the Christian faith and not making cheap compromises. They paid the supreme price and by so doing, today we honour them as martyrs, worthy of emulation.

We Pray for the sick and housebound John Fitzgerald. Cyril Corcoran. Sr Edith. Eileen Toth. Anne Leavy. Maria Morrissey, Margaret McAteer. Kathleen Beech. Martina McGeehan. Jean Angus. Irene, Karen Rice. Paul and Kath McInenny. Keith and Linda Marshall, Jim McGlynn. John Reilly. Mary McVarnock. May God grant them good health of mind and body.

May God grant eternal rest to those who have died recently.
Val Grotecke. John James Walsh (May their souls rest in peace),

Memorial Anniversary John Cahill

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

1. Funeral details for the late John James Walsh RIP, Tuesday 19th August at 9:30 in St Richards. Fr Dever has kindly agreed to say Mass. Therefore, Mass as normal in St Marys on 19th August.
 2. Please remember in your prayers Fr Pat Clarke who was admitted to hospital last week in Brazil. Many people will remember Fr Pat from his visits to St Marys in the past.
 3. Fr Kevin McDonagh who is visiting our Parish on 23rd and 24th August, emailed to let us know he is one of the "Columban Missionaries" so called after our patron St. Columban who was an Irish 6th Century monk and a missionary. He founded monasteries across Europe during that early period of the Church. Our present-day mission was founded in 1918 by two diocesan priests from Maynooth. At present we work in some fifteen countries around the world, and we have members from many places including England. In the UK we are based in London and in Solihull. At the beginning we were known as the Maynooth mission to China because China was our first mission. Nowadays we are called the Missionary Society of St. Columban. Lastly, our magazine is known as "The Far East". For more information you can visit their website www.columbans.co.uk
 4. Parents, in September, the parish is beginning Children Liturgy on Sunday at the 11:00am Mass. We are encouraging you to kindly talk to your children for their full participation and commitment. Please register your child in any of the ministries – Readers, Ushers, Choir, welcoming ministry and offering collection during mass. We need your support.
 5. There is still time to provide accommodation for the Legionaries coming in September, please put your contact details on the list at the back of Church if you can offer light breakfast and accommodation.
 6. **BAPTISM:** Anyone requesting Baptism for their children, please speak to **Anne or Fiona by the organ at the front of the Church. (The porch was rather busy)** All parents who request Baptism for their child must attend the Baptism Preparation Meeting and have their form signed by the priest who says Mass on 6 weekends before their child can be Baptised.
 7. The Charity "Marys Meals" would like to invite parishioners to a Thanksgiving Mass of Marys Meals on Monday 8th September at Sacred Heart Church, Kingsway, Rochdale OL16 5BX at 7pm. Tea and cake in the Parish centre after Mass. Please RSVP to fran.lawson@marysmeals.org if you would like to attend.
 8. 2026 Diocesan Yearbook combines both the almanac and ordo, the diocese will soon be requesting Parishes for the numbers they require. If you would like a copy of this book, please contact the office or put a note in the white post box in Church stating which type of book you would. The book will cost £5.50 for perfect bound and £6.50 for ring bound.
 9. The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. ***Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!***
- Diocese Announcements**
10. Mass at Southern Cemetery for all who have died will be 12 noon on Monday 25 August outside the Roman Catholic Chapel in the cemetery. Seating will not be provided, so please bring a chair if you require one. In the event of poor weather, Mass will be celebrated in St Ambrose Church.
 11. This September welcomes back the Season of Creation - a month-long campaign that invites us to reflect on our call to be loving stewards of God's creation. We invite you to join us in beginning this time of reflection with an outdoor Mass in the beautiful grounds of the Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre. Mass takes place on Monday 1 September at 9.30am. Email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more or to register.

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK AT MASS TO WORSHIP TOGETHER.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil:	5:00 pm St. Richard's	6:30 pm St. Mary's
Sunday:	9:30 am St. Richard's	11:00 am St. Mary's

Daily Masses

St. Mary's:	9:30 am – Tuesday & Thursday
10:00am – 11:00am	Exposition/Adoration & Mass on Saturday
10:15 – 10:45 am –	Sacrament of Reconciliation
St. Richard's:	9:15 am - Wednesday & Friday