

SAINT ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER PARISH.



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

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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH. 28th DECEMBER 2025

Mass Readings are on Page 106 and Order of Mass from page 7 of the Parish Mass Book.

Reflection:

The celebration of today's feast is of utmost importance to all of us because we all belong to families; and the family is the first and the greatest institution God created. Unfortunately, we are going through a difficult time where many families are fractured and hurting in one way or another. Our difficult situation is compounded by an increase in the number of disordered families. Since families are the foundations and the constituents of societies, more disordered families mean more disordered societies. Therefore, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is a model for all families.

As special chosen family of God, they were not different from other ordinary families with challenges. Mary conceived the power of the Holy Spirit, and her pregnancy brought a troubling situation for both Mary and Joseph. They accepted the situation when each of them was visited and ministered to by the angel. Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). As for Joseph, "When [he] awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son" (Matthew 1:24-25). Mary gave birth to Jesus in a very difficult circumstance. After a long journey on foot from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census, about 100 miles (161 kilometers),

We need to learn lessons from the Holy Family: The Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that he might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God.

We need to make the family a confessional rather than a courtroom. A senior Judge of the Supreme Court congratulated the bride and groom in a marriage with a pertinent piece of advice: "See that you never convert your family into a courtroom; instead let it be a confessional. If the husband and wife start arguing like attorneys to justify their behavior, their family becomes a court of law, and nobody wins. On the other hand, if the husband and the wife — as in a confessional — are ready to admit their faults and try to correct them, the family becomes a heavenly one."

Marriage is a sacrament of holiness. Each family is called to holiness. By the Sacrament of Matrimony (marriage), Jesus sanctifies not only the spouses but also the entire family. The husband and wife attain holiness when they discharge their duties faithfully, trusting in God, and drawing on the power of God by prayer.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray for us and make our families like yours

We Pray for the sick and housebound.

John Fitzgerald. Cyril Corcoran. Eileen Toth. Anne Leavy. Margaret McAteer. Kathleen Beech. Martina McGeehan. Jean Angus. Irene Rice, Karen Rice. Paul and Kath McInenny. Keith and Linda Marshall, Jim McGlynn. Mary McVarnock. Joe Toth. James Nally, Vincent Foy and Delia Groarke.

May God grant them good health of mind and body.

May God grant eternal rest to those who have died recently:

Alice Egan and Augustinho A'sencao

Memorial Anniversary: John and Evelyn Maclin, Mulligan, Boyle Family, James and Bridget Mulherin. Mary Mackrell (7th Anniversary-31st December)

Special Intentions: Damien Cullen-Sichin, Sean and Agnes, John Duyer, Michael and Cherise Collins

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

1. **The Parish office will be closed from Christmas Day and reopen on Monday January 5, 2026.**
2. Next children's Liturgy Mass will be 4th January 2026, parents please encourage your children to take part in the Mass.
3. **Mass on Thursday 1/1/2026, New Year Day, Solemnity of Mary, the mother of God will be at 9:00am at St. Richard's And 10:30 am at St. Mary's.**
4. All sacramental programmes in the parish will resume in January. We hope to send emails and call all those concerns to inform them of the actual date of resumption. Please if you are yet to register your children for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation class, kindly do so today and next week. For RCIA programme, you can still register also.
5. There will be second collection next week for Building Maintenance.

Parish Usual Weekend/Weekday Masses'

Saturday Vigil Masses: 5:00pm @ St. Richard's 6:30pm @ St. Mary's

Sunday Masses: 9:30am @ St. Richard's 11:00am @ St. Mary's

Baptism: 12:30pm First and Last Sunday of the month @ St. Mary's

12:00 pm Third Saturday of the month @ St. Richard's

Weekday Masses: St. Mary's 9:30am – Tuesday & Thursday

St. Richard's 9:15am – Wednesday & Friday

EXPOSITION/ADORATION: @ St. Mary's 10:00am Mass: 11:00am

Sacrament of reconciliation: @ St. Mary's on Saturdays between 10:15am – 10:40am