

## 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

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Martin C. Dowd

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### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th JANUARY 2026.**

**Mass Readings are on Page 125 and Order of Mass from page 7 of the Parish Mass Book.**

**Reflection:** A tourist visited a Church in Werner, Germany and was surprised to see the carved figure of a lamb carved on the bell tower of the church. He asked why it was there and was told that when the bell tower of the church was being built, a workman fell from a high scaffold. His co-workers rushed down, expecting to find him dead. But to their surprise and joy, he was alive and only slightly injured. How did he survive?

A flock of sheep was passing beneath the tower at the time, and he landed on top of a lamb. The lamb broke his fall and was crushed to death, but the man was saved. To commemorate that miraculous escape, a fellow stone artist carved a lamb on the tower at the exact height from which the workman had fallen.

This statue of the lamb expresses a tiny bit of what John the Baptist means when he introduces Jesus to his disciples saying, "*Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.*" Much deeper and more meaningful must be our gratitude to *Jesus the Lamb of God* for saving us from the eternally fatal fall from grace.

The central theme of today's readings is a challenge to live like the Lamb of God and to die like the Lamb of God. In both the first and second readings God calls individuals to His service. The Gospel passage presents three themes, namely, John the Baptist's witness to Jesus, Jesus' revelation (epiphany) and identification as the "Lamb of God," and the call to discipleship.

Those who are called gradually accept the identity of the One who calls them. Like John the Evangelist, we may choose to accept today's Gospel as a personal and corporate call to become witnesses to the Lamb of God.

### **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, Delia Groarke and Joseph Sweeney.

May God grant them good health of mind and body.

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

Alice Egan, John Francis Gaughan. Michael Thomas Kane. Christopher Jordan. Martin Tunney.

**Memorial Anniversary:** John O'Neill (1<sup>st</sup>) Jimmy Cunningham (2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Special Intentions:** Gods healing for Pat Dinan and Joseph Sweeney.

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

1. **All Parents and Children who have registered for the sacramental programme in the parish are required to attend a meeting with Fr Kris after 11am Mass next Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January in St Mary's.** Please if you are yet to register your children for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation class, kindly do so today. For RCIA programme, you can still register, the first meeting is 5.2.26 at 7pm in the Parish meeting Room. Ring the bell on the black door to the left of the Church.
2. Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January is known as Peace Sunday and there will be second collection for the work of Pax Christi. "The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice" There are some envelopes at the back of Church if you wish to put money in them for the collection.
3. **Funeral Arrangements:**  
Alice Egan RIP Funeral Mass at St Mary's on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 12 noon  
John Francis Gaughan RIP Funeral Mass at St Mary's Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 11:30 am  
Michael Kane RIP Evening Reception into St Mary's Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 6:30pm. Funeral Mass Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 10am
4. The relics of St Carlos Acutis will be presented at St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026 before they travel to St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026. Salford diocese will welcome anyone who wishes to venerate the relics. For more information and to view the schedule for the visits, please visit: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/relics-of-st-carlo-acutis-to-visit-diocesan-churches/>

### ***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 Third Sunday of the month @ St. Mary's  
12:00 pm First and 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