

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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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st February 2026.

Mass Readings are on Page 130 and Order of Mass from page 7 of the Parish Mass Book.

Reflection: HAPPINESS

For Centuries now, Philosophers and Theologians have expressed the view that the one thing people desire more than anything else is happiness. It is the reason why people do most of the things they do. It is the reason why they work, play, even pray. The Catechism that most adult Catholics learnt in their childhood supports this view. To the question “**Why did God make you?**” the Catechism responds: “***God made me to know him, to love him, to serve him in this world, and to be happy with him forever in the next.***”

Now, we come to the question of what really constitutes happiness, what is the content of happiness, what is it that really does make people happy, there has been no agreement among the philosophers and theologians. Some have said that happiness consists in having a lot of possessions, while others have maintained that it is to be found in power or authority. Yet others have advanced the view that pleasure is what gives happiness, while another school of thought has put forward knowledge as the repository of happiness.

One particular attractive view is that happiness resides in service. It was advanced by the philosopher-physician called Albert Schweitzer in the following statement: “I don’t what your destiny will be, but one thing I know; the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.”

It would seem that for Jesus none of the above views was accurate, except perhaps the last. So, he offered his own position. For Jesus happiness consists in possession of the Kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of God. That is what we learn from our Gospel reading of today, the famous Eight Beatitudes (Literally, the “Eight Happinesses”, since the Latin word *Beatitudo* means “Happiness”). If we have the kingdom of God or we are in the kingdom of God, that is when we shall be really happy, and nothing will be able to take that happiness away from us: not poverty, not hunger or thirst, not even persecution. Jesus himself is the prime example of everything that a truly happy person

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:

Michael Thomas Kane. Julianne and Gilbert Dzukou. Gearoid Fox. Susan Cummings. Agnes Gavin. William Harkin. Packie McConnellogue. Brendan Barry. Justen Gill.

Memorial Anniversary: Tina Dolan (1st) Bernard Daley (5th) Patrick Shiels. Pat Groarke.

Special Intentions: Gods healing for Pat Dinan. Tony and Family

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

1. All Parents and Children who have registered to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parish are required to attend a meeting with Fr Kris on Thursday 5th February at 6pm in the parish meeting room. When facing the Church doors, go to the left and ring the bell on the black door in the corner.

For RCIA programme, you can still register, the first meeting is 5.2.26 at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

2. Thank you to the children who participated in the Sunday Mass

3. Funeral Arrangements: Michael Kane RIP Evening Reception into St Mary's Monday 2nd February at 6:30pm. Funeral Mass Tuesday 3rd February at 10am

4. Anyone interested in joining The Legion of Mary in the Parish, please speak to Fr Kris. If there are enough people interested more information will be shared as soon as possible.

5. After 11am Mass every Sunday there is breakfast served in the Hall at St Mary's, tea/coffee, bacon or sausage sandwich for a small charge. Everyone is welcome, families, couples, friends or you can go in alone and meet and chat with other parishioners.

6. The relics of St Carlos Acutis will be presented at 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/>

7. Pope Leo has announced from 10th January 2026 until 10th January 2027 will be a Franciscan Jubilee Year to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. The faithful can receive a plenary indulgence during this year for more information visit: Decree of the Franciscan Jubilee Year.

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