

# 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 OF EASTER- SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026.**

**Mass Readings are on Page 262 and Order of Mass from page 7 of the Parish Mass Book.**

### **Theme of our Reflection: JESUS, THE GATE TO THE SHEEPFOLD**

John 10 may easily be described as the chapter of the “Good Shepherd” in the entire bible. The Gospel reading is invariably taken from there every fourth Sunday of Easter. Consequently, that Sunday has come to be known in official Church circles as “Good Shepherd Sunday”. It is also “Vocation Sunday” worldwide. To a great extent, vocation has to do with those who are called to be shepherds in the Church of God.

In the Gospel passage of today, Jesus describes himself as “the gate of the sheepfold”. That is rather a curious description. We are familiar with Jesus being the “Good Shepherd”. Indeed, he would call himself that too later on in the same chapter. But we do not normally think or talk about Jesus being the gate of the sheepfold. Yet, that is precisely what he says of himself.

He is the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone who wants to enter the sheepfold must pass through him. There is no other way to get in, like scaling the fence. Only people with wicked intentions enter any place by scaling the fence. All honest people pass through the gate.

The sheepfold is the kingdom of God. Jesus is the one who re-opened the gate to that kingdom after it had been shut through the sin of our first parents. He did that through his paschal mystery; that is, his passion, death and resurrection. Consequently, anyone who makes it into the kingdom of God does so only because Jesus has made it possible through his paschal mystery.

Now, the question is: How does one pass through the gate, that Jesus is, into the sheepfold? It is by believing in him. Faith, a commitment of our entire life to the person of Jesus is what will gain us access into the sheepfold, the kingdom of God. Matthew 7:21 says; “Not everyone who says to me ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the ones who do the will of my Father in heaven.

Let us spend some time today and always to pray for more vocation into the priesthood of Christ.

### **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. Joe Toth. James Nally, Vincent Foy, Delia Groarke. Peggy Sweeney. Mary Rowe. JJ Coyne

May God grant them good health of mind and body.

**May God grant eternal rest to those who have died recently:** Kathleen Egan.

Mary McVarnock.

**Memorial Anniversary:** Nathan Sweeney (1<sup>st</sup>) Stephen Cassidy (7<sup>th</sup>). Patrick Ward (1<sup>st</sup>)  
Una O'Connell (42<sup>nd</sup>) Sarah and John McKenna (32<sup>nd</sup>) Vera Hogan (7<sup>th</sup>) Joe McGurk (7<sup>th</sup>) Catherine Doyle

**Special Intentions:** For a parishioner

**Happy Birthday:** Peggy Sweeney

### **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

1. JJ Coyne would like to thank everyone who has visited him in hospital and for all who pray for him. He is recovering very well and knows it is due to all the prayers.
2. **Funeral Mass for the late Mary McVarnock RIP will be held at St Marys on 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10am. Therefore, there will be no Mass at St Richards on that day.**
3. **Children's Liturgy Mass will be next Sunday 3rd May**
4. Fr Kris's colleague from the Missionaries of St Paul will visit our Parish to appeal for funds weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of May.
5. Parishioners are invited to the Salford Diocesan Mission Mass on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 2pm, in the Temporary Cathedral, Great George Street, Salford M3 6 EH. With Bishop Arnold and representatives of the Mill Hill Missionaries. Light refreshments will be served in the cloisters after Mass. Free parking is available in the Cathedral car park in Ford Street M3 6DP.  
To assist with planning, if possible, please RSVP by 22<sup>nd</sup> May email [rebox@missio.org.uk](mailto:rebox@missio.org.uk) or tel: 02078219755
6. Anyone wishing to have a Mass offered, please complete the white envelope at the back of Church and place it in the white post box. Please include the name and the intention required. If it's a birthday, please put RIP if the person is deceased. The newsletter is prepared on a Thursday for the following week. If you request Mass in on a specific day in either Church, please remember Mass is not said every day in each Church, therefore Mass will be offered on the next day in the specified Church..
7. Pope Leo has announced from 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 until 10<sup>th</sup> January 2027 will be a Franciscan Jubilee Year to commemorate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi.  
**To gain a plenary indulgence for the Jubilee Year our Parish has been invited to visit Ladywell Shrine on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, pick up from St Marys at 9:15am and should return approx. 3:15pm You need to be able to walk a quarter of a mile and bring a packed lunch. Anyone interested in joining must pay £20 in an envelope with your name and address to Christine Roache asap. See flyer in the porch.**

***Parish Usual Weekend/Weekday Masses'*** Check the points in the newsletter for any changes to Mass times.

*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:*** SATURDAYS @ St. Mary's 10:00am Mass: 11:00am  
***Sacrament of reconciliation:*** @ St. Mary's on Saturdays between 10:15am – 10:40am