

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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TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 21ST JUNE 2026.

Mass Readings are on Page 93 and Order of Mass from page 7 of the Parish Mass Book.

Reflection: THEME: It is striking how many times in the gospels Jesus calls on his disciples not to be afraid. On one occasion, he said to his disciples in the boat in the midst of a storm on the Sea of Galilee, ‘Why are you afraid, you of little faith?’ Jesus identifies fear as a sign of little faith or a lack of faith. We tend to think of doubt as the opposite of faith, but so often in the gospels the opposite of faith is not doubt but fear. Genuine faith is always a courageous faith. Is there any one in church this morning who is afraid or in fear? Perhaps, some are? Perhaps me! In today’s gospel reading Jesus calls on his disciples not to be afraid no less than three times. The Lord asks us not to be afraid when it comes to proclaiming the gospel and sharing with others the good news that we have been given. He says, ‘what I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops’. The Lord is calling for spiritual courage. We may have lost something of that spiritual courage in more recent times. The root of spiritual courage is trust, trusting not in ourselves but in the Lord. It is a profound trust in the providence of God who, as today’s gospel reminds us, values all of creation, including the humble sparrow, and who sees and appreciates the much greater worth of each individual person, ‘you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows’. Jesus speaks of God as a heavenly Father who values us so much and is so lovingly involved in our lives that he knows the number of hairs on our head. As believers in Jesus, we enjoy an intimate relationship with God, a sharing in Jesus’ own relationship with God. We are valued and watched over by God, just as Jesus was. This sense of God’s loving care for us gives us the assurance and confidence to publicly proclaim our relationship with Jesus our brother, and with God, the Father of Jesus and our Father. We need not be afraid because our life is in the hands of a loving God. Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what the future will bring to our children. We are also afraid of growing old. Sometimes we are afraid of what declining health will bring us. At the root of these fears is the fear of loss. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, reputation, health, and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. But we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us, we know that God understands it better than we ourselves do. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. What a release from fear it is to know that God is with us; that our life is in the hands of a loving God! The next time fear grips us we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet him in this life is much more important than our fear of loss or rejection by others. Also, let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares – we are each a dear child of His, and He cares for each of us. “Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” The last verse of Psalm 27 sums it up nicely: “Trust in the Lord. Have Faith; do not despair. Trust in the Lord.”

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. James Nally, Vincent Foy, Delia Groarke. Peggy Sweeney. JJ Coyne.

Bernadette McLaughlin. Dr Peter Harrison. **May God grant them good health of mind and body.**
May God grant eternal rest to those who have died recently: Bridget Hogan. Mary Rowe. Mariam Gildea.
Irene Faulds. Bridie White
Memorial Anniversary: Lily Cassidy (21st) Chris McEntee (4th)
Special Intention: For a happy birthday. Michael Rice and Family

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 1. Funeral Mass for Mary Rowe RIP will be in St Mary's on June 23rd at 11:00 am**
2. St Richard's RC Primary School is currently seeking two new Foundation Governors to take up the role from September 2026. The main role of a governing body is at a strategic level, holding leadership to account; overseeing financial performance and setting the budget; managing admissions criteria; and being involved in recruiting to the most senior roles. Being a foundation governor involves attending on average three full governing body meetings per year as well as serving on a committee focusing on issues such as staff pay, or admissions. Free training is provided by the diocese. It is an important and rewarding
3. **Fr Ahern** will celebrate 60 years in the priesthood in June, so on Saturday 18th July he will celebrate Mass at 6:30pm in St Marys. Everyone is welcome to attend and join him for light refreshments in the Hall after Mass. If you wish to give a donation towards a Parish gift for Fr Ahern, please put your donation in an envelope with his name on, and place it in any collection. Or the first weekend in July we will have a second collection which will go towards a gift for Fr Ahern.
4. Stop **assisted suicide being brought back:** Assisted suicide campaigners are trying to bring back the Leadbeater Bill. Not Dead Yet UK has launched a simple tool to help you email your MP about the risks this Bill poses to people with disabilities. **Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today using the tool here:** <http://action.notdeadyetuk.org/>
5. **CAFOD visitors from Bolivia:** Sunday 28th June; Members of CAFOD's Bolivian partner Caritas Beni - an organisation dedicated to social service, human rights, dignity, and environmental care - will be introducing themselves briefly at the 9.30 a.m. & 11.30 a.m. Masses at St Patrick's Collyhurst, then invite you to meet them afterwards Mass over coffee or tea. Everyone welcome. *St Patrick's Livesey St Manchester M4 4FA.*
6. **You can now pay your donations to Church by using the card machine at the back of Church or by scanning this QR code on your phone. You then follow the simple instructions.**



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