The Catholic Parish of
St. John Henry Newman
"Heart Speaks to Heart!"

Parish Priest: Fr. Kieren Mullarkey
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The Presbytery, 5 Roseneath Road, Urmston, M41 5AX
Phone: (0161) 7482328
Deacon: Rev. John Walsh
Parish Admin: Amanda.Craven@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
The Parish Office is staffed Wednesday - Friday only

Safeguarding Rep: Amanda Craven/Geraldine Sherliker
Parish Centre: (0611) 747 9173 (bookings -bar -via SDC) sjhnpc@sdc-trading.co.uk
SVP : 07495251598

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish please scan the above QR code.

4th Sunday of Easter - 26th April 2026

Dear Parishioners,

Today is often called Vocation Sunday and it is a time when we as a Church pray for an increase of Vocations especially to the Priesthood and Religious Life. I was thinking about this on Tuesday afternoon at the crematorium as a I met a former seminarian, who didn't get ordained but is now a secular celebrant.

As we caught up, I was reminded firstly that only a small number who enter seminary are ordained (only 3 in my year), and secondly that if we open ourselves to the Lord, He will help us discern our vocation, evening if that means becoming a secular funeral celebrant!

I wonder, if we spend enough time discerning our vocation. I wonder if we spend enough time, choosing to come to the Lord and together discovering who He made us to be?

We always need to pray for more vocations, especially in the modern world, now a time where very few are willing to make a sacrifice in order to serve God and others.

Jesus warned us that *the harvest is great but the labourers are few* - be encouraged to become that labourer, and if not you encourage your sons and grandsons, because the priesthood is absolutely wonderful!

Fr. Kieren

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Times may change

Psalter 4

Tue 10.00am	**28 EM**	Requiem Mass John Piercy
Wed 9.30am	**29 SM**	Mass
Thu 9.30am	**30 EM**	Mass
Fri 9.30am 11.00am	**01 SM SM**	Mass Funeral Service Paul Fetherston
Sat 10.00am 11.00am 5.00pm 5.30pm	**02 EM EM SM SM**	Adoration & Confession Mass Confession Vigil Mass
Sun 9.30am 11.30am 1.30pm	**03 EM SM EM**	**5th Sunday of Easter** Mass Mass Baptism

A RETIRING COLLECTION FOR THE EC-CLESICAL EDUCATION FUND WILL TAKE PLACE TODAY, AFTER ALL THE MASSES. PLEASE PRAY FOR AND SUPPORT VO-CATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD & RELI-GIOUS LIFE.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025 - 2026

Catechesis/Celebrations
Parent meetings are marked in **GREEN**

HOLY COMMUNION MASSES 2026

All First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated at St Monica's Church at 12 Noon.

SM **First HC Mass 9th May**

EM **First HC Mass 16th May**

For children in non-Parochial Schools please choose any of the above dates for the celebration of Holy Communion and let Fr. K know.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026 - 2027

After Easter the Parish will begin preparation for next years Sacramental Programme. The Programme is open to all baptised Catholics living within the Parish who will be entering Yr 3 (or above) in September 2026.

Information regrading registration will be published in the Newsletter, if possible please locate your child's Baptism certificate and candle.

If you are not attending Mass regularly, please do so, as you children will learn more through your example!

The Parish of St John Henry Newman

Children's Liturgy

Dear parent / carer,

As part of our devotions to Mary during the month of May, we will be crowning a statue of Our Lady on Sunday 10th May at both 9.30 and 11.30am masses.

In keeping with tradition, we are looking for two girls to volunteer to crown the statue of Our Lady during both Sunday masses. If you would like your daughter to be considered for the honour, please complete scan the QR code below and fill out the consent form by **Sunday 3rd May**. If we have lots of interest, one girl will be selected from random for each mass.

Only complete the consent form if you can commit to attending mass on Sunday 10th May 2026.

The other children will be part of the normal offertory procession that takes place after children's liturgy.

Yours faithfully,

Claire and Marie

Children's Liturgy Coordinators

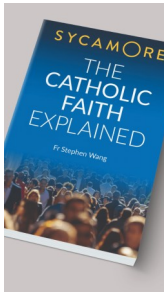
Consent Form

https://forms.office.com/r/gNHRE6bkbP

Celiac Hosts are available for parishioners who may be gluten intolerant. Please approach Fr Kieren or Deacon John before Mass to arrange.

SYCAMORE MEETINGS with Deacon John

will continue from 4th May, Monday 18th May, Monday 1st June, Monday 15th June, and Monday 29th June.



Mass Intentions

LATELY DEAD

Requiescat in pace

John Piercy, Keith Scott, Bill Backus, Michael Mullins

GENERAL INTENTION

A special intention, in thanksgiving, a successful operation, speedy recovery, for prayers answered, Tony Dixon, The Coffey family, Des Coffey, Patrick Flannagan

ANNIVERSARY

Michael Donnelly, Judith Lee

Please note that to avoid disappointment that all Mass Intentions are published in the newsletter as they are received and not when they are said.

Please write names clearly and mark your Mass intentions as follows

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Margaret Barker, Paul Hales, Josie Fitton, Leo Turnbull, Anne Turnbull, Tom Parry, John Gibbons, Emma Coulson, Gerry Smyth, Kystyna Bzdega, Bron Bzdega, Kath & Peter Hughes, Emma Coulson, Richard Barry, Peter Kilfoyle

Names can only be added to the sick list with permission of the **individual**

HOLY COMMUNION FOR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS if you would like to receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at home. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

ENGLISH MARTYRS' PARENTS if you haven't yet met Mrs Reeh our new Head teacher, you are invited to attend an "Introduction Meeting" Wednesday 6trh May (6.00pm) in English Martyrs' Primary School.

New Tax Year, Offertory Envelopes The new Offertory Envelopes are available from both churches. Please look for your name and address. If you are unable to find your envelopes, please contact the Parish office. Thank You Amanda.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Caritas Salford is offering a free online webinar to introduce the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) in an accessible way, with a particular focus on building hope, homes and a positive future for all. This will take place on Thursday 30th April 2026 from 6PM to 7:15PM With local elections approaching in May, the time is right to raise our awareness of CST and reflect on how it can help to inform the decisions and choices we make in life. Register for your free place or find out more at: www.caritassalford.org.uk/events

Youth pilgrimage to Lindisfarne the Diocese are offering young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to Lindisfarne from Friday 22 May – Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. We will be staying on the island at the SVP Camp. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

CATHOLIC FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends.www.castleriggmanor.com >> stay with us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

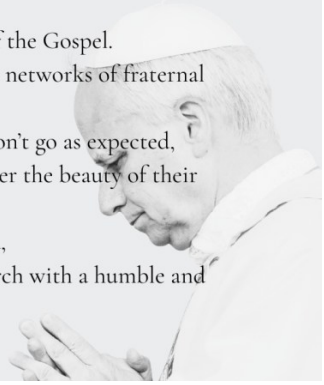
YOUTH MINISTRY GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Interested? Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHT'S! As you are aware, its becoming more difficult to provide "supply" priests to cover if I'm away. It isn't that retired priests don't want to help, it is often because of travel and the fact that there are too many Masses to cover over more than one church. This summer I plan to be in Lourdes with the Diocese (the IMPACT Group and many Parishioners will be joining me). I have arranged provisional cover, but would like to propose an idea with you. It is my suggestion that while I'm in Lourdes - for only one Sunday - the Parish reduces it 3 Sunday Masses to 2. The Masses would be for that weekend only: 5.30pm Saturday Vigil (St. Monica's) and 9.30am (English Martyrs'). Please let me know what you think.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE : 5 day (4 nights) Half Board (£775 sharing/£915 single) with visits to Czestochowa, Auschwitz and Lagiewniki, price includes English speaking guide. Dates 12th October - 16th October. Booking forms are now available, please collect one from Fr. Kieren and return to Northern Star (address on the form) by the end of April.

Pray with the Pope

Lord Jesus,
Good Shepherd and companion on the journey,
today we place in your hands all priests,
especially those going through moments of crisis,
when loneliness weighs heavily,
when doubt clouds their hearts,
and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope.
You who know their struggles and wounds,
renew in them the certainty of your unconditional love.
Let them feel they are not mere functionaries or lonely heroes,
but beloved sons, humble and cherished disciples,
and pastors sustained by the prayer of their people.
Good Father,
teach us as a community to care for our priests:
to listen without judging,
to give thanks without demanding perfection,
to share with them the baptismal mission
of proclaiming the Kingdom in word and deed,
and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer.
May we support those who so often support us.
Holy Spirit,
rekindle in our priests the joy of the Gospel.
Grant them healthy friendships, networks of fraternal support,
a sense of humor when things don't go as expected,
and the grace to always rediscover the beauty of their vocation.
May they never lose trust in You,
nor the joy of serving your Church with a humble and generous heart.
Amen.



RECEIVING & PREPARING FOR THE FULLNESS OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

EUCHARIST (1st HOLY COMMUNION)

The Eucharist is the source and summit of all Christian life, the Eucharist is not a thing or a holy object, the Eucharist is the gift of God Himself given and shared with us.

All parent's of children who will be entering Yr 3 (in September 2026) will be invited to enrol their child on the Sacramental Programme - letters and newsletter invitations will be sent out before Easter 2026. The programme is open to all baptised children resident in the Parish including those outside the Parochial schools.

All children must be baptised in the Catholic Church and families **WILL** be expected, to do what all Catholic families should already be doing, that is attend Sunday Mass.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Parishioners from Year 8 (upwards) are invited to join this programme. All details will be published in the newsletter and a notice will be sent to our local Diocesan Catholic Secondary School (St. Antony's) and those schools that are in the Diocese of Shrewsbury (BTH, St. Ambrose & Loreto).

TRAFFORD NORTH FOOD BANK Please place any of the above items in the grey bin at the back of church (English Martyrs). To donate directly Co-op Bank a/c 65855834 Sort code: 089299.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

"Parents are obliged to see to it that infants are baptised within the first weeks after birth" (867)

In order for your baby/child to be baptised, if you are not already practising your Catholic faith, then you must begin to **attend Sunday Mass for a minimum of at least 6 weeks** before a baptism date can be discussed.

- If you live outside the Parish, but this Parish is your place of *regular* worship, no permission is needed.
- If you live outside the Parish and don't regularly attend Mass, permission from your Parish Priest is needed.
- After a date for baptism has been set, a meeting with Fr. Kieren or Deacon John must be arranged (by you).
- If your child is aged 7 or over they are treated as an adult and must follow an adapted RCIA programme.

To read the full diocesan policy: https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/

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SHEEPFOLD THIEF BRIGAND
SHEPHERD FLOCK GATEKEEPER
STRANGER PARABLE PASTURE
STEAL KILL LIFE

VOCATIONS - DIOCESE OF SALFORD

If you feel called to the Diocesan Priesthood please contact Fr. Kieren or contact the Diocesan Vocation Director directly Fr. Mark Paver: mark.paver@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

GETTING MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In order to get married in the Catholic Church 6 months notice must be given, please contact Fr. Kieren for further information. If you are a Catholic and have attempted marriage outside the Church and would like to consider a convalidation please speak to Fr. Kieren or Deacon John.

"***And that is what marriage is! Hand in hand, always and for the rest of your lives***". Pope Francis

Please keep in your prayers those who will soon begin preparation to celebrate the sacrament in 2026.

OUR CATHOLIC PARISH AND DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

English Martyrs
Wycliffe Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs A Reeh
(0161) 748 7257

Our Lady of the Rosary
Davyhulme Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs Hannah Groves
(0161)748 4626

St. Monica's
Woodsend Road South, Flixton
Head teacher: Mr. Mark Doherty
(0161) 748 3353

SECONDARY SCHOOL

St. Antony's Catholic High School
Bradfield Road, Urmston
Head teacher: Mr. A. Campbell
(0161) 911 8001

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CARE If you have a relative or friend who is an inpatient and would like a Catholic Chaplain to visit them for pastoral support please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 0161 276 8792. The Chaplains no longer have access to patient details - a chaplain must be requested by a member of the family to minister to a sick relative.