

Parish Bulletin

5th Sunday of Lent
March 22, 2026

Sunday Cycle A
Weekday Cycle 2
Divine Office Week 1

Website

nativityparish.org.uk

Our Churches

Church of St Mary the Immaculate Conception
Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester,
M35 0NN.

Church of the Holy Family
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This Week's Divine Services and Other Events

Monday March 23 Weekday of Lent

 Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62;
Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1; John 8:1-11.

9:15AM Mass, Holy Family
1:15PM Funeral service—Sheila Kennealey, St Mary's.

Tuesday March 24 Weekday of Lent

 Numbers 21:4-9; Ps 102(101):2-3. 16-18. 19-21. R2;
John 8:21-30.

9:15AM Mass, St Mary's
2:00-4:00PM Cuppa Club, Parish Room at Holy Family Church.
All welcome.

Wednesday March 25 The Annunciation of the Lord (solemnity)

 Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10c; Ps 40(39):7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 11. R8a, 9a;
Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38.

9:15AM Mass, Holy Family
11:45AM Funeral Mass—Brian Brookes, St Mary's.

Thursday March 26 Weekday of Lent

 Genesis 17:3-9; Ps 105(104):4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R8a;
John 8:51-59.

9:15AM Eucharistic service, Holy Family

Friday March 27 Weekday of Lent

 Jeremiah 20:10-13; Ps 18(17):2-3a. 3b-4. 5-6. 7. R cf. 7;
John 10:31-42.

8:50-9:20AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, St Mary's
9:30AM Mass, St Mary's
6:30PM Scripture study, St Mary's meeting room

Saturday March 28 Weekday of Lent

 Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jer 31:10. 11-12b. 13. R cf. 10d;
John 11:45-56.

11:00-11:20AM: Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession), St Mary's
11:30AM Stations of the Cross, St Mary's
12:00 noon Mass, St Mary's

Sunday March 29 Palm Sunday

 Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. R2a; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66.

(Divine Office Week 2)

9:00AM St Mary's Church open for private prayer.
9:30AM Sung Mass, St Mary's
10:45AM Holy Family Church open for private prayer.
11:15AM Sung Mass, Holy Family
Light refreshments will be served after both Sunday morning Masses.
6:00PM Mass, St Mary's

Confession

Saturdays (see above); otherwise on request.

Baptisms and Marriages

If you would like to arrange a baptism or a marriage, please speak to a priest or to Sr. Benedicta after Mass.
Please note, we require six months' notice for a wedding.

We Pray For...

Sick

We pray for all who are currently awaiting results, undergoing treatment or battling illnesses. In particular: Paul Vincent Rostern, Gregory Francis Rostern, Joe & Anne Appleton, Monica Reed, Maria-Thérèse Passenger, Geraldine Power, Kath Wilkinson, Betty Brown, Joe Gallagher, Finola Bedford, Catherine Redikin, Catherine Ardill, Cristopher McAuley, Austin Moran, Burny Maughny, Pat Snelling, John Moran, Michael Bray, Wendy Felstead, Caroline, Ann Burn, Donni Marie, Sarah O'Brien, Collette Hartwell, Immanuel Iro, Annamarie O.S. Asemota, Susan Watson, Stephanie Farrell, Anna, Morris Maude, Mary Jowes, Mrs. Gavin, Patrick O'Brien, Ian Kirkham, Dave Riley, Mary Woods, Stuart Radcliffe, Mark Wilkinson, Keith J. Williams, Carol Williams and Annette Sribiwiski.

Recently Deceased

We pray for the souls of: Pdraig Rafferty, Jackie Burns, Peter, and Uzendu Christian. May they rest in perfect peace.

Anniversary

We pray for the souls of: Catherine O'Neill, Mary Doyle, Christopher McAuley, Mini Francis, KP Polli and Daniel McCarthy. May they continue to rest in the Lord.

Sanctuary Candle at Holy Family

This week's sanctuary candle was donated by Deacon Stephen Scott, in memory of **Isabelle Batey**.

Deaths and Funerals

We sadly announce the deaths of:

Sheila Kennealey, whose funeral service will take place at St Mary's Church, 1:15pm this coming Monday, March 23.

Brian Brookes, whose funeral Mass will take place at St Mary's Church, 11:45am this coming Wednesday, March 25.

We keep their families and friends in our prayers.

Lenten Deanery Station Mass

The final Lenten Deanery Station Mass will be celebrated this coming Tuesday, Mar 24, at Ss Aidan & Oswald Church, Royton, 7:00pm. For anyone having pre-booked transport, bus pickup times are 6:15pm from St Mary's Church and 6:25pm from Holy Family Church.

Holy Week & Easter Programme

Wednesday April 1, 11:00am: Chrism Mass, St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst.

Thursday April 2, 6:00PM: Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Family Church.

Good Friday April 3, 11:00am: Stations of the Cross, Holy Family Church.

Good Friday April 3, 3:00pm: Good Friday Liturgy, St Mary's Church.

Saturday April 4, 11:00am-12 noon: Confessions, St Mary's,
Saturday April 4, 6:30pm: Easter Vigil Mass.

Easter Sunday April 5, 9:30am: Mass at St Mary's; **11:15am:** Mass at Holy Family. **No 6:00pm Mass** on Easter Sunday.

Easter Monday April 6, 10:00am: Mass at both churches.

Don't be late for Mass!

Be reminded that our clocks go **forwards by one hour** next weekend (Palm Sunday).

Baptism Preparation

Those scheduled for Baptism in April, please attend the Baptism Preparation session at St Mary's next Sunday, March 29, immediately after the 9:30am Mass.

Easter Flowers

Contributions are requested, towards the cost adorning our sanctuaries with flowers over Easter week. If you wish to contribute, please do so at the piety

stall before or after Sunday Mass, or care of a priest at other times.

Will you make a change to change a life?

This Lent, whether you're making a change to your diet, fasting, amending your behaviour or adapting your thoughts and focus, the changes you're making could also help change lives in your parish. By remembering our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, this Lent, your actions, donations and prayers will make a real difference to the lives of the local people experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination in Greater Manchester and Lancashire. Please visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lent now for ways you can help. Thank you.

Thanks again, line dancers

We thank the line dancers for their kind donation of £50 to the Parish.

Flexible in Number

This coming Tuesday, March 24 at 2:00pm, local folk group *Flexible in Number* will be back in the Parish Room at Holy Family Church, performing a range of Lancashire and Irish folk songs. Humour and light refreshments are included. Entry is £3.00—pay at the door.

ORDER OF MASS

HYMN 182

Breathe on me, breath of God

PENITENTIAL ACT

General Confession

All say together:

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and
sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I
have failed to do,**

(Striking breast:)

**through my fault,
through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore, I ask blessed Mary
ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our
God.**

Kýrie Eléison

Choir: Kýrie, eléison¹.

All: **Kýrie, eléison.**

Choir: Christe eléison².

All: **Christe eléison.**

Choir: Kýrie, eléison.

All: **Kýrie, eléison.**

Sung in the original Greek, translating as follows:

¹ *Lord, have mercy.*

² *Christ, have mercy.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Ezekiel 37:12-14

'I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live.'

Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And

you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.

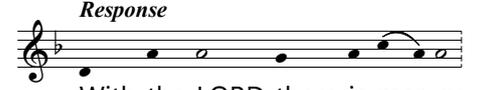
Reader: The Word of the Lord

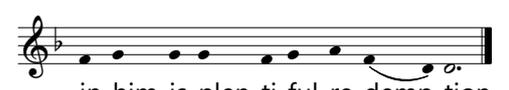
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 130(129):1-2. 3-4. 5-6b. 6c-8. R7bc

All sing the response:

Response

With the LORD there is mer-cy,


in him is plen-ti-ful re-demp-tion.

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the sound of my pleadings.
- 2 If you, O LORD, should mark
iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
that you may be revered.
- 3 I long for you, O LORD,
my soul longs for his word.
My soul awaits the Lord
more than watchmen for daybreak.
- 4 More than watchmen for daybreak,
let Israel hope for the LORD.
For with the LORD there is mercy,
in him is plentiful redemption.
It is he who will redeem Israel from
all its iniquities.

Second Reading

Romans 8:8-11

*'The Spirit of him who raised Jesus
from the dead dwells in you.'*

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

(Sung)

Cantor: Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, King of eternal glory.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, King of eternal
glory.

Cantor: I am the resurrection and the
life, says the Lord.
Everyone who believes in me
shall never die.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, King of eternal
glory.

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the holy
Gospel according to N.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel Reading

John 11:1-45

'I am the resurrection and the life.'

At that time: A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.'

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.' After saying these things, he said to them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.' Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me,

though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ.

THE CREED

All say together:

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were
made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*(All kneel or bow at the underlined
words that follow)*

and by the Holy Spirit was
incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the
Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and is glorified,
who has spoken through the
prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

HYMN 638

Take me, Lord

Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the
Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

Holy

All sing together:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of
hosts. Heaven and earth are full
of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes, who
comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

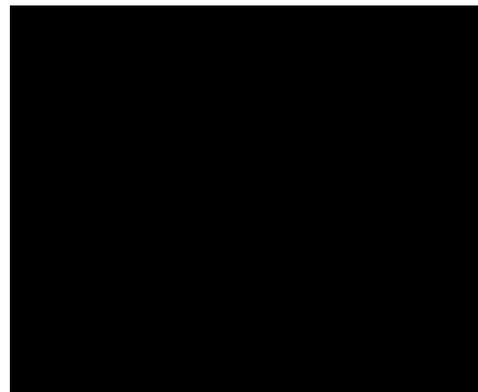
*The congregation kneel for the
remainder of the Eucharistic Prayer.*

The Mystery of Faith

The priest sings or says:

The mystery of faith

All sing together:



Conclusion

The priest alone sings or says:

Through him, and with him, and in
him,

O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

All respond:

Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

All stand: the Priest says:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching, we dare
to say:

All sing:

Our Father...

The priest alone continues, saying:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every
evil,

graciously grant peace in our days,

that, by the help of your mercy,

we may be always free from sin

and safe from all distress,

as we await the blessed hope

and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus
Christ.

*We conclude the prayer together, by
singing:*

**For the kingdom, the power and
the glory are yours now and for
ever.**

Lamb of God

All sing together:

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, have mercy
on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, have mercy
on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, grant us
peace.**

Invitation to Communion

The priest says aloud:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him
who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper
of the Lamb.

And together with the people he adds:

**Lord, I am not worthy that you
should enter under my roof, but
only say the word and my soul
shall be healed.**

HYMN 461

Love divine, all loves excelling

Song of Praise and Thanksgiving

Sing three times:

**O Sacrament most holy,
O Sacrament divine,
all praise and all thanksgiving
be every moment thine.**

HYMN 672

The Spirit lives to set us free

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