



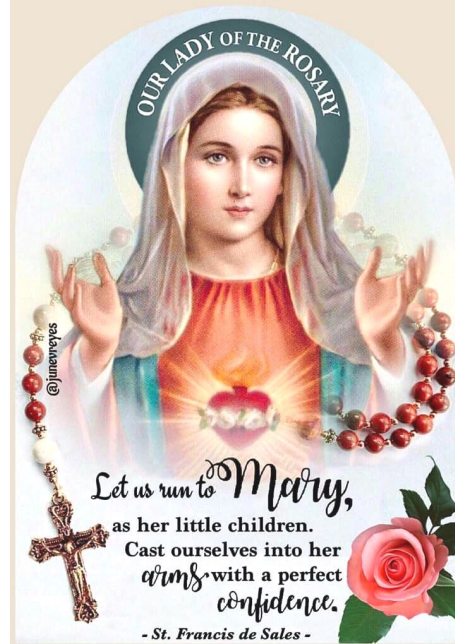
# St Mary's & St Catherine's

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St. Mary's, Wigan Road, Euxton. PR7 6JW. 01257 262665 . E-mail: stmary.euxton@rcaol.org.uk

Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

## Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year



<b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday Year B. 6th October</b>	<b>SC 5pm</b>	<b>David &amp; Moira Walker Golden Wedding Anniv</b>
<i>Rosary Sunday</i>	<b>SM 8.30am</b>	Paul Stevenson, RIP
	<b>SM 10.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)
Monday 7th Oct: Our Lady of the Rosary	<b>SC 9.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)
Tuesday 8th October: St John Henry Newman	<b>SM 9.30am</b>	Fr Robert Halshaw, RIP
Wednesday 9th October: St John Henry Newman	<b>SC 9.30am</b>	David Tetlow, sick
Thurs 10th October: St Paulinus of York	<b>SM 9.30am</b>	Fr Thomas Keeley, RIP
Friday 11th Oct: Pope St John XXIII	9.15am	School Assembly at St Mary's
	<b>SM 7pm</b>	Intentions of Fr Mark Lawler
Sat 12th Oct: St Wilfrid, Bishop	<b>SM 9.30am</b>	Private Intention SPH
<b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>	<b>SC 5pm</b>	Seamus, RIP 3rd Anniv
<b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday Year B. 13th October</b>	<b>SM 8.30am</b>	Fr Dan Cadogan, RIP
	<b>SM 10.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)

**THANK YOU** for your offerings at St Catherine's.

Retiring Collection today for the parish debt.  
Thanks you for £14.33 last week.

**THANK YOU** for your offerings at St Mary's.

**St Catherine's 100 Club: Philip Ikin (12)**

Fr Simon's blog is at **offerimus tibi domine** (where you will also find the Mass times each week)

**COFFEE AND CHAT MORNINGS: First Thursday of the month over winter.**

10am - 12 noon. 7th Nov. 5th December. 2nd Jan. 6th Feb. 6th March. In St Mary's Social Centre.

**WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S.**

**When there is no server, is there someone who could volunteer to ring the bells at the consecration?**

**This can be done by anyone from their bench. Thank you.**



**WELCOME:**

to Mr Greg Lindley, who is the new Principal at Holy Cross High School in Chorley. He will speak to us briefly at the end of the 8.30am Mass this Sunday.

*"Our ethos is founded on Gospel Values and the teachings of Christ which are realised through our daily actions. Our mission statement I have come that they may have life and have it to the full clearly sets out our aspirations for excellence in all that we do."*

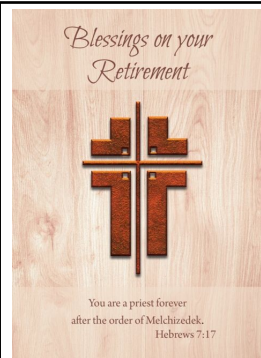
**REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS:** Once again this week there will be refreshments served in the parish centre after both Masses at St Mary's. This is an invaluable time to meet and build up relationships with our fellow parishioners and I encourage you to come along. The people of St Catherine's were made to feel very welcome last week - thanks to everyone. **Although weekly Refreshments after both Masses have not been in place at St Mary's, it would be wonderful if we could make that happen. Any new volunteers to help would be welcome.**



*Fr. Swain*

**An Act of Spiritual Communion for those not receiving Holy Communion:** *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

**THE PRESBYTERY:** Just to keep folks informed, the diocesan surveyor is returning this week with other specialists to assess costs this week to assess costs for the work necessary in the Presbytery and office. This includes removal of asbestos, assessing the efficiency of the heating system, checking the wiring and fire risks. This will be a big job & will take several months to get things in place.



**FR GERRY'S**

**RETIREMENT:**

While many have thanked Fr Gerry with cards etc, for anyone who would like to contribute to a gift for him,

**please return TODAY**

and we hope a small delegation will be able to visit him in Southport to present this to him on behalf of the parish.

Thank you.

**YOUTH MASS**

A Mass for young people is being arranged through Holy Cross School and St Gregory's parish church at Weldbank in Chorley on *Sunday 6th October at 6.30pm.*

**The History and Significance of the Month of the Rosary:** October is celebrated as the Month of the Rosary, a period dedicated to one of the most cherished devotions in Christian tradition. Rooted in centuries of spiritual practice, the Rosary serves as a meditative tool that draws believers closer to the mysteries of Christ's life and the intercession of the Virgin Mary. Origins of the Rosary

The Rosary, as it is known today, evolved over many centuries, but its roots can be traced to the early Christian practice of reciting prayers repetitively. This was often done by monks who used prayer ropes to count their prayers. In the 12th century, Marian devotion began to flourish, and it is believed that the Rosary was given form through Saint Dominic, who is said to have received it as a gift from the Virgin Mary herself. Saint Dominic and the Dominican Order were instrumental in spreading the use of the Rosary as a means of combating heresy and deepening prayerful reflection on the mysteries of the Gospel.

**The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary:** The Rosary's place in Catholic life was further solidified with the establishment of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. This feast day was initially called the Feast of Our Lady of Victory and was instituted by Pope Pius V in 1571. It was a direct response to the Catholic victory at the Battle of Lepanto, a pivotal moment in European history. The naval battle took place on October 7, 1571, in the Gulf of Patras near Greece, where a Christian coalition, known as the Holy League, defeated the Ottoman Empire's fleet. This victory prevented the Ottomans from gaining further control of the Mediterranean and threatening Christian Europe. Pope Pius V attributed this victory to the intercession of the Virgin Mary, as he had called upon the faithful to pray the Rosary for the success of the Christian forces. In thanksgiving, he declared October 7 as the Feast of Our Lady of Victory, later renamed by his successor Pope Gregory XIII as the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The event highlighted the power of prayer, particularly the Rosary, and reinforced its role in Catholic spiritual life.

**The Battle of Lepanto and Its Impact:** The Battle of Lepanto is significant not just as a military event, but also as a spiritual one. The Ottoman Empire's naval power was one of the most formidable forces of the 16th century, and their potential conquest of the Mediterranean posed an existential threat to Christian Europe. Pope Pius V, aware of the stakes, urged Christian rulers to unite and form the Holy League, a coalition of Catholic maritime states. While this union of forces was crucial, the Pope also recognised the spiritual nature of the battle. He called on all of Europe to pray the Rosary, believing that divine intervention through Mary's intercession was essential for victory. On the day of the battle, the Holy League's forces, though outnumbered, achieved a decisive victory. While tactics and strategy played a role, the victory was seen as miraculous by many in the Church. Pope Pius V, reportedly seeing a vision of the victory while praying the Rosary, gave credit to the Virgin Mary's intercession. This event deeply influenced the devotion to the Rosary, and the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary became a reminder of the spiritual power attributed to this prayer.

**October as the Month of the Rosary:** In light of the significance of the Battle of Lepanto and the establishment of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, the Church began to designate the entire month of October as the Month of the Rosary. This period encourages Catholics to devote themselves to praying the Rosary more frequently and to meditating on the life of Christ through the mysteries of the Rosary. This practice not only honours the historical and spiritual importance of the Rosary but also emphasises the role of the Virgin Mary as a powerful intercessor for the faithful. Throughout the month of October, Catholics are invited to deepen their devotion to the Rosary, reflecting on its Mysteries: the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous. Each mystery offers a different perspective on the life of Christ and the role of Mary. The Joyful Mysteries focus on the early life of Christ, from the Annunciation to the Finding in the Temple, while the Sorrowful Mysteries reflect on His passion and death. The Glorious Mysteries celebrate His resurrection and the assumption of Mary, and the Luminous Mysteries, added by Pope John Paul II, highlight significant moments in Christ's public ministry.



**The Spiritual Importance of the Rosary in Catholic Devotion:** The Rosary is more than just a repetitive prayer; it is a profound tool for meditation and spiritual growth. Pope John Paul II referred to it as a “compendium of the Gospel,” and many saints, including Padre Pio and Saint Louis de Montfort, emphasised its power in deepening one's relationship with Christ and Mary.

Praying the Rosary allows Catholics to contemplate the mysteries of faith while seeking the intercession of the Virgin Mary. It offers a structured way to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and to align one's thoughts and desires with the will of God. The Rosary is also seen as a weapon of spiritual warfare, a way to defend against temptations and evil influences, as seen in its association with the Battle of Lepanto. As Catholics today continue to turn to the Rosary for spiritual guidance, protection, and reflection, this tradition remains a vital part of their faith journey.

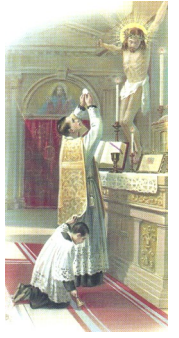
Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary and the prayerful contemplation of the Rosary's mysteries, the faithful are reminded of the profound connection between prayer and divine intervention in the course of human events.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

A reminder that The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be offered for your intentions, for both the living and the dead. This ancient practice enables the Church to apply the benefits of Our Lord's Sacrifice to be applied directly for your intentions. Often a card can be sent, especially if it's for a death or anniversary. A supply of such cards is available from the Piety stall at St Catherine's or from the sacristy at St Mary's.

The donation attached to it goes to support the work of the parish.

Please place your intention and the offering in an envelope and give it to Fr Simon.



**Journey of Faith:** Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Faith? Would you like to support your child's faith journey? We are offering a course of meetings at St Teresa's Church (Queensway in Penwortham PR1 0DS) starting on Wednesday 6th November at 7pm and continuing until Easter 2025. The meetings will last an hour. Please feel free to bring a friend. For more information contact your local parish priest or email pen-



**Your Prayers are asked for all the sick, including:** Rita Swarbrick, Rosena Stacey, Vivienne Lee, Tom Miller, Paul Casey, Linda Melling, Tilly Gee, Kathleen Ward, Clare Butler, Maureen MacDonald, Louie Baines, Maureen O'Brien, Margaret McNiff, Elle Miller, Mark Duncan, Bill Sutton, Barbara Fow, Mary Ann Monaghan, Bernard Lawson, Mick Marshall, Carol Parkinson, Eric Nielson, Margaret Lawler, Ryan Troop, Catherine Thompson & David Thompson.

We pray for those who are housebound & for those who love & care for them.

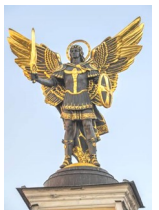
*O Mary conceived without sin - Pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

*I've been in the habit of saying this prayer at the end of Masses where there is no music. Perhaps it would be good to continue it, given the sad situation in both countries still shows no signs of resolution: For God's justice and peace to triumph!*

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God cast down into hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.**

*Let us pray for the people of Ukraine to their great patron St Michael for peace & justice. This statue stands in Independence Square in Kyiv. Not from ancient times but erected in 2002. He has been the Patron of Kyiv since 1108.*



**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR MOBILE PHONES, INCLUDING MESSAGE NOTIFICATIONS, ARE TURNED OFF.**

**BONUS BALL at St Catherine's:** The Bonus Ball Prize has not been won for several weeks so the pot has grown. However, in light of the fact that Mass on Saturday night is before the draw is made, it seems no longer possible to keep it going, so when this pot is won, we bring it to an end. Thank you to all who have supported the parish through this over the years!

**SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:** St Catherine's, Elaine Carr. St Mary's, Marie Tootell.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU**