

# SAINT ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER PARISH.



## Incorporating the 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 Dowd

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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025.

Mass Readings are on Page 176 in the Mass Book.

### Reflection:

In today's gospel account, a bunch of self-righteous scribes and Pharisees had apprehended a woman in the very act of adultery. They were going to stone her to death. That was what Moses ordered them to do in the Law. And they were law-abiding Jews. They had come to believe that Jesus did not care much about the Law. So, they were going to use this test case to entrap him.

We must ask though, "Where was the man?" nobody can commit adultery alone, no matter how hard he or she tries. But the man was nowhere in sight. Only the woman was to be stoned to death. The gross injustice of that was noticed and taken note of by Jesus. There were also the rather small issues that the accusers themselves were not all that clean. They all had all sorts of skeletons in their cupboards, which probably included a fair amount of adultery. One rather humorous theory suggests that when Jesus bent down and wrote on the ground, what he wrote were the sins of the accusers themselves. As soon as each one saw his own sins written, he left in a hurry. The eldest were the first to leave because they had many more and weightier sins to their account.

Jesus would not condemn the woman. But he did not condone her sins either. He did not say, "You are doing just fine. Go and carry on sinning." On the contrary, he said, "Go away, and from this moment sin no more." If we see a neighbour or anyone doing something wrong, it is our bounden duty to correct him or her. Charity demands that of us. But the same charity forbids us to condemn him or her. If we do not correct an erring brother or sister when we are able to do so, we sin against charity. By the same token, if we condemn an erring brother or sister, without giving him or her the benefit of the doubt we also sin against charity.

The reason is quite simple from today's Gospel passage: we are sinners ourselves. Not even one of us is without sin. St. John says it emphatically: "if we say, 'We have no sin', we are deceiving ourselves, and truth has no place in us" (1 John 1:8). How can we then, who are sinners ourselves and in need of God's mercy, turn round to condemn others and deny them the same mercy of God? We simply are not qualified to do so. We lack the moral standing to do so. It has been said very wisely that whenever we point an accusing finger at someone, all the other four fingers of our own hand are pointing right back at us. So, why not be like Jesus, and condemn no one?

**Pray for the sick and housebound,** John Fitzgerald. Cyril Corcoran. Sr Edith. John Tunney. Eileen Toth. Anne Leavy. Maria Morrissey, Margaret McAteer. Mary McGlade. Kathleen Beech. Martina McGeehan. Jean Angus. Irene and Karen Rice. Paul and Kath McInenny. Keith and Linda Marshall, Jim McGlynn.

*We pray the Good Lord will strengthen and comfort all the sick and we pray also for all who care for the sick and elderly.*

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

Jason Gledhill. Lilian Richardson. Tony Clifford. Ethna McDonald  
(May their souls rest in peace)

**Memorial Anniversary.** Patrick Christopher Byrne (3<sup>rd</sup>). Francis (Bob) Dolan (2<sup>nd</sup>) Jim Farragher (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
(Eternal rest grant to them Oh Lord,,,,,)

**Special Intention.** Anonymous. Eileen Toth. Howard Family

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Next Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> is Palm Sunday. There will be blessings of Palms before Mass outside and the Procession/Solemn Entrance into the Church.
- **Parish Lenten Penitential service and confession will be on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.**
- We kindly encourage you all to volunteer to serve our parish in various ministries in the parish as Lectors, Hospitality, Church Warden/Ushers, Church cleaning group, Eucharistic ministers, Choir, Altar server and as Organist.
- Stations of the Cross in the Parish, St. Mary's is on **Fridays at 6:30pm**. Please try to attend.
- Today there is a second collection to raise funds for maintenance work required in the Parish, the Easter Raffle is also taking place now to raise funds. Please be generous.
- St Mary's School would like to invite members of our parish community to join us in commemorating the events of Holy Week. The school grounds will be open to you and our parents after school (from 3:25pm until 4pm) on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April** to follow our Lenten Walk and lay flowers at the foot of our Calvary. We would be delighted to welcome you into the school, please note the ground is uneven so you will need to be careful.
- **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAMMES.**

**TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>, APRIL 6:30 pm - PARISH LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE/CONFESSION**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> April - 6:00 pm Mass at St Richards    8:00 pm Mass St Mary's**

**GOOD FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> April 11:30 am: STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH ONLY**

**3:00 pm St. Mary's Good Friday Service/Veneration of the Cross**

**3:00 pm St. Richard's Good Friday Service/Veneration of the Cross**

**HOLY SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> April -Easter Vigil Mass 6:00pm at St. Richard's**

**8:00pm at St. Mary's**

**EASTER SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> April - MASSES 9:30AM – ST. RICHARD'S    11:00AM – ST. MARY'S**

### MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Day	Time	Church	Liturgy	Mass Intention
Vigil Mass Saturday	5:00pm	St Richard's	Mass	Ethna McDonald RIP Karen Rice (God's Healing)
	6:30pm	St Mary's	Mass	Jim Farragher Anniversary Karn Rice (God's Healing)
Sunday	9:30 am	St Richard's	Mass	Ethna McDonald RIP Karen Rice (God's healing)
	11:00 am	St Mary's	Mass	Eileen Toth Special Intention Patrick Byrne Anniversary Karen Rice (God's healing)
Monday	No	Mass	Today	
Tuesday	9:30 am	St Mary's	Mass	Tony Clifford RIP Karen Rice (God's healing)
Wednesday	9:15 am	St Richard's	Mass	Ethna McDonald RIP Karen Rice (God's healing)
Thursday	9:30 am	St Mary's	Mass	Special Intention Karen Rice (God's healing)
Friday	9:15am	St Richard's	Mass	Ethna McDonald RIP Karen Rice (God's healing)
	10:30 am 6:30pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Funeral Mass Stations of the Cross	Jason Gledhill RIP
Saturday	11am	St Mary's	Exposition and Adoration Confession and Mass	Karen Rice – God's Healing  Special Intention for the Howard Family

**Offertory collection for last week - St. Mary's £437.61    St. Richard's £269.39    TOTAL = £707**