



Marple Bridge
(Hollins Lane)

The Catholic Community Newsletter
for the parish of
St Mary and **The Annunciation**
Marple Bridge New Mills



New Mills
(St Mary's Road)

Fr. Daniel Palmer
Fr. Kevin Gradwell (in retirement)

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15TH MAY 2022

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Lectionary: Year C (Sundays), Year 2 (Weekdays)

		Place		Intention
Sat 14	12noon 1830	MB MB	Marr. Vigil Mass	Wedding: Thomas Los / Rebecca Hoyes Priest's Int.
Sun 15 5 th in Easter	0930 12noon	NM MB	Mass Mass	People of the Parish Fred Mansfield RIP
Tue 17 Dedication of the Church	1030	NM	Mass	Leo
Wed 18	1000	MB	Mass	Fr Anthony Brunning RIP
Thu 19	1000 1700	NM MB	Mass Rec'n	John Michael Dore RIP Reception of Fred Harvey RIP
Fri 20	1300	MB	Req.	Fred Harvey RIP
Sat 21	12noon 1830	NM MB	Mass Vigil Mass	[First Holy Communion] ---
Sun 22 6 th in Easter	0930 12noon	NM MB	Mass Mass	People of the Parish Fred Harvey RIP

Confession times:

New Mills – after Sunday Mass. Marple Bridge – Saturday 1800 to 1820. Please ask. Other times by appointment.

Please pray for those who are sick: Joan Bindley, David Cochrane, Dorothy Graham, David Carter, Brian Tierney. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact the parish office or collect a form from the back of church.

Please pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs in May: John Jennings, Arthur Mertz, Bernadette Winterbottom, Paul Bell, Mary Williams, Susan Gradwell, Veronica Brierley, Joseph McLean, David Hill

We pray for the repose of the soul of Fred Harvey. We pray also for his family and friends at this time.

Congratulations to Charles whose baptism took place recently.

Congratulations to Rebecca and Thomas who are getting married this weekend.

We pray for all our First Communicants as they prepare to receive this great Sacrament.

Safeguarding Representatives:

Christian Aid Plant Sale This year's sale will be held on Saturday 21st May from 10am-12pm at Jubilee Methodist Church, Cote Green Lane, Marple Bridge, SK6 5EB. Free entry. All funds raised will go to the Christian Aid week appeal.

Christian Aid week 15-21st May 2022 As well as working with many other agencies who are actively working to support Ukrainian refugees, Christian Aid continues to support other people across the world who go hungry daily. For the first time in a generation, global hunger and poverty are rising. Covid 19, conflict and the climate crisis are all affecting vulnerable communities.

If you would like to donate to Christian Aid you can do so by using one of the red envelopes at the back of church in Marple Bridge or online: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/marple-area-churches>
Please note the changes:

Three of our parishioners are busy organising a **Concert for Ukraine**. It will take place on 17 June at the Marple Cricket Club, Bowden Lane. There will be some great acts who are all performing for free. All money donated will go to DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (which includes CAFOD). Tickets £12.50 each and can be bought from Pauline Howell 07932723359 or Denise Ead 0161 427 6297

FATHER JOHN CAIRNS MEMORIAL BENCH Saint Mary's school at Marple Bridge held a non-uniform day dressed in blue for Manchester City to raise funds for Fr John's bench and have each paid £1 for the privilege. Our grateful thanks go to the teachers, staff and children for this brilliant idea and contribution. Marple Bridge parishioners and friends may contribute by donating over the month of May after which the the total of monies collected will be made available. A final meeting in early June will be advised in our Church Bulletin to confirm details of the oak bench etc. and place the order.

Donations may be in the form of cheques payable to **Mrs P. M. Howell** , marked on the back **Fr John's Bench** and placed in an envelope at the back of church also marked for **FrJ.Bench MB**. Cash donations may also be placed in an envelope at the back of church marked **FrJ.Bench MB**. Donations may also be made to **Mrs P.M. Howell 08-93-00 (Coop Bank) Account No. 15107833 ref. FrJ.Bench MB**. Any queries to Gordon Lyon or Laurie Feehan who thank everyone so much for their participation.

Red box 2021: Thank You: In 2021 The Annunciation raised £809.00 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you. Our missionary community here is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. The founder of this network (APF/Missio) will be beatified on 22nd May this year. This remarkable woman's life was marked by great suffering and great trust in God. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more about Pauline and how your support of Missio changes life for the better.

To join the electronic mailing list, contact news@stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk



Returning to Mass at Pentecost
An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops’ Conference
Friday 6th May 2022