

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK**

Trudy Eastwood, Caroline Williams, Christine Rogers, Craig Millward, David Noble, Patrick Hullinson, Barbara Murphy, Florence Ward, Peggy Sugrue, Dale Broom, Jackie Berry, Bernard Holt, Patricia Greene, Bernadette Greene, Brenda Neiles, Eileen Butt, Johnny Falloon, Carol Doherty.

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD**

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Ray Matus, Newton Louis Sterling, Chris Burke, Peter Lawson, Scotty McIntyre.

**Anniversaries:** Gerard Caldwell, Jim O’Brien, Stella Green, Anne Brosnihan, Harry and Irene Caswell.

**WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS**

“Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations but about your potential.”

Pope St John XXIII

“To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often.”

St John Henry Newman



**The Month of the Holy Rosary**

By its nature the recitation of the Rosary calls for quiet rhythm and a lingering pace, helping the individual to meditate on the mysteries of the Lord’s life as seen through the eyes of her who was closest to Him.

In this way the riches of these mysteries unfold in your life bringing peace, joy, light, comfort in sorrow and glory at the last.

Pope St Paul VI

 Last Week’s collection was: £1233.90 Thank you

£££

The monthly figure for Standing Orders: £1373.00



This week, the Sacred Heart Lamp burns for a Special Intention.



This week, Our Lady’s Lamp burns for a Special Intention.



**OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH**

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**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

<b>Sunday 6th October</b>	<b>Holy Masses 9am &amp; 11am</b>
<b>Monday 7th October</b> <b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Tuesday 8th October</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 9th October</b> <b>St John Henry Newman</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Thursday 10th October</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Friday 11th October</b> <b>Pope St John XXIII</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Saturday 12th October</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm</b> <b>Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm</b>

## Folk Night with Riognach Connolly

Back by popular request after the success of St Patrick's Night—Riognach Connolly—singer with Honey Feet and The Breath, will be here to perform a medley of folk music. **Friday November 1st at 7.30pm is the date for your diary.** Tickets will be available after Mass from next weekend.

## Cafod Family Fast Day—Oct 4th

Please remember to put your gift envelope into the offertory collection, either this week or next – or give online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope). There are spare envelopes near the church doors, if you didn't get one last week.

## 200 Club Winners

The two winning numbers for the September Draw were **21 and 103.**

## Heating

The much awaited turn-on of the heating in the church will take place on **October 16th**—Feast of St Margaret Mary—that day Medway will service the boilers and re-ignite. If we can hold on until then it will save us a bit too

## RCIA

The weekly course for those interested in becoming a Catholic or getting to know more about the faith will begin on **Wednesday 16th October at 7.30pm.** The course will run from then until Easter—venue to be decided.

## WiFi

Finally, and after even more trouble, we have WiFi at the back of the church. Wifi into the Hall is going to take a few days more because on the installation of a faulty cable. This process has certainly been slow but hopefully it will be sure!

## Book Club

The book club next meets on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October, at 2pm in the Cottage. We will be discussing Louise Kennedy's 2022 novel "Trespases", set in 1970s Belfast. New members always welcome; details from Vin Allerton on 07305-727900.

## Thank-You

Thanks to Mark and the supply priests who made my holiday possible

## As it Was in The Beginning

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen. A simple thing struck me this week that I'd never thought before: the phrases of the first part of the Glory Be match those in the second. The glory given to the Father is associated with how it was in the beginning - the Father who is Origin and Creator of all that exists. The glory given to the Son now, is the glory of his being raised up on the Cross. And the glory of the Holy Spirit is the glory of how it shall be when the Spirit establishes in the whole of creation, in each and every person and place, the perfect Kingdom Christ has won.

Because it is not yet so in the world is it? The glory of that Kingdom has not been applied by the Spirit to every heart and place. And in that sense, Christ remains crucified in the hearts of many of his children: in the war-torn places of the world, in the poor, the sick, .... And in the divorced.

Why do I say this today? We'll Jesus uses a phrase from that little prayer the Glory Be in the Gospel doesn't he? "As it was in the beginning" - he says and he uses the words in the context of marriage and divorce. I think I once mentioned, that when I was young, my family always sat in the same place in church:- Just by a wonderful woman who sat near to us. On certain Sunday's, I would notice her freeze and quietly lower her head, when the Gospel was read. Today's Gospel would have done it to her - and as a result, in a way, it now does it to me. You see, she was divorced this woman - and she felt all the stigma that came with it when a Gospel like this one was proclaimed. It literally was a crucifixion for her now. For many divorced and separated people, staying true to their faith, is still a crucifixion now. Didn't the wonderful Christian woman Dorothy Day who was divorced and separated not famously say, "For me, Christ was not bought by thirty pieces of silver but with my hearts blood"?

It wasn't so in the beginning, when God made everything very good, each person perfectly reflecting the glory of God - and as yet the work of the Holy Spirit, applying the merits of Christ's cross is incomplete in every heart and place now. Those who are married give a sign of how it was and how it shall be but they have their troubles and their crosses. But the divorced and those in irregular unions - especially those who try to live the Kingdom - are a special sign of the glory of the cross now - and for that they must never be stigmatised but thanked for the witness of their struggle.

Out of that struggle, the divorced and separated Dorothy Day, did wonders for those who were crucified by poverty, homeless and suffering. In the now of her day, she gave great glory to God: so much so that she's on her way to sainthood - when the church will finally let her glory be seen as it was in the beginning and ever shall be.