

Believe!

SUNDAY *Plus*

3 MAY 2026

5th Sunday of Easter **Divine Office Week I** Year A

Yes, Lord, I believe



Fr John Gerard SJ, Painter unknown

In our frailty, we discover that Christ himself is the Good Samaritan who heals our wounds and restores our hope.

Pope Leo XIV

Be not afraid

You shall cross the barren desert
But you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
And all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Be not afraid:
I go before you always.
Come, follow me
And I will give you rest.

John Michael Talbot

Jesus, help me not to move into panic mode. Help me to take a deep breath and count to ten before I start to expect disasters which might never happen. Teach me to stay calm and trust in you.  Amen.

After a few months we had, by God's grace, everything so arranged that I was able to perform there all the tasks of a Jesuit priest, and provided only I could have stayed on in this prison, I should never have wanted to have my liberty again in England.

Though I was locked up, I looked on this change [from Poultry Compter] to the Clink as a translation from Purgatory to Paradise. I no longer heard obscene and bawdy songs, but, instead, I had Catholics praying in the next cell. They came to my door and comforted me, then they showed me how I could have freer dealings with them through a hole made in the wall, which they had covered over and concealed with a picture. Through this hole they handed me, the next day,

letters from some of my friends, and at the same time gave me paper, pen and ink, so that I could write back...

Through this same hole I also made my confession and received the Blessed Sacrament. But there was no need to carry on like this for long, for some Catholics in the prison contrived to make a key that would open my door. Then every morning before the warder came round, in fact before he was out of bed, they came and took me to another part of the prison, where I said Mass and gave the sacraments to the Catholics confined in that section. All of them had keys of their own doors.

John Gerard,
Autobiography of a Hunted Priest

Feast of the week Monday 4 May

The Martyrs of England and Wales

One of the treasures of the English College in Rome is an atlas, an old atlas. It is dated 1570, and it is beautiful. The English College opened just nine years later, so that atlas must have been bought to show the students where to go once they got back home.

These students had come to Rome for just one reason: to go back home, to return to England and Wales, where Queen Elizabeth I had banned seminaries and banned the Mass. At great risk to themselves, after years of preparation in Rome they would make their way back to England to bring the sacraments to Catholics up and down the land...

There were Benedictines, Carthusians, Franciscans and many other religious preparing to shepherd the Lord's flock on English soil. It is no exaggeration to say that, without the courage of these Tudor martyrs, there might have been no Catholic Church remaining in England today.

Bishop Nicholas Hudson

READINGS

Today:
Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Monday:
Acts 14:5-18
John 14:21-26

Tuesday:
Acts 14:19-28
John 14:27-31

Wednesday:
Acts 15:1-6
John 15:1-8

Thursday:
Acts 15:7-21
John 15:9-11

Friday:
Acts 15:22-31
John 15:12-17

Saturday:
Acts 16:1-10
John 15:18-21

Next Sunday:
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21



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5th Sunday of Easter 3rd May 2026

The Word This Week

We continue to explore the meaning of baptism, of membership of the Church, of living a life which has been immersed in the life and death of Jesus Christ: in other words, we continue our 'Mystagogy' - our training in the mystery of Baptism and the other Sacraments. We hear more about 'who Jesus is', with another 'I am' statement: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". We are baptised into his way, his truth and his life. We hear about the earliest community struggling with the life they are called to by baptism, and Peter again reminds us that baptism builds us into a 'spiritual house' with Jesus as our cornerstone. The mystery of the Church is clearly before us today: the Church is the community of those baptised in Christ, the pilgrim people walking with Christ (who has shown us the Father) to the place he has prepared for us. Today's reading can perhaps make us think a little about how we form part of this 'spiritual house', the Church, as we journey to the Father.



Mass Times 3rd May 2026		
Sunday 3rd May	Vigil - Saturday 2nd Sunday Morning	4pm - Parish 11am - Sick & Infirm Clergy
Monday 4th	No Mass	
Tuesday 5th	No Mass	
Wednesday 6th	No Mass	
Thursday 7th	No Mass	
Friday 8th	No Mass	
Saturday 9th Sunday 10th	Vigil Mass	4pm— Martin Corim Mitchell (A) 11am – Parish
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Mass Offerings :- Dave Stacey (LD); Tom Lally (RIP); Martin Coriam Mitchell (A); Peter Eagan (A)

Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)

Altar Prayer Candles W/C 3rd May 2026	
The Sanctuary	
Sacred Heart	
Our Lady	Tom Lally

Vigil Mass; 4pm St Mary’s, Denton ; 5pm St Josephs, Reddish; and 6.30pm Holy Family, Dane Bank

Sunday Morning; 9am St Joseph’s, Reddish; 10am Holy Family, Dane Bank and 11am St Mary’s, Denton

What’s coming up in our parish

Scripture Course

Wednesday Evening from 6.30pm in the Parish Hall. The dates are:
2026 13th May; 11th June

Scripture Course

This week’s scripture course which should have been held on Wednesday 6th May will now be on Wednesday on 13th May at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all our children who are receiving their First Holy Communion at Mass this weekend.



A Man for All Seasons

We have chance for some tickets to see A Man for All Seasons at The Lowry Theatre on Saturday 7th November at 2pm. Ticket price is £38.00. Anyone who would like to place a Register of Interest in this event (this does not guarantee you a ticket) Please put your name on the list at the back of church.

Altar Prayer Candles

Our Seven Day Candles can be lit next to the Sanctuary, Our Lady’s Altar and The Sacred Heart Statue at St Mary’s. To dedicate a candle for your own intentions please pick up a green form at the back of church and return in an envelope with your donation. This is another way for your special intentions to be remembered and prayed for in the Parish.

New Offertory Envelopes

Please collect your envelopes for the new financial year from the back of church. You should search for your name and address, as envelope numbers change each year. If you are unable to find your box please contact the office. **The New envelopes started on Sunday 12th April.**

Faith in Action—Lourdes Fundraising Raffle

The Faith in Action group will be selling tickets to raise funds for the Lourdes Pilgrimage. Tickets are available after the Sunday Masses, or from the Parish Office.

Tickets are £5 per strip of £2 for an individual ticket.

1st Prize—2 Tickets for Manchester City v Brentford, on Saturday 9th May.

2nd Prize—Legal Will, Curtesy of Mr John Galvin

3rd Prize—£50 towards a meal at the Dane Bank Pub.

Pastoral Visits to Hospitals and Care Homes.

If you have a relative or friend who has been taken into hospital or has moved into a Care home, and requires a visit from a Catholic Priest/Chaplin for Pastoral support, please ask the Nursing staff to contact the local Hospital Catholic Chaplin or Parish Priest in that area.

For Care home visits, this would have to be carried out by the Parish Priest local to the home itself and may be outside of our parish boundaries. Homes that are in Stockport; Dukinfield and Hyde, are located in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, and unfortunately Priests from our Diocese have no authorisation in these areas.

New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, **we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.**

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

Our Faith in Action young people will run it (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

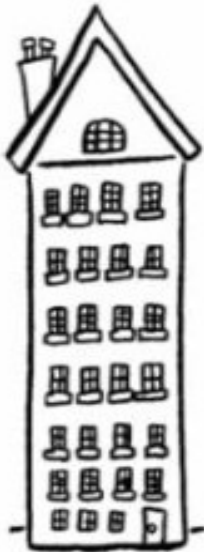
There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis. The dates are as follows;
20/05/26; 17/06/26

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills further as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.



T	H	F	E	C	A	L	P	E	R
S	T	R	A	E	H	Y	R	P	T
T	U	R	H	T	A	E	E	E	U
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R	T	O	E	F	I	L	E	R	I
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HEARTS
TROUBLED
TRUST
ROOMS
HOUSE
TRUTH
BELIEVE
FATHER
LIVING
EVIDENCE
REASON
PERFORM