

Imagine, if you will, a pope who was the son of a postman, the second of ten children. His life spanned the nineteenth century. A man of true Christian charity, who, after an earthquake levelled the town of Messina killing over 70,000 people, opened the doors of the Vatican to refugees who needed somewhere to stay and filled the palace with refugees. Imagine a man who wanted to "restore all things in Christ." A man who had a clear understanding of how faith and reason should work together and who resisted attempts to water down the truth and beauty of the Catholic Faith.

This man is Pope St Pius X, the patronal saint of our church in Merrow whose feast we celebrate this Sunday.



PRAYER & LITURGY

JOIN ST PIUS X FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS NEXT SATURDAY 19th &

SUNDAY 20th AUGUST

ST PIUS X FEAST DAY CELEBRATION THIS WEEKEND!

All Parishioners are warmly invited to share in celebrating with Mass at St Pius X and afterwards in the Hall:

Saturday 19th August 5.30pm Vigil Mass: followed by Celebratory Drinks, Nibbles and Pizza

Sunday 20th August 9.15 am Mass: followed by Celebratory Breakfast including Fairtrade Coffee/Tea/Juice with Croissants, Cereal, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt plus Sausage or Bacon Rolls (vegetarian option available)

To help manage catering after Mass, please book your places by 2pm on Saturday, by signing up

at www.CPG.church/stpiuscelebration or by calling the Parish Office 01483 562704.

No tickets/no charge, but donations welcome on the day, to help cover the cost of catering.

Calling all Altar Servers: please let the Parish Office know if you are available to serve at either Mass: 01483 562704

and then...ON THE LARGE SCREEN with SURROUND SOUND!



LIVE SCREENING: ENGLAND VS SPAIN WORLD CUP FOOTBALL MATCH FINAL

at 11am SUNDAY 20th AUGUST in the Hall at ST PIUS X

Join fellow Parishioners in watching the match on the big screen, after the St Pius X Feast Day Celebrations. Seats allocated on a first come, first served basis!

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Please keep in your prayers

Maureen Richards (Funeral on Monday 21st August at St Pius X at 12.30pm)

Doreen Mann (Funeral on Thursday 31st August at St Pius X at 11am)

Martin Roche (Funeral on Tuesday 5th September at 10am at St Joseph's)

Rosaleen Wildey (Funeral on Thursday 7th September at St Joseph's at 10am)

Dolores Regan (Funeral on Tuesday 12th September at St Pius X at 10.30am)

MONDAY EVENING EXPOSITION & CONFESSIONS

Please note the Monday evening Liturgies at St. Pius will pause for August and resume in September. Thank you for your understanding.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

CYF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A sincere Thank You to Finnie who has been a great support to the CYF Team over the last few years. She reflects that she has enjoyed her time with CYF but that, due to a change of circumstance, it is time to move on. We are now looking for someone to continue her good work in this paid, part-time (24 hours per week) role.

The Assistant will work in the CYF office, as agreed with the Children, Youth & Families coordinator. The CYF office offers a dynamic and vibrant working environment. Hours of work will be primarily normal business hours but will require some evening or weekend work with advance notice based on the needs of the ministries. Any additional hours required due to occasional evening or weekend activities will be compensated with time off in lieu.

If you would like further details please contact MgrTony@cpg.church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next First Holy Communion preparation programme will begin in September 2023. The expectation is that children coming forward for First Holy Communion belong to families who actively share in the prayer and life of the parish. If your child is in Years 3 to 6 in September 2023 and is a baptised Catholic, please email fhc@cpg.church for a signup form.

FORMATION

ADVENTUROUS ACCOMPANIMENT

"We need a Church capable of walking at people's side... a church which accompanies them on their journey" - Pope Francis.

Pope Francis calls for each one of us to be initiated into what he calls the "art of accompaniment". As a community and individually, we can extend God's love to others and walk shoulder-to-shoulder with them in life and faith.

The **Adventurous Accompaniment** programme explores how to walk alongside people we encounter in life and faith (e.g. in your family, your workplace, in parish ministry). Join us over 6 weeks in September and October. The sign-up form and more information can be found **here**.

MISSION

COMBONI FATHERS

Each year the Parish supports an appeal to be made at the Sunday Masses on behalf of one of our many Religious orders. This year it is the turn of the Comboni Fathers and two priests will be visiting the parish next weekend: 26th / 27th August.

MARCH FOR LIFE - SAT 2nd SEPTEMBER

Many are concerned about restrictions on freedom, but it's often not until these restrictions affect us personally that we speak up.

Abortion destroys the most fundamental freedom, the freedom to live, and leaves so many women and men deeply hurting. Join thousands of others at this fun, family-friendly event to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. The day includes morning Mass at Westminster Cathedral, talks and family-friendly activities at the nearby Emmanuel Centre, and then the march itself departs for Parliament Square.

Full details at <u>marchforlife.co.uk</u>, or call Lizzie Parkes c/o The Parish Office. 01483 562704.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOLIDAY

Please note that the Parish office will be closed from Wednesday 23rd till Tuesday 29th August for a well-deserved break. During this time the Clergy Team will do the best we can to help: Thank you in advance for your understanding!

CPG LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY MASS ONLINE: 10.30am and 5pm
JOIN US FOR DAILY MASS ONLINE: Monday-Saturday - 10 am
EVENING PRAYER 6pm (Mon-Fri)

Please join us by clicking here.

If you have any intentions that you would like the community to pray for: an anniversary, sick family member or friend, someone or something that can be included in the 6pm Evening Prayer Intercessions please email: office@cpg.church.

PARISH PRAYER

Looking into the signs of the times by the light of faith, almighty God, may we constantly devote ourselves to the service of the Gospel. Keep us attentive to the needs of all, that, sharing their grief and pain, their joy and hope, we may faithfully bring them the good news of salvation and go forward with them along the way of your Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord AMEN