

St John Bosco

Born in Italy 1815 - died 1888

Don Bosco worked with the street children in Turin.

He founded the Salesians who work with young people, and the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, who worked with young girls.

He is the patron saint of young people and apprentices.

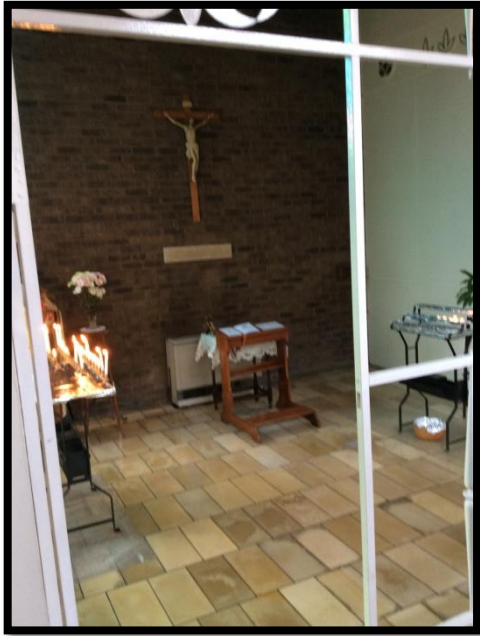
St John Bosco's Roman Catholic Church

Charlestown Road, Blackley, Manchester



A visit around our Church

St John Bosco's Parish was formed in 1940 to cater for the increasing population in White Moss. The church was built in 1958-59 and opened on January 26th 1960.



All Saints Chapel

Holy relics are reminders of saints.

Relics of saints are kept in the chapel and are a focus for our prayers. There is a booklet available to remind us of the stories of these saints.



Holy Water Font

A holy water font or stoup is found near the entrance of churches.

We dip our fingers into the holy water and make a Sign of the Cross to remind us of our baptismal promises.



The Altar

The altar is the focus of the sacrifice of the Mass and where the Eucharist is celebrated.

Candles are lit on the altar as a sign of reverence.

The altar table also reminds us of The Last Supper where Jesus celebrated the Eucharist with the disciples for the first time.



The Lady Chapel

This is a place of special devotion to Our Lady, the mother of Jesus.

Historically, the earliest Lady Chapel in England was the Saxon chapel at Canterbury.

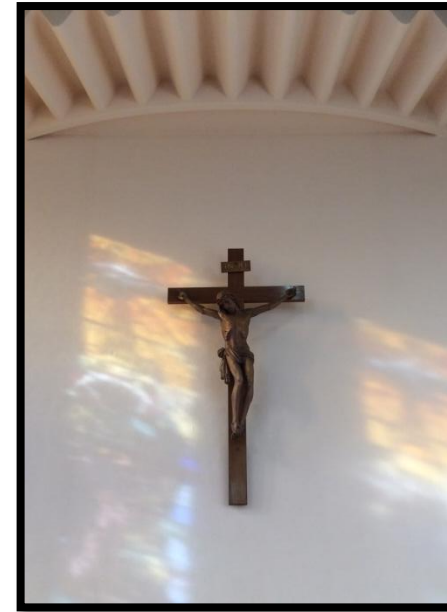


Genuflect

The word genuflect is derived from the latin *genu flectere* which means to bend the knee.

It is a sign of respect. We genuflect before we go into the bench and when we leave.

When we genuflect we turn to the tabernacle.



The Crucifix

In Catholic churches a crucifix or cross must be visible on or near the altar.

The crucifix reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.



The Tabernacle

The word tabernacle means 'tent' or 'hut'.

It was a small tent used as a sanctuary for the Ark of the Covenant by the Israelites during the Exodus. This is thought to have contained the Book of Exodus and the 10 commandments.

In our church it contains consecrated hosts which are the body and blood of Christ.



The Stations of the Cross

These are pictures based on 14 devotional prayers commemorating the passion of Jesus. In Jerusalem this took place along the Via Dolorosa', and followed the journey to Calvary. In the 14th century Franciscans were guardians of the shrine and developed the way of the cross.



The Baptismal Font

We celebrate the first sacrament, the ceremony of Christian initiation.

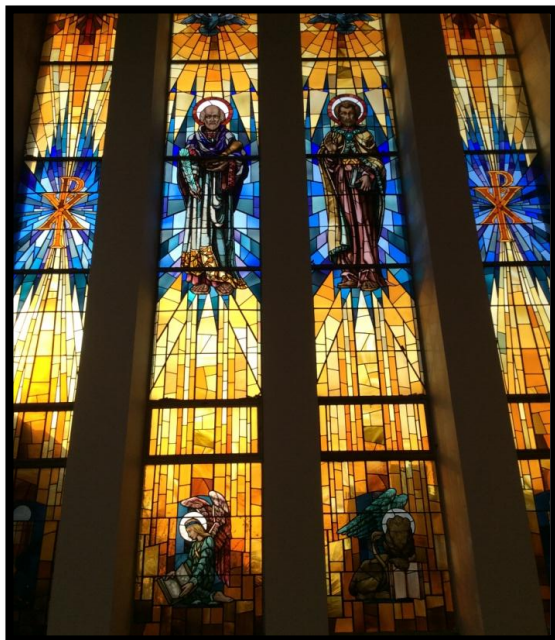
It reminds us of the time when Jesus went to John the Baptist at the River Jordan.



The Ambo

This is an elevated area in a church where the Word of God is proclaimed.

The lectionary on the ambo, is a large book containing the readings for the Mass over a 3 year cycle.



Stained Glass windows (left)

MATTHEW Year A

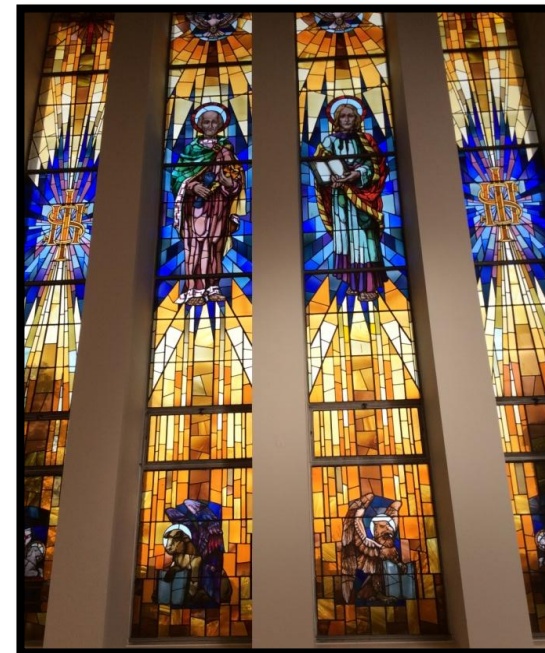
Symbol: winged man or angel

His gospel begins with the angel appearing to Joseph.

MARK Year B

Symbol: winged lion

His gospel begins with John the Baptist.



Stained Glass Windows (right)

LUKE

Year C (and Acts of the Apostles)

Symbol winged Ox

His gospel begins with Zechariah offering sacrifice.

JOHN

Lent/Easter/Christmas

Symbol winged eagle

His gospels 'soar to mystical heights'.