

The Season of Lent

In this Sunday's gospel parable, there are clearly three main characters: the elder son, the younger son, and the father. Who do you think is the hero, who is the anti-hero, and who is the supporting character? Often this story is called the parable of 'the prodigal son,' creating the impression that the younger son, who "left for a distant country" (Lk 15:13), is the hero of the story. Some suggest that this story be called, the parable of "the prodigal father" or "the parable of the good boy and the bad boy". These seem meaningful. Most versions of the Bible entitle this story as "the parable of the lost son" (GNB, NIV) - suggesting that even the elder boy could be the lost son. To resolve this dilemma, I think, we should look at the whole message of the Lenten season in relation to our dealings with others. Lent invites and encourages us to think about how we treat others. Perhaps during these remaining Lenten days, we might ask ourselves, *how am I like the young son who left home? How am I like the loving parent who welcomed him home? How am I like the older brother who refused to rejoice and join in the celebrations?* We don't journey through Lent or more importantly through life on our own. We experience God through each other and we experience each other through God.



Are you a Teacher Open to becoming an RE Specialist in our Catholic High Schools? The University of Glasgow is offering courses to enable qualified teachers to gain an Additional Teaching Qualification in Religious Education (ATQRE), leading to GTCS 'Professional Recognition' and allowing you to become an RE specialist in the Catholic secondary school. Currently our Catholic schools in Scotland are short of around 50 RE specialists. If you are interested please contact the diocese at Education@rcdop.org.uk or go to: <https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/education/cpd/atqre/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ST MARY'S CONFERENCE

Welcome everyone. If you know anyone in need of food or families in need. Please contact us or tell the person to ask for food parcel from the Chapel house. We also appeal to parishioners to assist us.

Legacies: when making your Will have you thought of leaving a legacy to the Parish or diocese?

Gift Aid: If you pay tax as for a Gift Aid form and your one-off signature we get an extra 25%

Are you an RE specialist teacher, recently qualifying or other, seeking employment? Paisley diocese is compiling a list of RE specialists, qualifying or qualified and looking for employment in our schools, temporary or permanent, full time or part time. With your permission we will make this list available to our diocesan Head Teachers, most of whom are currently looking to engage RE specialists. Please contact Education@rcdop.org.uk

Summer Camp: The Diocese of Paisley is offering a summer camp for secondary school pupils in the present s1 and s2 this summer at Alton Castle near Birmingham. Come along for a 5-day program of faith-filled fun: Holy Mass, prayer, games, activities, Alton Towers & SO MUCH MORE! Transport from Paisley and back. The trip will be from the 4th to the 8th August and costs £350.00. Places are limited. To reserve a place or find out more please contact Fr. John Morrison tel 0141 8895056 or e-mail vocations@rcdop.org.uk

The Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures 2019: A series of public lectures at Pluscarden Abbey, 11th - 13th June. *Beauty will save the World.* Four talks by Father Martin Boland. No charge and all are welcome to attend. To register for talks or accommodation please write to: Pentecost Lectures, Pluscarden Abbey, ELGIN, Moray IV30 8UA enclosing a SAE; or email guestmas-



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

31st March 2019

4th Sunday of Lent Year C

Parish Mass & Prayer Times

Rosary & Morning Prayer: 9:10 before 9:30am Mass

Weekday Mass: 9:30am daily (except Wednesday)

Wednesday Evening Mass: 7pm

Exposition: Tuesday & Thursday 9am

Saturday 9:00am after 9:30am Mass

Divine Mercy Devotion: Friday after Mass

**Sunday Masses: 4:30pm (Saturday Vigil)
10:30am Mass & Children's Liturgy**

Confessions: Saturday 10:00am - 10:30am & 4 - 4:30pm

Baptism: Arrange with the priest

Marriage: Give at least six months notice (see Fr Jude)

SUNDAY HOLY MASS

Psalm Response : "Taste and see that the Lord is good"

Mass Book: YEAR C Part:1 Page: 80



A warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors. Whether you are visiting the parish for the first time or just moved to the area, please feel very welcome. Introduce yourself to the parish priest and other parishioners. There are no strangers here, just new friends you have not met; so feel relax. There is Tea and coffee after Sunday mass in the hall. Join us and have a "wee cuppa" with your friends.



PARISH NOTICE

2019 Offertory Envelopes: Now available, you can pick up your envelopes at the porch. If you are a new parishioner and a UK tax payer, please signed in for gift aid and have your name on our offertory envelope. Speak with Jim McKeown or Jim Kerr for details.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: WE appeal for more volunteers to help in different facets of our parish up keeping. Forms are still available at the porch. Please take one home and we beg you to give a wee hand. **St Mary's needs YOU!!!**

BENEDICTION & EVENING MASS

As a way of being with Jesus in Prayer as a community, there will be benediction/Vespers and evening Mass on Sundays throughout this season of Lent. All are welcome!!!



Benediction/Vespers @ 4:00pm

Evening Mass @ 4:30pm.

Stations of the Cross Tuesdays after Mass and Fridays 9:00am

Special Collection this weekend is for **SCIAF & St Mirin's Fund**. An appeal letter will be read during mass.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Diocesan Fundraising Team Visit: 6th & 7th April 2019
Fr John Bashabora Retreat & Mass 7th April 2019
Altar Servers Social Evening May 10th 2019

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Last Week's Collections

Thanks for last week's **Offertory collections:** Gift Aid: £398.50, Non Gift Aid £280.27 = £678.77

Building fund: Gift Aid £73.00, Non Gift Aid £161.53 = £234.53. **Grand Total £913.30**

Easter Garden Appeal: Cash donations will be accepted from next weekend for the Easter Garden. Plants and flowers can be brought in from Holy Thursday. Note: No bedding plants, please.

Baptism Congratulations: to **Peter John Moore & Gayle Robertson** whose child Millie will be christened after 10:30am mass this Sunday. We also pray for the happy repose of **Peter Moore** who died few weeks after Millie was born.

SCIAF WEE BOX- These are available in the porch. Please take home a WEE BOX and help families grow their way out of poverty and hunger. Feel free to take one to have at home and at your workplace if suitable.

St Patrick Night: Thanks to your wonderful participation and your generous contributions. A sum of **£1004.20** was raised. Special thanks to Kay Steel and her Crew. A lot of Planning and hard work meant that this event was a great success socially and financially. We are grateful as we look forward to our next Parish Social event. Keep up the dancing!!

Parish Piety Stall: First Holy Communion and Easter cards & stocks are now available.

For the Attention of All Church Volunteers with PVG Certificates or Pending PPVG Certificates: volunteers doing or planning to do regulated work with children and vulnerable adults or both, should complete the Level one Safeguarding training. The next session will be held in the **Diocesan Office, Incle Street, Paisley, PA1 1HR on Tuesday 30th April at 7pm.** Please contact Sarah Jane at the Diocesan Safeguarding office safeguardingadmin@rcdo.org.uk or **0141 847 6138** to register.

World Youth Day 2022: Registration is now open for World Youth Day 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal. Details of cost and dates will be advised soon. To register, please visit <https://rcdop.org.uk/news/world-youth-day-2022-lisbon-for-a-lifetime-experience>

Charity Quiz Night: There will be a Charity Quiz Night in aid of St Andrew's Hospice at 7.30 pm on **Monday, 1st April** in St Mary's Church Hall, Newton Street, Paisley. Entrance is £3.00 each and there will be a raffle. BYOB and nibbles. All welcome.

Interfaith Scotland is teaming up with the University of St Andrews Coexistence initiative to host an interfaith youth conference at the University of St Andrews on **Saturday 13th April from 11am - 4pm** at the Arts Lecture Theatre, KY16 9AX.

Talks @ UWS. Back to Basics. Lent Wednesdays Chaplaincy Talks: Our talks continue this week with our next topic 'Do Catholics Worship Mary'. Speaker - Fr. Jim Duggan. Talk is on **Wednesday 3rd April** beginning at **7pm** at St. Mirin's Chaplaincy center, 45 High Street, Paisley. All welcome!

Glasgow's 40 Days for Life Vigil at the QEUH will come to an end on Saturday 13th April with our traditional silent candle lit hour at 7pm. Our formal Closing Event will take place in George Square the following day at 3pm, Sunday 14th April, Palm Sunday. Jamie McGowan a member of Glasgow Students for Life is the Guest Speaker. Opposition is expected on Sunday 14th April. Please come along and be a witness to hope for a culture of life here in Scotland.

FILM NIGHT Fundraiser HCPT Group 19 Lourdes Easter Pilgrimage. *Sister Clare Crockett* was killed during an earthquake in Ecuador. As a youngster her life was heading for spiritual destruction. Then she opened her life to Jesus, changed her ways and joined the *Sisters of the Home of the Mother*. In this 80 mins film she talks about her life in a fitting reflection for Lent and Easter. **St Patrick's Church Hall, Coatbridge, Thursday evening 11th April 7.30pm. Pay at door: £3. All money raised to HCPT Group 19 Lourdes Pilgrimage this Easter.**

Let's Meet: Would you like to meet someone special? Let's Meet is sort of like speed dating and is a very friendly, relaxed way to meet fellow single Catholics (Aged 21-40). We need good, strong Catholic couples and families for the future of our Church. So please, give our Catholic Speed Dating event a go. Browns Brasserie & Bar, Glasgow. **7pm, Saturday 6th April.** To buy a £10 ticket email letsmeetscotland@gmail.com

UWS Chaplaincy: Our present program of Masses will be suspended after this Sunday until Monday 15th April due to University holidays.

As a parish Community we pray especially for

Those who are sick

Helena Sagnella Ben Chamness William McCarry Allison O'Kane
 Bobby Muir Mary Graham Agnes Cattigan Jane McKenna
 Caetano Rosario Cardozo Elizabeth McGrogan Laura Hunter
 Christine McAllister John Allison Russell Smith Margaret Blane
 Linda Patti Tommy Campbell Stephen Jim Bowers Sarah Jessiman
 Sarah & Jennette McCann Greame Hugh Gilbert

Those who are recently deceased

Msgr. Jack Sheridan Kathleen Ruddy

Those whose anniversaries occur

Gerard Higgins Peter Moore Margaret Laird
 Hugh Cattigan Dan Cattigan James & Mary Gillen

Alex MacGregor (Jnr) Carmina Serapiglia
 Govina Cossa (Puddinu)

(We Pray for our mothers who have gone before us)