

16th Sunday Reflection

This Sunday presents to us two most synonymous stories of great hospitality in the scripture. One was shown to three unnamed guests who through Abraham's initiative stayed and dined in Abraham's home and in the other our Lord Jesus was welcomed by Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus. These two stories though happened centuries apart are tailored together in such a way that they tallied though with few implicit dichotomies.

In the First reading, Abraham saw three strangers and welcomed them. He prepared a great banquet for them in similitude to Isaiah's prophetic banquet in Isaiah 25:6. The special features in this banquet are the special preparations and things presented. Abraham chose the best and made sure that his guests are well fed. He stayed with them and had "wee bletcher" with them. This makes the connection with the gospel reading where Mary stayed at the feet of Jesus and Martha run around for the domestic chores. We may ask ourselves what is so special in these stories? Hospitality is really the watch word. Do we know our presence makes more sense than material gifts? When we give others ourselves, it helps us to slow down and makes light our worries as 'problem shared is problem halve solved'.

In a more specific way, Jesus admonishment to Martha "Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things... Mary has found the better part" reminds us of the need to constantly seek to be in God's presence as opposed to worrying about material things of the world. In our struggle to get things right we sometimes forget the most important which is to be with Christ. So, today's gospel challenges us to always hunger to be in God's presence, - "to sit down and listen to Him".



Nevertheless, the words of Jesus to Martha today are not to be taken to be encouraging laziness. Nor is Jesus blaming Martha for her hard work. After all, she was doing what she was doing for the Lord. But the Lord's reaction has a deeper meaning. Her problem was that she was "burdened with much serving"; she was distracted, she was fretting, being anxious and worried about many things. So, a question that we are invited to ask ourselves today is not how busy we are, but are we able to do what we are doing gracefully - without being anxious and worried. Jesus reminds Martha and each one of us that unless our hard work flows from a spirit of contemplation it becomes burdensome causing much fretting and worrying. Stop Worrying, go to Jesus and allow him to make your burden light. Have a grace-filled week.

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%

Catholic Voices Scotland and Dalmally: You are welcome to attend this public speaking training weekend on *How to communicate the Faith without raising your voice*, on **Fri 2 - Sun 4 August** at Craig Lodge, Dalmally. Cost £100 (£50 for students). For info contact: Dermot Grenham tel: 07870 164629 or dermo.t.grenham@gmail.com

Wheel chair assistance required for Saturday Hospital Vigil Mass at RAH, Paisley: Once more, in the spirit of Making All Things New, we are appealing for some volunteers to join our rota for wheel chair assistance to enable patients at the RAH to attend the 4pm Saturday Vigil Mass. You will assist a person from the ward to the hospital chapel, stay with them for Mass, and then take them back to the ward. Volunteers need to have or need to obtain a PVG as standard diocesan practice. Can you please contact Monsignor John Tormey for further details on 01505 320 900 or email him at staidan@rcdop.org.uk. You will be asked to join our rota of helpers, probably helping once every three or four weeks. You are free to change your day with another helper if you can't do the day when it's your turn. We have had some helpers leave the rota recently and we really do need some fresh recruits. Please consider giving some of your time to help those who are ill and who will benefit from your kindness. Thank you. Mgr John Tormey.

Annual Pilgrimage to pray for the Beatification of the Ven. Margaret Sinclair: Sun. 8 September, St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh: 2pm Holy Hour; 3pm Presentation on the Ven. Margaret Sinclair; 4.30pm Holy Mass; 5.30pm close.



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

21st July 2019

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 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: "The just will live in the presence of the Lord"

Mass Book: YEAR C Part:2 Page: 52



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

Readers/Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: if you wish to help in any of the above functions in the Parish, kindly speak to Fr Jude or pick up the application form from the Sacristy.

Appeal for Our Parish Summer Project: We welcome your kind donations of Paints, Painting Tools or Money. We need more volunteers to support the work force. Henry will make special appeal this weekend.

Legion of Mary: *Peregrinatio Pro Christo*: Pilgrims for Christ: this weekend we welcome a group of four Legionaries who be visiting door to door in the Parish from 20th-27th July. Thanks to our parishioners who have volunteered to offer Bed/Breakfast. If you know any parishioner who has not been to mass recently or those having challenges in life and will like a visit, please let Fr Jude know so as to arrange for a meeting with the Legionaries.

Say No to "DIY" Abortion: The Scottish government has implemented a policy permitting abortion procedures to take place at home. This as we know trivializes abortion, further cheapens human life and puts women at risk. SPUC invites us to sign the petition at the porch. Please be kind to protect human life and say no to "DIY" abortion.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Quiz Night 14th August

Visit of St Theresa of Lisieux relics 14-16th September

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Last Week's Collections

Thanks for last week's **Offertory collections:** Gift Aid: £355.40, Non Gift Aid £231.94 = £587.34

Building Fund: Gift Aid: £39.00, Non Gift Aid: £140.65 = £179.65. **Grand Total £766.99**

The relics of St Therese of Lisieux: The relics will be in Scotland for two weeks in September. They will be in our Diocese from **14 -16th September 2019**. The relics will mainly be at St Mary's Church, Greenock from the evening of Saturday 14th September until the morning of the 15th. The relics will then be taken to St Mirin's Cathedral on Sunday 15th September until the afternoon of the 16th September 2019. All welcome to come and pray before the relics of the "Little Flower"

Visa Changes causing problems for Clergy Summer Supplies: Please email your MP to sign an early day motion for the government to suspend its recent rule change for visas. They make it near impossible for parishes in Scotland to arrange summer clergy and entail an increase of 500% in costs. Here is the link <https://rcdop.org.uk/news/clergy-visas-motions-lodged-in-parliament-please-encourage-your-mp-to-support>

200 Club July Draw: will hold this Sunday after Mass. Please we still accept mid year renewals. Contact Gerry or Kay.

Special Guest this Weekend: we welcome George who has come for wee holiday in Paisley. He is a good organist and will play our Pipe Organ this Sunday.

Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide: Bereavement by suicide is very different from any other bereavement and can give rise to all the emotions following any loss. There can often be many unanswered and unanswerable questions. The SOBS group meets on the **last Wednesday** of every month at Johnstone Day Care Centre, 21 Walkinshaw St, Johnstone, PA5 8AF, from **7pm-8:30pm**. If you have been bereaved by suicide and you think it might help to discuss what you are feeling and meet people in a similar situation, you are invited to come along. If you need help or assistance use our 'Useful Links' section or contact: 0141 849 2200.

Saint Therese Relics Tour of Scotland: The relics will visit the diocese of Paisley on 14-16 September. Please go to the main **Website:** <https://www.littleflowerinscotland.co.uk/> and like the **Facebook**, 'St Therese of Lisieux Scotland 2019' to view the itinerary and learn the two hymns composed for the visit. These sites have lots of up to date information as well as an image of the **Icon** which has been commissioned for the tour.

Knights of St. Columba: Centenary Recruitment Drive. '*Serving God by Serving Others*'. If you are over 16 and a practicing catholic and want to join and organisation to promote the Catholic faith and help others, please contact - John O'Donnell Mob: 07854886425 or john.odonnell1@hotmail.co.uk

Vides Uk Summer Camp: The Summer Camp provided by VIDES UK is a **non-denominational project for children (P4-P7) and teenagers (1st-4th Year) in the Glenburn and Foxbar area**. To launch the project, VIDES UK invite young people and their families to a family social evening on Sunday 28th July from 6-8pm at St Peter's, Braehead Road, Glenburn, where they will get the opportunity to meet the volunteers and to sign up for this year's camp. All who attend will get to take part in different games and activities, enjoy a BBQ and learn more about the types of activities the children and young people will be taking part in throughout the week. There is no charge for this event and children of all ages are welcome to attend with a parent/guardian. We would love to see as many of you there as possible. Those who are unable to come along can still register on Monday 29th July at 10.30am. For catering purposes, it is important that you let us know if you wish to attend. Please email stpete@rcdop.org.uk giving your name and the number of adults and children attending

Mass for Vocations: There will be a Mass offered for Vocations every **1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm** in the chapel of the Little Sisters in Greenock. All are welcome. Please come along and help pray for vocations.

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>

As a parish Community we pray especially for

Those who are sick	Those who are recently deceased	Those whose anniversaries occur
Helena Sagnella Ben Chamness Allison O'Kane Bobby Muir Mary Graham Agnes Cattigan Caetano Rosario Cardozo Elizabeth McGrogan Laura Hunter Christine McAllister John Allison Russell Smith Margaret Blane Linda Patti Stephen Jim Bowers Sarah Jessiman Sarah & Jennette McCann Greame Martin Rogers John Kerr Agnes Roddie Moses Shambira Noel & Winifred Kidd	Christopher O'Neil	Charles McDevitt Garry Willock Billy Deighan Anne Crawford Mary McDougall James Garner Joyce Wilson Sister Carmella Walter Puddinu Riccardo Puddinu