

17th Sunday Reflection

The central theme of the Word of God on this 17th Sunday is: prayer. The first reading narrates to us how Abraham pleaded with God on behalf of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah! Abraham's prayer highlights a certain familiarity between Abraham and God. In the gospel reading, Luke collects together some teachings of Jesus on prayer - including the prayer that Jesus gave us as the pattern of all prayers. Underpinning these readings is an invitation towards an attitude in prayer that goes more deeper and exceeds every limit.

The initiative came from the unnamed disciple who asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, "just as John taught his disciples", this is a common practice among the Rabbis to teach their disciples to pray. So, Jesus in teaching his disciples a simple daily prayer "Our Father", gives an insight into how's and why's of prayer. What seems outstanding in Jesus teaching on prayer is his insistence on persistence in prayer. We must pray always (Luke 18:1) but most importantly our prayers must come from our hearts and not just from our lips. Not the amount of time spent in prayer matters but the sincere, committed, and authentic connection with God. This brings about the efficaciousness of this human-divine colloquial.

Jesus assures us "Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, and knock and the door will be opened to you" (Lk 11:9). But this does not mean that all our desires will be granted as we wish. For when we pray, we ask that God's will be done and not ours. In actual fact, God does not promise to satisfy all our desires as we wish, but he does promise to provide our most basic needs - to grant us our daily bread.

My dear friends, as we reflect on the theme prayer, let us examine our prayer life. How strong is our life? Do we praise God in all situations and at all times? Are we persistent in our prayer life? Prayer is a communication, an active communication with God. It is a dialogue and not a monologue. It is efficacious when it flows in line with the divine will. Always remember, If God answers our prayers he is increasing our faith, if he delays he is increasing our patience; if he does not answer he has something better for us. Let our prayer be, Oh Lord teach us how to pray. Give us the grace that we may not take for granted the privilege and the power of prayer. Pray more, hope more and see God in action in your lives.



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%

Mercy Bus Tour 2019: The Friends of Divine Mercy Scotland are taking the Mercy Bus out on tour around the central belt of Scotland again this year. We are taking the church to the people and following Pope Francis' advice to go out of the four walls of the church and meet people where they are. The dates, location and times are:

Monday 29th July Houston Square, Johnstone 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday 30 July Quadrant Shopping Centre, Coat bridge 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Wednesday 31 July Cathcart Square, Greenock 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

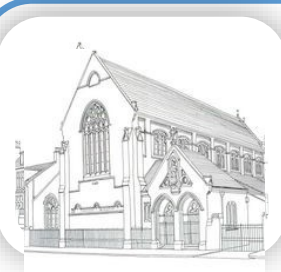
Thursday 1 August Antonine Shopping Centre, Cumbernauld 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Friday 2 August Argyle Street, Glasgow 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday Cenotaph, High Street, Paisley 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Holy Mass at 2 p.m. on board the Mercy Bus)

There will be priests on board the Mercy Bus to hear confessions or just have a chat, the FODM team will offer hospitality with home baking, tea, coffee and soft drinks. Please come along and step aboard the Mercy Bus.

Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Resource Centre: There will be a bingo night/ raffle fundraiser in the Regent Club 12 Westburn Street Greenock on **Friday 2nd August at 7.30pm**. Tickets -£3 which will include, sandwiches, home baking, tea & coffee. To pick up tickets before the night please pop into the resource centre at 1 Nicol Street Greenock or phone 01475 261100



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

163 George Street, PA12UN
Tel: 0141-889-2602 Fax 0141-889-6756
Church Hall: 01505810370 (Answer Machine)
Email: StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk
Website: stmaryrcpaisley.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

28th July 2019

17th 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

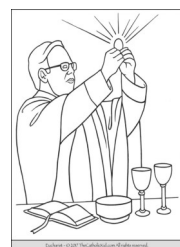
Baptism: Arrange with the priest

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

SUNDAY HOLY MASS

Psalm Response: "On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord"

Mass Book: YEAR C Part:2 Page: 54



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.

Legion of Mary: Peregrinatio Pro Christo: we thank Ray, Mary, Florence (Angela) and Sheila (the Legionaries from Ireland) who were with us for six days. Special thanks to all our parishioners who helped them, special mention to **Louise Robertson** who offered B&B for Mary & Sheila.

Condolence Message: we sympathize with **Kathleen Bowers and family**, on the loss of **Jim Bowers** her husband. Jim's body will be received on Monday at 6pm ahead of the funeral mass on Tuesday. May he rests in Peace...Amen.

Baptism Congratulations: to **Cornor Archie John O'Brien, Lacey Elizabeth O'Brien and Casey Elizabeth Ann Cardy**, who will be Christened after Sunday mass. Best regards to their parents and friends.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Quiz Night 20th September 2019

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: £395.50, Non Gift Aid £234.82= £630.32

Building Fund: Gift Aid: £53.00, Non Gift Aid: £132.98 = £185.98. **Grand Total £816.30**

Appreciation: Special thanks to **George & Lucy Lang** who came for a wee holiday and have animated our Sunday Masses. We wish them God's blessings and safe trip back home.

RCIA Program: we happily announce to you that this program, meant for those who wish to join the Catholic faith will begin in our Parish this September. Anyone who wants to join should contact Allan Wright or call the Chapel House. Adults who have received the sacrament of Baptism but have not received holy Communion or Sacrament of Confirmation are welcome.

200 Club June Draw: Congratulations to winners of our June draw:

1st **Kevin Browne £50**

2nd **Amelia McAleer £25**

3rd **Rosemary Waddell £25.**

Renewals and new members are welcome. For details speak to Gerry or Kay

Sick List and Visits to the Sick: a new sick list will be out in September. If you wish to add or to retain a name in the current list, please let Fr Jude know. If you know any sick parishioner who will like to receive holy communion weekly, inform Fr Jude or Allan Wright.

Children's Liturgy Day: The Diocesan Liturgy Commission will hold a day for all those involved in Children's Liturgy at St Mirin's Cathedral Hall on **Saturday 24th August 11.30am-2.30pm**. This will give all groups a chance to meet together, to look at best practice, and resources. All welcome to attend.

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"

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>

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

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

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 stpeter@rcdop.org.uk giving your name and the number of adults and children attending

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 organization to promote the Catholic faith and help others, please contact - John O'Donnell Mob: 07854886425 or john.odonnell1@hotmail.co.uk

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

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 Sarah Jessiman Sarah & Jennette McCann Greame Martin Rogers John Kerr Agnes Roddie Moses Shambira Noel & Wilfred Kidd	Brian Hogan Jim Bowers	Catherine Crawford Peter McGarry Steven Duffin