

Feast of the Holy Family Year A

We celebrate today, the feast of the Holy family; the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Church presents to us this family as a model for our families.



The son of God came to be with us and made his home within the human home fulfilling his promise to be with us as *Emmanuel* "God with us". This feast brings to focus the important place the human Family has in the mind of God. Within an anthropological and sociological perspectives, family is an essential element. It is the nucleus of the society and within the believing community, the Family plays great part in the divine plan for humanity. It is as the second Vatican Fathers called it 'the Domestic Church' where the life and faith are first cultivated. The vital divine sanctuary ordained for life.

The readings today touch every aspect of the family life putting into focus the divine desire for it. We could say they bring to limelight the 'Household Code' that should govern the day to day living of every human family. The first reading is a meditation and expansion on the fourth commandment, '*Honour your father and your mother*' (Exodus 20:12), explaining how this should be put into practice. The author reminds children of their duty to their parents and mentions the two-fold rewards the Lord promises to those who honour their parents which are "riches" and "long life". It sets out the virtues and values that should reign in the human family which are: *Love, respect, kindness, patience, charity, diligence, humility and temperance*. St Paul in the second reading advises us that we should put on love and remain thankful in our relationships with one another. Paul's advice is part of this "Household Code". St Paul teaches that children should learn and practice noble qualities like compassion, kindness, forgiveness, and sharing in the warmth of the family. In a truly Holy Family all members are respected, cherished, nurtured and supported, united through the bond of love. In today's Gospel we read how Joseph and Mary protected the Child Jesus from the sword of King Herod by escaping with Him to Egypt. It reveals the basic responsibility of parents as they are called to promote, protect and preserve life.

In all, dear friends, we see in the Holy Family not just a perfect model but also a light to guide all families on earth. The Holy Family was not spared from the vicissitudes of life, nor excepted from the trials and persecutions to life. but they corporately united in love, in joy and in sorrow working in line within the divine plan. We are called to reproduce the life of the Holy Family by putting God first in everything and doing his holy will always.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ST MARY'S CONFERENCE

Please let us know if you know anyone in need of food or families in need. Food parcels are given out only on Sundays after Mass. Please be there if you need one.

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%

Annual Safeguarding Report - Sunday 12 January 2020 The annual diocesan safeguarding report will be read out by parish safeguarding co-ordinators in all parishes at Masses on Sunday 12 January 2020. Paisley diocese and our parish welcome the special responsibility we have for all children, young people and vulnerable adults in our community.

Dinner/Dance to raise funds for the Diocese of Paisley Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Saturday 22nd February 2020, Greenock Town Hall, 7pm (for 7.30pm). Tickets cost £35 (includes 3 course meal, fizz on arrival and live band). Dress formal

Diocesan Courage Apostolate for Catholics with Same Sex Attraction: Paisley Diocese has a *Courage* Chapter of pastoral ministry for those with same sex attraction, who are looking to live faithfully their Catholic faith. *Courage* is an international apostolate with over 100 Chapters worldwide and is endorsed by the Holy See. It aims to help members find peace through fellowship, prayer, the Sacraments and an desire Church's vision of chastity. It helps you find the Church's life of peace, and grace to grow in Christian maturity. For information or advice please email in confidence our chaplain at Courage@rcdop.org.uk

Mass at UWS: Please note that weekday and Sunday Mass are now suspended until **Monday 6th January**



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

29th December 2019

Feast of The Holy Family Year A

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

FIRST READING: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm Response: "O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways"

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-21

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Mass Book: YEAR A Part:1 Page: 41

PARISH NOTICE

Legion of Mary: You are welcome to join the New presidium "Our Lady Help of Christians" which will soon start. It's a way of participating in the mission of Christ we came so that all will be saved. Be a soldier of our Lady.

Parish Piety Store: we have in stock Christmas Cards, St Mary's Special Christmas cards, Copies of The Western Catholic Calendar 2020, Mass Card and other seasonal gifts. Please contact Angela.

SPRED Advent Boxes: Please take away your SPRED Advent Boxes and bring them back as full as you can early in the New Year. SPRED is our Special Religious Education Group for our parishioners with special needs and meets in twenty-one groups around our diocese, as well as in our local special needs schools, through 200 volunteer parishioners.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal & Special Christmas Collections

All our collections over the Christmas and new year period will be donated to the SSVP special work conference at St Vincent Hospices. Please support us

New Year Day

Exposition at 9:00am

Morning Prayer at 9:10am

Mass at 9:30am

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

1/01/2020 Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
5/01/2020 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
12/01/2020 Baptism of the Lord

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Last Week's Collections

Thanks for last week's **Offertory collections:** Gift Aid: £391.50 Non Gift Aid £304.94= £696.44
Building fund: Gift Aid: £ 68.00 Non Gift Aid: £128.80= £196.80 **Grand Total £893.24**

Christmas Crib: You can visit the crib and receive blessings for the new born King. There is a box for donations to **St Margaret Children & family Care**

200 Club Appeal

Payment for the coming period can be made from now. Membership costs £12 for 6 months or £24 for a year. Please put payment in an envelope with 200 Club with your name on the outside and give to Gerry or Kay. New members are welcome for 2020.

Safeguarding Training, Induction Part 2: The new Safeguarding Part 2 Training session, is for volunteers who have previously attended Safeguarding Training Part One, or Safeguarding Training Level one, more than 18 months ago. If you attended Safeguarding Training Level One in 2016 or 2017, you should put your name forward for Safeguarding Training Part 2. The next session will be on: **Tuesday 21st January at 7pm St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Clarkston.** Please contact Sarah Jane at the Diocesan Safeguarding office safeguardingadmin@rcdop.org.uk or **0141 847 6138** to register.

2020 September (2nd - 9th September) and October Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: This is a fully escorted pilgrimage and great places to visit. If you are interested in joining the group from St Mary's Parish Paisley to Medjugorje in September or October 2020 please fill the form attached and send your deposit to Fr Jude.

SPUC - Volunteer Speakers Required: SPUC (Scotland) has a network of local volunteers who work hard pro-actively raising awareness of the pro-life movement across parish communities in Scotland. Our local speakers motivate and inspire other parishioners to support SPUC's work, playing an active part in building a culture of life in Scotland. Would you like to be a part of our volunteer team, helping to spread the Gospel of Life? If so, email info@spucs.cotland.org TODAY!

Diocesan Priesthood: Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2020? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact Fr. John Morrison email: vocations@rcdop.org.uk

Centenary Recruitment Drive -Knights of St. Columba: 'Serving God by serving others'. If you are over 16 and a practicing Catholic and wish to join an organization to promote the Catholic Faith and help others in need, please contact: John O'Donnell on [07854886425](tel:07854886425) or john.odonnell1@hotmail.co.uk

Maranatha Prayer Group: Please, join us for an evening of prayer and praise in St Mirin's hall at 7:30pm. We meet weekly to pray. Sing and reflect on the scriptures. There will be tea and coffee afterwards. All are welcome

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Annual Safeguarding Report - Sunday 12 January 2020

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In our Church there are two posters. The first reaches out to survivors of abuse in the Church and invites them to contact our safeguarding team confidentially if they feel able. The Church has confidential and independent professional counseling services available to survivors of abuse within the Church. We are also organising a presentation on **Saturday 9 May 2020** by Fr Dominic Allain about the 'Grief to Grace' retreat. 'Grief to Grace' has helped many abuse survivors to find help and healing, as the testimonies on their website report. <https://www.griefftoGraceuk.org/>

The second poster highlights our Safeguarding Manual with the contact details of your Parish Co-ordinator and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. Please contact your parish safeguarding co-ordinator or the Parish Priest if you have any concerns regarding the abuse or harm of any child, young person or vulnerable adult.

Last year the Scottish Bishops published a new and improved safeguarding manual called 'In God's Image' which includes developments in best practice and implements the recommendations of the McLellan Commission. Our diocesan trainers deliver ongoing training to volunteers, parish safeguarding co-ordinators (PSCs) and clergy. Since October 2016 they have trained 1,314 volunteers, as well as PSCs and clergy. Training promotes vigilance and ensures those working with children and vulnerable adults know the Church's system for reporting disclosures or concerns they may receive.

As a parish Community we pray especially for

Those who are sick

Agnes Cattigan Ben Chamness Christine McAllister
John Allison Russell Smith Sarah Jessiman Sarah McCann
Martin Rogers John Kerr Margaret Moses Shambira
Noel & Winifred Kidd Sam Hannah Declan Healy Kay Brassington

Those who are recently deceased

Lachean McAllister Linda Surgenor Morag Glennon
Margaret Harty Gerald Murray

Those whose anniversaries occur

Margaret Laird Malcolm Laird
John Ramsay