

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD YEAR A

We celebrate today the feast of Epiphany which is the manifestation of Christ to the whole world. The word Epiphany from the Greek word *Epiphaneia* meaning appearance, manifestation or show forth is used to describe Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles represented by the Magi. The Son of God our Lord Jesus Christ "born of the Father before all ages, God from God, light from light, true God from True God, begotten not made and one in substance with the Father" shows himself to world. He guided the Magi who brought their symbolic gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. It is a great feast that opens up the redemptive presence of God revealed in Christ who came that all may have life and have it in abundance (John 10:10), thus fulfilling the prophetic oracle of Isaiah which we read in the first reading where Isaiah speaks of the restoration of the New Jerusalem from which the glory of Yahweh becomes visible even to the pagan nations



The gospel reading focuses on the Magi (The wise Men from the East), who recognized the sign and set out with their gifts to adore the new born King of the world. They looked up and saw the Star, set out with gifts and freely offer these gifts to Christ. These wise men as Pope

Francis said show us through their actions how we can better our spiritual life in this New Year. The Magi's three actions "seeing the star, setting out, and bringing gifts" should guide our journey towards the Lord. Christ enriches those who bring Him their hearts. Since the Magi came with joy in their hearts to visit the Christ Child, God allowed them to see wondrous things. At the same time, today's Gospel hints at different reactions to the news of Jesus' birth, foreshadowing his passion and death, as well as the risen Jesus' mandate to make disciples of all nations (Mt 28:19).

So dear friends, let us give thanks to God for His grace, which has sustained us in this past year, and with joy offer him ourselves in this new year. May the new year draw us closer the author of love and from him may we learn to love one another and work together as brothers and sister. Seeing the star today, may we set out with our gifts and give freely in love (Matt 10:8). May we allow Christ to lead, guide and direct us in this New Year. Have a great Sunday!!

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%

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. For tickets and further information please email lourdes.rcdop@gmail.com or phone 07950483042. Includes return bus from Renfrewshire/East Renfrewshire. Donations of raffle prizes and auction items greatly appreciated

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

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.

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



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

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Church Hall: 01505810370 (Answer Machine)
Email: StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk
Website: stmaryrcpaisley.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

5th January 2020

Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord Year

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

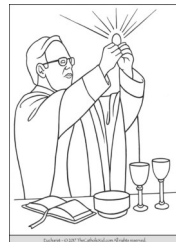
Divine Mercy Devotion: Friday after Mass

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: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm Response: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord"

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12

Mass Book: YEAR A Part:1 Page: 48

PARISH NOTICE

Legion of Mary: the New presidium "Our Lady Help of Christians" will start this month. More members are welcome. If you have registered you will be contacted soon for few information needed. Remember this is a way of participating in the mission of Christ.
Be a soldier of our Lady.

Parish Piety Store: we have in stock Mass Cards and other seasonal gifts. Copies of **The Western Catholic Calendar 2020** which contains contact details of every parish and mass times, Please contact Angela.

Parish Youth & Children Choir (Band): we appeal to parents to encourage the kids to join. Details later

ROAR St Mary's Club

The ROAR St Mary's Club will be re-starting on Wednesday 8th January at 10:30am in the Church hall. Our first 2 months were successful and everyone enjoyed the exercises and social chat. At present we have between 8 and 12 people attending – we'd love to increase this to 18-20. so if you're a "senior" and fancy coming along, please do. Its £3.00 for everything. To let us know if you're coming or if you need a lift, please let Eileen McCartin know on 01505814678 (ansaphone) or eileenmccartin@btinternet.com

SSVP- Appreciation: we thank all parishioners for their generosity. The total of £1242 was collected for **St Vincent's Hospice Special Works** over the Christmas Period.

SPRED Advent Boxes: Please return ASAP

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

12/01/2020 Baptism of the Lord

8/02/2020 Burns Supper

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Last Week's Collections

Thanks for last week's **Offertory collections:** Gift Aid: £444.00 Non Gift Aid £346.71= £790.71
Building fund: Gift Aid: £ 54.00 Non Gift Aid: £156.83= £210.83 **Grand Total £1,001.54**

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.

RCIA will resume on Tuesday 14th of January 2020. if you are considering becoming a catholic or an adult wishing to receive the sacraments of initiation. Contact Alan or Carol Wright.

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.

Burns Supper: will hold on Saturday 8th February 2020. this is our first parish social function this Year and we invite every one to participate. Tickets will be available from Sunday 12th January. Please save this date. See Jim or Caroline Kerr for more information.

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!

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 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

Day of Prayer for Peace: Takes place this Sunday 5th January 2020. a letter from the President Justice and Peace commission will be read during mass.

Appreciation:

We thank **Carole Mitchell DO (Hons)** of **Paisley Natural Therapy Centre** for her wonderful support and Christmas donations of **Head Warmers, Hand gloves and Thermal Socks** to the Parish for the needy in our community.

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.

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 organizing 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

Gerard Murney Kate Stevenson Jean Matthew
Morag McCallum Luigi Sean Brankin
Kathryn Devlin (Funeral on Tuesday)

Those whose anniversaries occur

John Docherty John McNena