

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

Dear friends, following last week's story of the temptations of Jesus in the desert, we are now invited to witness and ponder this awe-filled event in which the glory of God quite literally shines forth in the transfigured person of His only Son, who is the Word of God made flesh in our human condition. The readings this Sunday point at the change expected of every Christian, which is the goal of this holy season of lent.



The first and second readings present salvation history as a response to God's call, a call going out to a series of key persons beginning with Abraham and culminating with Jesus Christ and His Apostles. Faith is presented here as the obedient response to the call of God which opens up channels for the redemptive action of God in history, thus transforming the world. In answering this call, both Abram and Saul broke with the experiences of their past lives and moved (change in location) into an unmapped future to become new "people of the promise," for a new life. The first reading presents the change or transformation of the patriarch Abram from a childless pagan tribesman into a man of Faith in the One God. This, years later, leads to God's transforming his name from Abram to Abraham, and making him, as promised, the father of God's chosen people, Israel. The second reading, taken from St. Paul's second letter to Timothy, explains the type of Lenten life-transformation expected of us. In today's Gospel we see this change not in location but in the person of the second person in the blessed trinity. The gospel reading describes Jesus' Transfiguration during prayer on a mountain. The Transfiguration was the moment when the disciples were shown the divinity of Jesus on the Holy Mountain. The scene is reminiscent of Moses' encounter with God on Sinai (Ex 34:29-35), when his face, too, shone like the sun. Elijah had similar theophany experience (2 Kgs 2:11-15). Thus, in same similitude Moses and Elijah are present because they are the two Old Testament figures who experienced the presence of God on the Holy Mountain but this time as representatives of the Law and Prophets. With his usual impetuous generosity Peter attempts to 'freeze' the moment. The public declaration of Jesus as God's Son which was attested by the Father at his Baptism is repeated, but with the addition that Jesus is the authorized divine teacher whom we should listen to. (Matt 17:5)

So dear friends, let us listen to Jesus the divine teacher who has come to lead us into true life (Jn 10:10) through his death and resurrection. His transfiguration is a source of hope as it gives us a glimpse of what we shall be in the future. He has come to transform us and this we experience daily in the holy mass and through the sacraments (CCC #568). Through which we are encouraged in our moments of tribulations and doubts to always trust and never doubt the saving power of Christ. Let the thought of the Transfiguration encourage each one of us today, to do the little God demands of us, so that when we pass out of this life we may be assured of seeing Christ in his glory, ready to welcome us into his everlasting, glorious kingdom.

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%

Government Consultation on Changing Legal Gender: The Scottish Government is consulting on new legislation around the ability to legally change gender. Consultation closes on **17th March**. The Catholic Parliamentary Office has prepared a four page briefing to help people engage with the consultation process. The briefing can be accessed via <https://rcpolitics.org/briefing-gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill/> Please consider responding to the consultation. Anyone can access and respond to the consultation at <https://consult.gov.scot/family-law/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill/>.

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

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: The Pilgrimage takes place from 26 June -2 July 2020. For more information please contact Fr Gerry McNellis stninian@rcdop.org.uk

Adult Formation: All are invited to the remaining two Scripture talks (of a series of three) in St. Conval's, Linwood, starting with tea/coffee at 6.30pm, talk from 7.00-8.30pm.

Singers wanted: if you are interested in joining the Diocesan Choir as we prepare for the Chrism Mass, please join us as we rehearse in St Charles (Paisley) at **2.30pm on Sunday 15th March**. All welcome!

Taize Lenten Reflections: On the Sundays of Lent Year A: St Aidan's **Tuesday 24th March at 7pm**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions available during the hour. St Mirin's Cathedral Choir will lead the singing. Teas afterwards in Hall. All welcome



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

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Email: StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk
Website: stmaryrcpaisley.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

8th March 2020

2nd Sunday of Lent 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

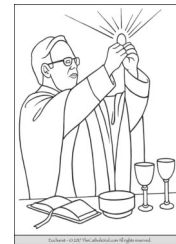
Divine Mercy Devotion: Friday after Mass

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: Genesis 12:1-4

Psalm Response: "May your love be upon o Lord, As we place all our hope in you"

SECOND READING: 2Tim 1:8-10

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:1-9

Mass Book: YEAR A Part:1 Page: 75

PARISH NOTICE

Legion of Mary: the New presidium "Our Lady Help of Christians" appeals for members.

Parish Youth & Children Choir (Band): we appeal to parents to encourage the kids to join. Speak to **Silvana Puddinu and Adele Redhead**

Important Notice

The Coronavirus (Covid 19): This poses a danger particularly to vulnerable members of our community. It is spread by physical contact. We have a duty to protect each other by good general hygiene, especially washing hands frequently and thoroughly. If we have coronavirus -or cold/ flu like symptoms we should stay away from gatherings. The Diocese of Paisley will implement the following from **FRIDAY 6th MARCH** for parishioners.

1. Holy water fonts will be emptied;
2. The Sign of Peace will be suspended;
3. Distribution of the Precious Blood among the faithful will be suspended;
4. Holy Communion will be distributed on the hand (or tongue).

NB If receiving on the tongue, present yourself with mouth wide open and tongue extended to minimize finger contact from the minister. If receiving by hand thoroughly wash your hands and extend them wide open for the host to be placed with minimum contact. Other guidelines are in place for parish workers and volunteers. Thank you for your co-operation

Children Liturgy: We are in need of volunteers to assist. Please speak to **Rosemary, Angela or Kay**.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Station Mass with Bishop John 11/03/2020
Sacrament of Reconciliation 12/03/2020
St Patrick's Day Dance 20/03/2020

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Week's Collections

Thanks for last week's **Offertory collections:** Gift Aid: £ 391.55 Non Gift Aid £ 307.08= £ 698.63
Building fund: Gift Aid: £49 Non Gift Aid: £149.14= £ 198.14 **Grand Total £896.77**

200 Club: Congratulations to our January draws winners

Rosemary Docherty £50

Joan Crawford £25

Jean McDowell £25

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 : Rite of the First Scrutiny and presentation of the creed will hold next week Sunday. Do you know anyone interested in becoming a catholic or an adult wishing to receive the sacraments of initiation . Contact Alan or Carol Wright.

Lenten Station Masses: Bishop John will again be celebrating Lenten Station Mass here in **St Mary's Paisley on Wednesday 11th March 2020. Mass will begin at 7.00pm** and will be the only Mass in our cluster that day, to allow our priests and people to join him. Station Mass is simply Mass with the Bishop that replicates the ancient custom of the Popes to go out to 'station parishes' around Rome leading up to Easter. Bishop John's homilies will be a catechesis on the meaning of the Creed as a simple summary of what Catholics believe. **There will be Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions available from 6.00pm.** Tea and coffee will be served after mass..

Special collection: for sick and Retired clergy this Sunday.

For the Attention of All Church Volunteers with PVG Certificates Or Pending PVG Certificates: volunteers doing or planning to do regulated work with children and vulnerable adults or both, should complete the Safeguarding Training, **Induction Part 1.** These sessions will be held in the Diocesan offices, Incle Street, Paisley on: **Monday 9th March at 7pm, Tuesday 5th May at 10.30am, Tuesday 25th August at 7pm.** Please contact Sarah Jane at the Diocesan Safeguarding office safeguardingadmin@rcdop.org.uk or **0141 847 6138** to register.

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

Jesus Heals: A Healing Mass, Adoration and Homily: Saint Mirin's Cathedral, Tue 17 March, 5.30-8.30pm. Led by Fr George Anthony OP, who has been involved in Charismatic Renewal since 1983 and holds a doctorate in Biblical Studies from the Angelicum, Rome. All are welcome to come and experience the healing touch of Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit come upon you in this retreat and experience the touch of the hand of Jesus. This retreat is organised by *Shalom World Media UK*, a peace fellowship all over the world, interceding every moment for this retreat.

Prayer Group: Are you aged between 18-35 years old ? St Francis and St Clare welcomes you to an evening of prayer , intercessions and a wee something to eat together on **Thursday 16th of January at 7-9pm** in the Diocesan offices , Incle Street ,Paisley.

2020 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 October 2020 please speak to Fr Jude.

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 2017 or early 2018, you should put your name forward for Safeguarding Training Part 2. The next sessions will be on: **Monday 30th March at 10.30am in Diocesan Offices, Incle Street, Paisley, Tuesday 12th May at 7pm St. Ninian's Parish Hall, Gourrock, Monday 8th June at 7pm St. Joseph's & St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Wemyss Bay, Tuesday 1st September at 7pm St. Mirins Parish Hall, Tuesday 6th October at 7pm St. John's Parish Hall, Port Glasgow, Thursday 12th November at 10.30am St. Mirin's Parish Hall.**

New Dawn In Scotland - Youth Day: Meet other like-minded young people, learn about your faith and the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus and enjoy worship and praise. Lunch provided. £3 per person. 21st March 2020 10am - 5pm in Holy Ghost Fathers Hall, 17 Newarthill Road, Carfin, Motherwell, ML1 5AL. For more info and to book contact Caroline. CarolineYall31@hotmail.com. 07799 6058 399. www.newdawninscotland.com

Ignatian Online Lent Retreat: The Ignatian Spirituality Centre is offering a retreat in daily life this Lent. The retreat, based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius, has prayers for every day with a daily Scripture passage, a picture and helpful suggestions for praying. It is available online (<http://iscglasgow.co.uk/index.html>) or as a book from the ISC in Glasgow (email: admin@iscglasgow.co.uk or tel: 0141 354 0077) There are groups available in Paisley

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 Ella Craig Noel & Winifred Kidd
Sam Hannah Declan Healy Kay Brassington John Black
John Doherty Alan Morrison

Those who are recently deceased

Alexander Ritchie Ian McCormick
Jeff Chamness Rev Fr Cosmas Ekwuribe

Those whose anniversaries occur

Mary Campbell