

## 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Dear Friends, although keys are such common objects today but they perform important functions: unlocking and locking. Imagine how difficult it will be to open your doors or turning on the ignition of your car without the appropriate key. So, the idea of locking and unlocking comes to our mind whenever we hear of keys. However, the Bible implies the same idea as it is called in Hebrew *maphteah*, i.e., the opener as used in Judges 3:25 and, in the Greek New Testament it is translated as *kleis* used to denote shutting as used in Luke 11:52; Revelation 1:18. Similarly, Christ's reference to it in our today's gospel reading (Matthew 16:19) is in both literary (unlock and lock) and figurative (Authority or power) senses. And this came after the great confession and profession of faith by Peter.

We see this later idea of key (as the symbol of authority / Power) in our first reading taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah. The Lord dismissed Shebna, the master of the palace from his office and put Eliakim son of Hilkiah, giving him all the power and authority as symbolized in the key: "I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open" (Isaiah 22:22). In effect, in the Old Testament Davidic empire, the king appointed a cabinet of ministers for specific tasks in the kingdom (1 Kings 4:1-16; 2 Kings 18:37). Of these a prime minister was elevated to the unique status of authority, ranking second to the king. This is what is given to Eliakim in Isaiah 22:22. It is this same authority given to Peter in our today's gospel reading.

Jesus gave Peter this authority after Peter's great profession of faith. Jesus had performed many miracles to the popular acclamation of the people. In fact, he was so popular in town. So, he poised to set the record straight as, "over presumption could beget some unfounded assumptions". Thus, at this point, some questions could help to clarify certain presumptuous assumptions. So, Jesus asked his disciples the fundamental question that relates to his identity and mission: "who do people say the son of man is? (Matt.16:14). This is an ontological question meant to reveal Jesus' identity. After the varied responses, Jesus personalized the question: Who do you say I am? This question is still relevant today. As Christ asks: who am I to You? Who is Christ to You? Knowing who Christ is to me will bring about my sincere and authentic response to his call (vocation) in my life. It will help to determine our level of commitment to his mission. Peter gave the right answer attesting Jesus as the Messiah, the Christ, through the guidance of the heavenly Father. May we be guided by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge and attest Jesus as the Messiah all through our lives especially in our most difficult moments in life: moments of temptations and trials, discomfort and misfortunes, ill-health and trepidations...Amen.

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL ST MARY'S CONFERENCE**

Food parcels will now be given out every 1st Sunday of the Month. Do not hesitate to let us know if there is anyone or families in dare need of food or clothing.

**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%

### **Urgent Appeal from The Scottish Catholic Observer:**

The SCO team are committed to doing everything they can to keep our national Catholic newspaper alive but they need our help. In this time of existential crisis as they have lost their distribution outlet and businesses are withdrawing their advertisements. The SCO are forced to urgently remodel their approach. Please consider taking out a six-week subscription for £10 by going to [www.sconews.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.sconews.co.uk/subscribe). or tel: 0141 241 4956.

### **Mary's Meal Family Hour**

The second Mary's Meals Family Hour takes place at **7pm on Thursday, 27 August** on our [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8) channel. We have a whole host of wonderful speakers lined up, including: Incredible 10-year-old **Zac**, who ran 100 miles in 50 days to raise funds for Mary's Meals. Our country director for Zambia, **Panji Kajani**, who will discuss how we are reaching hungry children through the pandemic. Our founder **Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow**, who will answer your questions about Mary's Meals - you can submit them to [info@marysmeals.org](mailto:info@marysmeals.org) And our supporter engagement officer **Caoimhe McCann**, who will join us from Belfast to share stories about what our amazing supporters are doing in Northern Ireland.

Join us for an hour of inspiration and celebration with your Mary's Meals family!



## **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](mailto:StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk)  
Website: [stmaryrcpaisley.com](http://stmaryrcpaisley.com)  
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

23rd August 2020

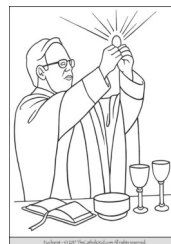
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

### **Parish Mass & Prayer Times**

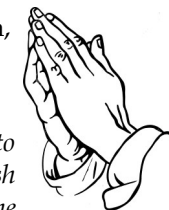
**Weekday Mass:** Monday – Friday @ 9:30am

**Confessions:** Tuesday & Thursday after Mass

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday Vigil @ 4pm, & 5pm,  
Sunday @ 10:00am & 11:00am



*N/B Because of the limited number allowed, we appeal to everyone to make use of the booking system on our Parish website [www.stmaryrcpaisley.com](http://www.stmaryrcpaisley.com) to book a ticket for the weekend mass you wish to attend.*



**Baptism:** Arrange with the priest

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

### **SUNDAY HOLY MASS**

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 22:19-23

**Psalm Response:** "Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands"

**SECOND READING:** Romans 11:33-36

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 16:13-20

**Mass Book:** YEAR A Part:2 Page: 58

## PARISH NOTICE

### GUIDELINES FOR ST. MARY'S PARISHIONERS

As St Mary's reopens for public mass following the Scottish Government's Phase Three Guidelines, we advise all parishioners to keep to the following Instructions.

1. There will be a maximum of 50 persons allowed for each mass.
2. Social distance of 2 metres must be kept from other households.
3. Face masks must be worn at all times in the church.
4. Digital thermometer readings will be taken in the porch with hand sanitising dispensers available for all to use.
5. Please keep together with your household group in the porch until you are shown to your allotted pew.
6. Please note that there will be no communal singing of hymns during church services as this is less safe. there may be a cantor and if so please do private virtual internal singing if you wish.
7. Communion will be distributed at the end of mass. please remain seated until called by the stewards.
8. There is a one-way system in operation within the church and your exit will be by the door next to the sacristy.
9. There will be no collections during mass. however, collection boxes will be placed in the porch and at the exit door.
10. Contact details must be collected whilst in the porch and it would
11. You could specify which mass you would be attending the following week

12. Please vacate the church after communion to allow the volunteer cleaners to prepare for the next mass.

13. We appreciate that this is a most difficult time for all and we would ask for your patience.

We would be glad to have any feedback or suggestions for future practice.

Stay safe and God bless you.

Parish Bulletin: will only be available online. If you wish to receive it, send your email address or send a message to Fr Jude

### 50th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to

**John & Eileen Carroll  
&  
Malcolm & Nancy Heaton**

As they celebrate their golden jubilee wedding anniversary this week. God's blessing to them and their families.

### Children's Liturgy Day

A zoom meeting for children's liturgy group volunteers will take place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 11.00am-1.00pm. There will be a series of talks about offering children's liturgy online, more resources and ideas for your children's liturgy meetings and an overview of the Gospel readings/ themes for the coming Sundays. Please contact Fr Paul Brady at St Margaret's Johnstone, tel 01505320198 or [stmargaret@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stmargaret@rcdop.org.uk) if you have any questions. Details of how to access the zoom meeting will follow.

## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We are grateful to everyone for the support so far and we still appeal for donations to support the parish at this crisis time. You can set up a direct debit or gift aid your donations. To do this, speak to Fr Jude or you can download the forms from our parish website following this link <http://stmaryrcpaisley.com/financial-giving/>

### 200 Club Mega Draw Winners

Congratulations to

**£100 Winners:** Frank Trainer & Eileen McCartin

**£50 Winners:** Mary Heaney & Ariana McAleer.

**£25 Winners:** Eileen Connolly, Susan Sludden, Morag Duffin & Brendan Kerse

**RCIA ZOOM MEETING:** holds every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:00pm. Do you know anyone interested in becoming a catholic or an adult wishing to receive the sacraments of initiation. Contact Alan & Carol Wright.

### Msgr. Graham Bell's Visit:

**Msgr. Graham Bell** will be visiting Paisley from Monday 7 to Sunday 13 September and has offered to concelebrate mass in the parish. He is the Under-Secretary in Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization.

### OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' GROTTA/ MEMORIAL WALL

It is the intention of the Parish to create a Memorial Wall containing the names of deceased relatives and friends of our parishioners. The wall will flank the newly acquired beautiful statue of Our Lady at the rear garden area of the Church. The names of our loved ones will be etched onto terracotta red brick tiles and applied to the existing wall.

Financing of the bricks will be through sponsorship, on which hopefully, we will be able to claim gift-aid from the government for any UK taxpayers. however, if you are not a taxpayer, you can still purchase bricks. There are two sizes of brick available;

1. single brick with two lines containing 16 characters per line maximum E.g. in loving memory (16) of John Smith (13).
2. double brick with 4 lines of 16 characters per line maximum.

Please note on both types of brick, a space counts as a character.

Suggested contribution/Sponsorship  
£20 per single brick  
£30 per double brick

examples of both sizes of brick can be found beside our lady's statue or Contact Gerry McCourt Sponsorship forms will be available soon and we are hoping to place the first order at the start of September. Please note, due to the high postage costs, it is more economical to order a large batch at the same time. Individual orders cannot be placed and will have to wait until the next batch is ordered.

### As a parish Community we pray especially for

Those who are sick	Those who are recently deceased	Those whose anniversaries occur
Agnes Cattigan Christine McAllister John Allison Sarah Jessiman Sarah McCann Martin Rogers John Kerr Margaret Ella Craig Winifred Kidd Declan Healy Kay Brassington John Doherty Alan Morrison Donna Sim Stuart McManus Helen Mackey Ian Scott Doreen Chin Anthony Canning	Kathleen McDevitt Andrew Woods Miroslava Jakuobkova	Teresa McGurn Josephine O'Donnell Kevin Morgan Ian McNiven John Pitt Sarah Amaka Ajuonuma