

## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

We are called by faith to be our brothers' keeper. But this can be hard when one of our brothers or sisters errs. By erring it could be in a personal way, by offending one or another or choosing the wrong path in life. Here comes in our obligation to helpful correction. This is the focus of the readings of this Sunday liturgy. In the first reading, God made the prophet Ezekiel a sentry with the sole mission of proclaiming his verdict. Here we see the true function of a prophet – the mouthpiece or the voice of the Lord (*Portavoce di Dio*). The Lord commands the prophet to deliver his message without alternations '*When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.*' (Ez.33:8-9). In the gospel, our Lord Jesus Christ speaks of the best way to handle conflict resolution in the Christian Community.

Why did the church choose this passage, about the prophet warning sinners, to pair with a gospel-reading about reconciliation? Partly because every person's sin or failure affects the whole Church. If I fail in my duty to my brother or sister or spouse or child or others, this harms the holiness of the whole Church. I can't shrug it off as no concern of mine: 'I can't be bothered', 'too busy', 'nothing to do with me, anyway'. Of course, it is all very well for the prophet Ezekiel to point out other people's faults: that is the job of a prophet, to show others how God sees them. Heaven forbid that I should go around telling people their faults! On the other hand, just occasionally I can learn some home-truths about myself when someone flies off the handle; that is the time to listen and learn! Jesus did not denounce sinners: he dined with them. For myself, there are countless people and occasions where a healing word, a healing touch can begin the process of growth over the scar-tissue. This is exactly what our Lord Jesus Christ teaches.

Nonetheless, we should not focus much on others' fault as to ignore ours. We are all sinners and so need God forgiveness and grace. We are imperfect beings seeking perfection as one of the saints said. So, in order to keep in check our imperfections, we must be watchmen, keeping guard for one another. Keep an eye on yourself and others but if one fails, go to him/her personally in love, by this we pay the debt of mutual love (Rom 13:8). For unless there is real, overflowing love, we can never build a better world and a holy Church.

### **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.

### **SAVE THE RIGHT TO SAVE LIVES**

The right to gather peacefully and offer help to pregnant women approaching an abortion clinic is under attack again.

**Pro-life vigils outside abortion clinics can save unborn lives.**

**The offer of help from a caring pro-life person is a lifeline for many women, who feel abortion is their only choice.**

**Pro-life citizens have a right to gather peacefully, and women have a right to receive the information they offer.**

**Abortion clinic buffer zones would set a dangerous precedent for freedom of speech in the UK [Go the SPUC website to sign the petition against MP's efforts to curb free speech.](#)**



## **ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY**

163 George Street, PA12UN  
Tel: 0141-889-2602 Fax 0141-889-6756  
Church Hall: 01418892602 (Answer Machine)  
Email: [StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk)  
Website: [stmaryrcpaisley.com](http://stmaryrcpaisley.com)  
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

6th September 2020

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

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

**Weekday Mass:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday @ 9:30am

Wednesday @7:00pm

**Confessions:** Tuesday & Wednesday 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**

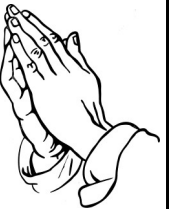
**FIRST READING:** Ezekiel 33:7-9

**Psalms Response:** "O that today you would listen to his voice Harden not your hearts"

**SECOND READING:** Romans 13:8-10

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 18:15-20

**Mass Book:** YEAR A Part:2 Page: 62



## PARISH NOTICE

### OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' GROTTO/ 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 are now available 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.

## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

### 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.

**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.**

### Last Chance to hand in SCIAF WEE BOXES:

SCIAF is delighted to share with you that if you still have your WEE BOX at home, there is a second chance to hand them in or to donate your WEE BOX money direct to SCIAF during September at [www.sciaf.org.uk/weebox](http://www.sciaf.org.uk/weebox) or 0141 354 5555. Thank you.

### 4th Sunday Collection – SCIAF

SCIAF have been in touch with us to let us know that there is a second chance to hold a postponed 4th Sunday Collection in the month of September and have the money doubled by the UK government. This also applies to handing in WEE BOXES that people may still have at home. Please support SCIAF by holding this collection in your parish this month. This will be a great benefit to SCIAF and help them continue the great work that they do.

### 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/>

### SEASON OF CREATION EVENTS

As a follow up to the appeal of the Holy Father in his encyclical Laudato Si urging us to take of our common home—Earth. SCIAF, justice and Peace and SCES have prepared a series of online events to engage with Catholics across Scotland on the theme of Laudato Si and Creation. Please be part of this online event. Visit [www.sciaf.org.uk/events](http://www.sciaf.org.uk/events) to register. Contact Jonathan McAveety, Senior Campaigns Officer at SCIAF, on [jmcaveety@sciaf.org.uk](mailto:jmcaveety@sciaf.org.uk) for more information or technical support.

### New Changes from Next Week:

There will be a slight change in our parish programme from next week. This is to enable Fr Jude cope with the added responsibilities of taking care of St Paul's Foxbar. We congratulate Fr Jude for his new post as the Parish Priest of St Paul's. Praying for God's blessings on him as he resumes this new role on Friday.

### Second Collection – Holy Places – Sunday 13th September

The Holy Places of the Holy Land are the concrete, historical witness on earth of the story of our Biblical Faith and the sites our LORD lived among during His life, death and resurrection. From there the Good News spread throughout the world. A Christian community has remained there continually till now through trials, sacrifices and martyrdom. This Papal collection allows this community to survive as a local Church, to preserve the sacred sites of our Catholic faith and to keep the Christian message of peace and hope alive.

**Baptism Congratulations:** to David & Rebecca whose daughter Ava Rae will be christened this Sunday after 11am Mass.

**Wedding Anniversary: Congratulations to Engr. Charles Nonye & Barr. Marian Nkiruka Wokocho** as they celebrate 17th Wedding Anniversary this Sunday. Wishing them God's blessings and many more years of marital bliss.



**Marriage Matters ([www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)) Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Ezek 33:7-9 Rom 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20)** To listen is to Love Matthew reminds us of Jesus' promise "...where two or more meet in my name I will be with them". In all the practical ways we look after each other, we are saying; 'your concerns are my concerns'. Nothing is too small or insignificant in our marriage, and my beloved is beside me to call me back to our life together.

**2020 Medjugorje Pilgrimage Cancelled:** Our planned pilgrimage to Medjugorje this year will no longer hold. Please contact Fr Jude for details

### 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	John Armstrong Alison O'kane James & Agnes Bisland Jordi Riera Corrigan