

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B
(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)



Dear friends, we celebrate today the feast of Divine Mercy in which every faithful is called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The readings today are all about God's Mercy, the necessity for trusting faith, and our need for God's forgiveness of our sins. The opening prayer addresses the Father as "God of Mercy", while the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles shows this mercy in practice that its resultant effect is that no one in the community was in need as every need was satisfied communally. The confession of Thomas shows the trusting faith which we are called to have whenever we profess "Jesus, I trust in You".

But one of the central questions asked is the meaning of this mercy. What does this mercy mean to us? The word mercy comes from the Latin word Misericordia, which is composed of two words "miseri" and "cordia". Put together it means to possess a heart for those who suffer or more precisely, to have a heart willing to suffer for others. We see this played in the first community of Christians who owe everything in common and never let anyone suffer in silence. Christ's great sacrifice on the cross epitomizes this, for, on the cross, Christ gave his life in love and mercy for the salvation of the world. "the Cross as, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, speaks, and never ceases to speak, of God the Father, who is absolutely faithful to His eternal love for man. ... Believing in this love means believing in mercy". There is no act of mercy greater than the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross through which God expresses his generous love for mankind. Thomas after he doubted was able to attest to it thus, he said, "My Lord and My God" (Jn. 20:28).

So dear friends, today, Jesus invites us to behold these wounds, to touch them as Thomas did, in order to heal our lack of belief. He invites us to enter into the mystery of these wounds, which is the mystery of his merciful love so that we can see through His wounds the entire mystery of Christ and of God: His life – filled with compassion for the weak and the sick. Saint Bernard, reflecting on the Canticle of Canticles says that "through these sacred wounds of Jesus we can see the secret of Christ's heart, the great mystery of love, the sincerity of his mercy with which he visited us from on high". So today we must ask ourselves these important questions: what's my contribution towards making my home, my community, and my society an ideal place for all to live? What's my attitude towards the wounded humanity? and what works of mercy must I do to heal their wounds? Love is a verb and not a noun, so put it into action and be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful (Lk 6:36). Jesus, I trust in you!!

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 dire 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%

Missio Scotland Appeal

Missio Scotland is the Scottish branch of the Catholic Church's mission aid agency. It enables missionaries to help communities in need through grassroots projects. They build and maintain hospitals, schools and seminaries, care for people in need and act for justice in the developing world, regardless of race, stigma, religion or gender. **Texting MISSIOSCOT to 70085** will donate a default £3, while MISSIOSCOT with any number between 1-20 after it will donate your desired amount (for example MISSIOSCOT10 will donate £10).

Ask your MP to sign a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain

A new parliamentary motion (EDM 1340) is calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion.

Right To Life UK have set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP, and ask them to sign this motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. It only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool. This tool can be accessed by visiting the link below: www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

163 George Street, PA12UN
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Church Hall: 01418892602
Email: StMaryPaisley@rcdop.org.uk
Website: www.stmaryrcpaisley.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

11th April 2021

2nd Sunday of Easter Year B (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Parish Mass & Prayer Times

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

Wednesday @7:00pm

Exposition/Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday @ 9:00am

Confessions: Tuesday & Thursday @ 9:00am

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil @ 4pm, & 5pm,
Sunday @ 11:00am & 12:00noon



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 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: Acts 4:32-35

Psalm Response: "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end"

SECOND READING: 1st John 5:1-6

GOSPEL READING: John 20: 19-31

Mass Book: YEAR B Part:1 Page: 128

PARISH NOTICE

NEW HEATING SYSTEM PROJECT APPEAL

So far, we have raised **£14,820**, with the interest free loan of **£5000** from a parishioner, making a total of **£19,720**. We appeal for more support as the total sum of the project is **£29,000**. You can send your donation to the Chapel house with your name or send a cheque payable to St Mary's Parish. If you wish to make bank transfer kindly use our Parish Account details: **Sort Code:80-09-29 Acc.No.00783824**. We thank our parishioners who recently set up a monthly direct debit of **£20**.

2021 Offertory Envelopes:

Are available now. This year boxes will be accompanied with a letter of appeal from Our Bishop asking for more assistance from everyone for the church. If you can pick up for your neighbour or our parishioners that are still shielding, please do. If you are a new parishioner and a UK tax payer, why not consider signing up for gift aid and have your name on our offertory envelope. Speak to Jim McKeown or Jim Kerr for details. Please support our parish

Special 76th Birthday Mass:

Fr Jude will offer a special birthday mass on Friday 16th April 2021 for **Alphonsus Jewell** who would have turned 76.

Our condolences to his family as we pray for the happy repose of his soul. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.. Amen

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Think Vocation

"The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue." Jesus gave everything out of love for us. Are you being called to reflect the Master's sacrifice by offering yourself as a priest, a deacon or religious? Speak to Fr. John Morrison e-mail: vocations@rcdop.org.uk or tel: 01418895056.

St. Benedict's School Cluster Providing Food and Toiletries -Almsgiving in Lent

Saint Conval's Parish Linwood now has its meals project up to full speed and is now providing 200 meals to local families every week through their Hall kitchen and generous volunteer chefs, caterers and drivers. They are now continuing their a Lenten Alms Project to provide cooked meals and food parcels for local families. They have already collected enough to get the through Lent and hope your donations will help them continue. You can leave your food for parcels in the parish house porch or post donations through the doorway. Thanks to all who have given of their time, their talent or their treasure!

Online Marriage Counselling available during Covid 19 Crisis

Our diocese has a Counselling Service for Catholics Married in the Catholic Church with our dedicated Catholic Marriage Counsellor. If you are concerned about your relationship and feel you are both unable to reach a conclusion alone, it is likely that you will benefit from marriage counselling. The counsellor is there to maintain a neutral, non-judgmental position. For information or advice please email in confidence counselling@rcdop.org.uk

Alpha Course in the Catholic Context - Diocese of Paisley Evangelisation Commission

Dear friends of Paisley diocese

The mission of the Church is to "Go, make disciples of all nations..." Matt 28. Alpha's mission is like it - we equip and serve the Church in its mission to help people discover and develop a relationship with Jesus. Jesus calls us to faithfulness to his mission regardless of the time and place we live. We know that 2020 has been a particularly challenging year due to the Covid-19 pandemic: lots of parishes are struggling financially; limitations on Mass attendance; parish ministries have had to reduce or stop altogether; continued social distancing has left priests and parishioners feeling disconnected and isolated; many priests feel overwhelmed and under resourced at this time. The idea of doing anything new can feel daunting, if not impossible. That's why, at Alpha, we want to help lighten that burden and equip parishes to raise leaders, share the good news of Jesus, connect people with each other and with God, and create community with other parishes. The team at Alpha - Catholic Context UK have developed new training for parishes in your diocese. This is a unique opportunity to be trained directly by the Alpha UK team to get up and running with Alpha Online. To register for training please click here. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Roche at michael.roche@alpha.org.

New Heating System Donations

Now £19,820

Thank You!!



Special thanks to the two special donors last week.
Cheques of £2000 and £100

SCIAF Boxes: are available in the porch. Please take some home and help families grow their way out of poverty and hunger.

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/>

Parish Bulletin

If you know of a parishioner living nearby who does not use the Internet, please consider printing this weekly bulletin and post it through their letterbox. This would help them stay connected through the Sunday readings and Parish news

As a parish Community we pray especially for

Those who are sick

Christine McAllister John Allison Sarah Jessiman Sarah McCann Martin Rogers John Kerr Ella Craig Winifred Kidd Declan Healy John Doherty Alan Morrison Donna Sim Helen Mackey Ian Scott Doreen Chin Anthony Cannon Jimmy McMenemy Jim O'Shea Brian McLaughlin Ian Gallacher Mary Johnston Joseph McEnhill

Those who are recently deceased

Thomas McNair Michael Smith John Woods Margaret McFarlane John Johnston Carole Gibson

Those whose anniversaries occur

Baby Marron McBride Margaret Laird Kathleen Curran Garry Willock Seamus Connolly