

## 7th Sunday of Easter Year B

Dear friends, after the feast of the ascension of Christ, we now await the descent of the holy spirit on Pentecost Sunday which will be celebrated in a week time. So behind us is the life of Jesus, his death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension and in front of us is the unknown, the very new thing that God will do among his people through the Holy Spirit. Aware of what awaits his disciples after his ascension, Christ in today's gospel reading prays to his Father to protect and keep them in unity. This could be said to be his core desire that they may be one like us "ut unum sit" (Jn. 17:11). One fascinating thing here is that Jesus prayed. Why should he pray?

In our first reading, the apostles when faced with the difficult task of selecting one who will take the position of Judas, prayed to the Lord. So, we see here the need for prayer. But what is prayer? It is as the catechism of the Catholic Church defines it "the lifting up of our minds and hearts to the Lord". Prayer in its ordinary sense can be hard, as it should be a dialogue between you and God whom you do not see. Many a time our prayers are monologue than dialogue. We always ask for our needs but we are more likely to do our will when the desired answer is not given. The apostle's choice of Mattias came by prayer submitting the process to the power of God and in Faith (Acts 1:20-26). This recourse to prayer as the only way and the true way came from Christ's teaching and its Christ's way.

So, what can we learn from today's liturgy of the word? Two important things which are: the need for prayer and the necessity of love which keeps us all in unity. As true disciples of Christ, we must learn to entrust everything to God through prayer. We must "always pray and never relent" (Lk. 18:1). We need to understand, appreciate, cooperate and pray: The denominations are a reality. There is no use in our blaming each other for the historical events which caused these divisions in Christ's Body. What we can do is to learn sympathetically about the doctrinal similarities and differences to our own beliefs among Christian believers, to shed prejudices and suspicion about each other, to learn to love each person we encounter, and to cooperate with the members of all denominations in all ways possible. In love, we must pray for unity which surpasses a merely "Comfortable" notion of friendliness and cooperation but relying on the guidance of the holy spirit whose fire of love destroys every division and unites what was divided. Let us work and pray for unity in the world, in the church and in our community. Have a wonderful Sunday!!

### 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%

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

I regret to inform you that as of 27 April 2021, Joe Walsh Pilgrimage Tours have ceased to trade. This will mean that all pilgrims who have bookings carried over from 2020 and 2021 will have to invoke a claim through the TOPS protection policy held by Joe Walsh Tours. This can be accessed by following the link on their website. If you have any problem with this please contact Fr Gerry McNellis on 01475 632078 or [stninian@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stninian@rcdop.org.uk)

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

16th May 2021

7th Sunday of Easter Year B

### 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](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:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26

**Psalm Response:** "The Lord has set his sway in heaven "

**SECOND READING:** 1st John 4:11-16

**GOSPEL READING:** John 17:11-19

**Mass Book:** YEAR B Part:1 Page: 140

## PARISH NOTICE

### NEW HEATING SYSTEM PROJECT APPEAL

So far, we have raised **£24,441.30** with the interest free loan of **£4000** from a parishioner, making a total of **£28,441.30**. 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**.

### Special Collection this Sunday Communications - 16 May 2021

This collection pays for our national Scottish Catholic Media Office which provides a service to the press and media with information on the activities of the Church in Scotland. The office supports two employees. You can donate easily to this by visiting our Diocesan website [www.rcdop.org.uk](http://www.rcdop.org.uk) and clicking on the 'Online Parish Offertory'. This allows you to donate to any of the causes or parishes of your choice. Many thanks

### 1st Communion Congratulations:

To the P4 Pupils that made the first communion on Saturday morning. Praying for the second group that will make theirs on Saturday 15th May.

## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

### Scripture and Spirituality Conference 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021

John of the Cross and the experience of transforming love. This year's conference focuses on St. John of the Cross and his life changing teachings of how love can transform each and every one of us. Through six thought provoking talks, each of us can learn how to become beacons of light to greater reflect Christ and offer hope to a world in much need of healing. This year, we have been blessed with six renowned speakers, authors and experts, who will bring St. John's teachings to life and transform how we grow in our love and spirituality. For more information [www.carmelite.uk.net/ssc](http://www.carmelite.uk.net/ssc) or contact [ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk](mailto:ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk) Tel: 07849 596 572

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

### Faith & Reason: A Catholic Integration

A short, residential summer course exploring the relationship of faith with philosophy, science and culture. Particularly helpful for catechists and teachers fielding commonly-asked questions around Catholicism, besides anyone wanting to deepen their understanding of the Faith. Runs 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> August. For more info and registration, <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason/>

### New Heating System Donations

**Now £28,441.30.00**

Thank You!!

Special thanks to the special donors last week.

£140.00 (Cash)

£1000 (Cheque)



£10+20 =30 (Cash)



£136.30 (Cash)

£100.00

**Total: £1,426.30**

### Think Vocation:

"As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world." Are you being sent by Jesus to bring his presence to the world as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life? Speak to your Vocations Director, contact Fr. John Morrison on 01418895056 or e-mail [vocations@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdop.org.uk)

### 1ST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

Saturday 8th May 2021 & 15th May 2021  
@ 10:00am

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

TUESDAY 8TH JUNE @ 7:00PM

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:michael.roche@alpha.org).

### 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 Charlene Wheelan Sophia Young

#### Those who are recently deceased

Stephen Connetta Andrea Murphy  
Christine English Juliet Fernandes

#### Those whose anniversaries occur

Betty McCaig Jean McNena Robin Miller Archie McNiven  
Garry Willock Joseph Tourer Thomas McCormick  
Tom McAllister Helen Mullaney John Bentley Jean Devitt  
Birthday Mass for Mary Macpherson