

## 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

Dear friends in Christ, this Sunday, Christ continues his teaching on himself. Last week he affirmed he is the good Shepherd who cares and protects his sheep (Jn. 10:11-18). This Sunday, he uses the image of the vine which traditionally is the symbol of Israel. It was used by Isaiah to express the Lord's complaint at the unresponsiveness of Israel (Isaiah 5.1-7). Prophet Ezekiel used it in his painstaking criticisms of the proud symbols of Israel (Ezekiel 15). Jesus in the parable of the Wicked Vine-dressers (Mark 12.1-12) used it to shame the irresponsible current leaders of Israel. In today's gospel which is the Last Supper discourse, the image of the vine acquires a new dimension, the pain of pruning which Christ will experience at Golgotha. However, the core message here is not just on the vine but on the need to remain with the vine in order to bear fruit. So, Christians must abide in Christ in order to bear fruit.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, testifies to the abundance of spiritual fruits yielded by the apostles because of their close bond with the risen Lord. The reading tells us how the Lord pruned the former Pharisee, Saul of Tarsus, a fanatic who had persecuted the Church, to produce a fruit-bearing branch called Paul, the zealous Apostle to the Gentiles, entirely dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel. Even Paul's forced return to Tarsus for a brief period is an example of God's pruning of the vine to bring forth a greater harvest, namely, the mission to the Gentiles. St John in the second reading explains that only if we remain united to Christ by putting our faith in him and drawing our spiritual strength from him, will we be able to obey God's commandments, especially the commandment of love, loving one another as Jesus commanded us. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds his disciples of the closeness of their relationship with him and the necessity of their maintaining it. They are not simply rabbi and disciples, rather their lives are mutually dependent - as close as a vine and its branches. By this, Jesus explains to them and to us what our relationship with him should be like.

Dear friends, to be true disciples of Christ, we must be one with him by abiding in him through prayers, frequent reception of the Sacraments especially the holy Eucharist and being in his presence. There is no midway to it, it is either we are in or out. So, there is no place for laxity or passiveness. We must be always active - no dull moment. Then, as the vine needs pruning for a fruitful harvest, so we have to be pruned in order to bear fruits. Pruning here implies cutting out of our lives everything that is contrary to the spirit of Jesus and renewing our commitment to the Christian ideals. It involves the practice of self-control over our evil inclinations, sinful addictions and aberrations. May we all be one with Christ the true vine and bear fruits of kindness, mercy, charity, and holiness.

### **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%

### **The Scottish Parliamentary Elections**

As you begin considering how to vote please check out our Scottish Bishops Election Resource link: [Scottish Parliament Election 2021 - Catholic Parliamentary Office \(rcpolitics.org\)](http://Scottish Parliament Election 2021 - Catholic Parliamentary Office (rcpolitics.org)) It lets you know where political parties stand on issues that impinge upon our Catholic faith and life and is also being updated with particular candidates' positions on these matters.

### **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  
Tel: 0141-889-2602 Fax 0141-889-6756  
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

2nd May 2021

5th 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 9:26-31

**Psalm Response:** "You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly"

**SECOND READING:** 1st John 3:18-24

**GOSPEL READING:** John 15:1-8

**Mass Book:** YEAR B Part:1 Page: 135

## PARISH NOTICE

### NEW HEATING SYSTEM PROJECT APPEAL

So far, we have raised **£22,705.00** with the interest free loan of **£4000** from a parishioner, making a total of **£26,705.00**. 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

### Chrism Mass

Bishop John will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the clergy of the Diocese on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 3.00pm**. This will only be open to the clergy, however, parishioners can join in the liturgy via the live stream at the Cathedral. Click on the link below to follow the Mass. <https://youtu.be/WKesnTNWowA>

## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

**May: Month of Mary:** This month, We will have special live Streamed Rosary every Wednesday evening after Mass.

Join us

New Heating System Donations

**Now £26,705.00**

Thank You!!

Special thanks to the special donors last week.



£100.00 (Cheque)



£50.00 (Cash)

£1000 (Cheque)

**Total: £1150.00**

**Baptism Congratulations:** to **Isaac & Joanne Joseph-Osumah**, who will be christened after 12noon Mass this Sunday.

### 1ST CONFESSION

TUESDAY 4TH MAY 2021

### 1ST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

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

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

TUESDAY 8TH JUNE @ 7:00PM

### Think Vocation:

"Saul went round preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord." Could you have the zeal of Saul for sharing the power of the Gospel and the love of Christ? Speak to our Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison 01418895056 or e-mail [vocations@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdop.org.uk)

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

### 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

### Scottish Catholic Observer

The Catholic Herald has notified that the Scottish Catholic Observer was wound up at the end of December 2020.

### 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

#### Those who are recently deceased

Thomas Canavan Alex McVitie  
John Craig (Funeral on Tuesday)

#### Those whose anniversaries occur

Tommy Gallacher Mhairi McClean Susan Barr  
Henry Graham Ugo Galimberti Maddalena Reynaud  
Margaret McNulty John Tait