

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Dear friends in Christ, one of the basic issues every true religion must address is its authenticity. What makes a religion true or authentic? This is the crux point of today's liturgical reading. Thus, from his answer, Jesus proves that true religion is not simply a scrupulous, external observance of rules, laws, traditions and rituals. It is a loving, obedient relationship with God expressed in obeying His Commandments, worshipping Him, recognizing His presence in other human beings, and rendering them loving and humble service. Prayers, rituals, Sacraments, and religious practices only help us to practice this true religion in our daily lives.

In our first reading from the book of Deuteronomy, Moses reminded the people of Israel of the commandment of God and urged them to be steadfast to it in order to be successful in life. By this he shows that religion is a covenant relationship with a caring, providing and protecting God, who gives every perfect gift as St James highlighted in the second reading (James 1:17-18,21-22,27), fostered by keeping His Commandments. The Law was intended to keep them a united, holy and intelligent nation, proud of their powerful, protective, single God and so should not be neglected but at the same time should be overhyped (added or removed). So, Moses pointed out that they should not add or subtract. But as can be seen from the encounter between Jesus and the Pharisees (Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23), the Pharisees made the law unbearable by multiplying it through their interpretation thus making it a burden for the people while they themselves live above the law.

Dear friends, by confronting the Pharisees Jesus describes true religion as serving God and His people with a pure and holy heart. Our God is perfect and every perfect gift comes from Him, so also the Law which is as St Thomas defined it "an ordinance of reason for the common good" given for our perfect relationship with God and with one another. We must avoid the tendency to become cafeteria Christians or buffet Catholics who pick and choose certain commandments and Church laws to follow. We must not live a hypocritical life, or even make life difficult for others by being legalistic in our modus operandi. May we be faithful Christians, observing the commandments but living in love which is the greatest of all the commandment (Matt. 22:36-40). When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion today, let us ask for the grace to become the doers of his word as Jesus was the doer of his Fathers' will.

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 Marriage preparation course September

Our final marriage preparation course for 2021 takes place in September. Two Zoom sessions will be held at 7pm on the 1st and 8th September, followed by a Relationship skills workshop in the Diocesan centre on 18th September from 12 until 3pm. Couples should attend all three sessions. Cost per couple is £30, including lunch at the workshop and information/resources pack. Booking is open via the Marriage and Family page on the Diocesan website, <https://rcdop.org.uk/marriage-preparation-day-registration-form>

Faith in Change and Conflict

We know conflict is part of life and can be both creative and destructive. We notice that many people - including those in faith communities - can struggle to find helpful ways to respond to change, transition, tension and difference. Some structures, cultures, systems and habits can make it difficult for people to hear each other well and relationships may break down. We also know that there is much transformational potential in conflict! **Faith in Change and Conflict** is a training course running in September and January for individuals or parish representative their parish or diocese. (<https://www.placeforhope.org.uk/training/course/faith-in-change-and-conflict>).



ST MARY'S PARISH PAISLEY

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Website: www.stmaryrcpaisley.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Okorie

29th August 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year

Parish Mass & Prayer Times

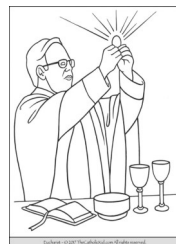
Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday @ 9:30am

Wednesday @7:00pm

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

Confessions: Tuesday & Thursday @ 9:00am

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil @ 4pm,
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: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

Psalm Response: "The Just will live in the presence of the Lord"

SECOND READING: James 1:17-18,21-22,27

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Mass Book: YEAR B Part:2 Page: 65

PARISH NOTICE

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' GROTTO/ MEMORIAL WALL

You can now order Bricks for your loved ones. As was done earlier, financing this will be through sponsorship, on which, hopefully, we will be able to claim gift-aid from the government for any UK taxpayer. However, if you are not a Taxpayer, you can still purchase.

The bricks are available:

- * Single brick with two lines containing 16 characters per line maximum: E.g. In Loving memory (16) of John Smith (13)
- * Double brick with 4 lines of 16 characters per line maximum.

Suggested contribution/Sponsorship

£20 for Single Brick

£30 for double brick

Please contact Gerry McCourt if you wish to order.

Appreciation



The Parish Council will like to thank all our parishioners for their great support and presence at the funeral of **Mr Kevin Markey**. Although his death was a big loss to our community but we thank God for his life and we extend our sincere condolences to his Wife Helen and family.

May his gentle soul rest in peace...Amen

May God bless every one of you.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

Summer Raffle Draw

As announced, this will be drawn this Sunday after 12noon Sunday mass. We wish to thank everyone for your support. We hope the prizes will put smiles to many faces.

CARFIN DAY

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Carfin, led by Bishop John Keenan, will take place on **Sunday 29th August 2021**. Mass of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at 3pm followed by the Rosary Procession which will take place at 5:30pm. Catering facilities are available at the shrine.

THE TIMETABLE FOR THE DAY:

- 1:00 pm Arrival for Personal Prayer and visit to the Shop and Tea Room.
- 2:30 pm Preparation for Mass.
- 3:00 pm Mass with the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by a break for Tea, Toilets etc
- 5:30 pm Marian Procession
- 6:00 pm Departure of Buses.

Think Vocation

"Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you." Does that "word" include a call to serve as a priest or in religious life? How will you respond? Speak to our diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison - email: vocations@rcdop.org.uk or tel 0141 8895056.

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 5th - 8th August. For more info and registration, <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason/>

NET Ministries

This September NET Ministries Scotland will bring over 10 young people from the USA and Wales for 10 months to minister in our schools and parishes and encourage our young people in their faith and belonging to the Church. 'Host Homes' are essential for these young missionaries to rest, pray, eat and participate in home life. In return, they provide a strong Christian witness in the host homes. Could you provide a (bed/couch/sleeping bag) for a one-week time frame for a minimum of 2 people, with breakfast, packed lunch and dinner? They usually leave in the morning and return at dinner time. Please email maryshields@netscotland.org or call Mary Shields at +44 7720 969390.

Marriage and family webpage

The Diocese has a dedicated page on the website for Marriage and Family life. It contains a wealth of information, support and resources for many aspects of this important vocation. For more information please visit <https://rcdop.org.uk/marriage-family-life-2>

March for Life UK

This will take place on **Saturday 4th September** in Central London from approx. 10.00am - 4.30pm. The Diocese of Paisley together with SPUC Glasgow are organising an overnight coach which will leave from St. Mirins' Cathedral at midnight on Friday 2nd September picking up at St Andrew's Cathedral and Gretna Green. The coach will return from parliament square at approx. 5.30pm with an ETA of midnight. The cost per person will be £30. To book a seat please use our Eventbrite link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/march-for-life-september-2021-coach-tickets-163611601705> We recently had the highest ever annual abortion figures in the UK. Let's do our part in turning the tide in our nation. More information on the days' event is available at [Home - March for Life UK](#) For all other enquiries please contact Marianne by email at curia@rcdop.org.uk or Louise at lgrant@spucscotland.org thank you.

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

Year of Saint Joseph Afternoon for Families

Families are warmly invited to come together to mark the Year of St Joseph on **Sunday 19th September from 2.00pm** in St Mirin's Cathedral Hall. The event will include an opportunity to reflect in prayer as families in faith and join together for some light refreshments. Bishop John will conclude the gathering with the celebration of Mass in the Cathedral at 4.00pm.

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 Donna Sim Helen Markey Ian Scott Doreen Chin
Anthony Cannon Brian McLaughlin Ian Gallacher Mary Johnston
Joseph McEnhill Charlene Wheelan Sophia Young David Milravey
Bobby Muir Anna McCartin Ged Farrell Joe Burns James McNulty
Baby Jude Baker

Those who are recently deceased

Jimmy McMenemy Kevin Markey
Peter Okorie Charlie McGuire Rose Graham
Tommy McShane Jean Devenney

Those whose anniversaries occur

Jim Craig Seamus McGurn John Shannon
John Armstrong
Wladyslaw Stachura Jim Greenlees