



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

21st of May 2023

A SAINT FOR OUR TIME...

Monday of this week is the memorial of the Fourteenth-century Saint Rita of Cascia. Her feast day was re-introduced into the Church's calendar some years ago by the late Pope Saint John Paul II, who felt that her life and example have much to say to people of our own time.

Rita was born in 1381 at Roccaporena, a small village in Umbria, central Italy, the only child of devout peasant farmers. While still a teenager she told them that she felt called to the Religious Life - they made a room in their home into an oratory, where she would spend all her free time in prayer.



Although devout people, and despite her tears and protests, they forced her to marry when she was eighteen. Ferdinand Ferri, her new husband, was an impulsive, irascible man, who tested Rita's virtue to its very limits. He had violent temper, and his angry outbursts often ended in him beating her; into the bargain, he was a heavy drinker and regularly unfaithful. Rita endured her husband's insults and infidelities for eighteen years, but they were blessed with two sons, Giovanni and Paulo, each inheriting their father's temperament. After many tears and prayers, their broken marriage was healed, and they were reconciled. Some weeks later, Ferdinand was carried home dead, murdered because of a vendetta waged against him by a fellow villager: his sons wanted to avenge their father, but Rita managed to persuade them to forgive his assassin. Both of her sons would die shortly after.

After their death Rita felt drawn again to the Religious Life - three times she tried to join the Augustinian sisters in Cascia, but was refused, and she returned to her home in Roccaporena. Eventually she was allowed to enter. After hearing a sermon about the Passion of Christ she returned to her cell, and kneeling before her crucifix, she begged Our Lord, "Let me have a share in your Passion." Her prayer was answered - one of the thorns detached from Our Lord's crown of thorns lodged itself in her forehead. The wound became so bad that gangrene set in; and because of the foul odour from the wound, the other sisters in the Convent shunned her company - something that lasted for fifteen years.

As Rita lay dying, she asked a relative to bring her a rose from her old home at Roccaporena. Although it was not the season for roses, the relative went and found a rose bush in full bloom. She died on the 22nd May 1457. After her death, her face became radiant, and the foul odour was replaced with the fragrance of roses. Her body has remained incorrupt to this day.

Like Saint Jude, she is invoked as a patron saint of hopeless cases, but she is also remembered as a patron of couples with marriage difficulties. Her feast is an opportunity to pray for all married couples, but especially those whose relationship, for whatever reason, is strained or tested, that the Lord will bring them healing and renew their love.

Fr. McGachey



MAY DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

With the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm. Join us in honouring the Mother of God in this her month.

NEXT SUNDAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday and the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Feast of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

In place of Marian Devotions on Sunday, we will celebrate Evening Prayer for the Feast, with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm.

I will offer a special anointing with the Oil of Gladness to anyone who would wish to receive it. This anointing, is mentioned in the Prophet Isaiah when he says, "To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning." In the Old Testament this anointing was considered as a powerful means of transmitting the gift of God's Spirit.

Unlike the Sacrament of the Sick, everyone is eligible to be anointed with the Oil of Gladness for spiritual, mental, emotional and physical healing. All of us can benefit from this spiritual healing. I hope that many of you will come to receive this blessing.



THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass, 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Tuesday to Friday at 9.30am

HOLY ROSARY - Tuesday- Saturday at 9.40am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesday this week after Mass

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS - Wednesday at 7pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS - WEEK 4

This powerful Novena continues on Wednesday evening at 7pm. If you missed the Novena, there are leaflets with the Novena Prayers for the third week on the ledge at the Notice Board. Please take a copy and pass it on. After the Novena this coming Wednesday, there will be an opportunity for Confession.



CLUB 200

This week's winner is Patricia Murray. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY

There will be a retiring collection today for- Papal Communications Sunday - to help support the work of the Catholic Press Office, an arm of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. There is a letter below about Diocesan Communications from Bishop Toal.

The list of the Sick has now been updated. If you would like someone included on the list, please confirm this by emailing bulletin@sbek.org as soon as possible.

18th May 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend marks the fifty-seventh World Communications Day. In his annual address to mark the occasion, Pope Francis has asked all of us in the Church to redouble our efforts to ensure evangelical communication is at the heart of our mission at diocesan, parish and individual levels.

At the diocesan level, we have been listening to the feedback given at the recent Synod discussions. We have heard the voices of many who have asked for a renewed focus on Gospel outreach and engagement through modern media methods. As a result, we have set up a new Diocesan Communications Commission which has already begun this important work. The Commission is led by Father Michael Kane and is made-up of committed lay men and women with a background or interest in communication, all united by a passion and drive for promoting the Gospel.

To date, the new Commission has set up a new monthly diocesan magazine *Fontes* which highlights and celebrates the spiritual wealth of our parishes and school communities. Its free printed and digital editions have been well received throughout the diocese. You are invited to give it your fullest support and to send-in local stories or photos for publication.

The Commission also works closely with *Being Catholic Television*, Scotland's Catholic television network, to broadcast important diocesan liturgies and events, including the annual Chrism Mass and the recent Diocesan Anniversary Mass. This new resource has been especially valued by our sick and housebound who are unable to engage in parish life in a regular way.

As well as writing policies to support safe and appropriate use of the digital space, the Commission has also been providing training days for parish social media managers and school digital champions to ensure we are maximising the reach of the Gospel online. The team also offers training and advice on church websites, social channels and effective content sharing. This is especially important as we seek to engage and re-engage younger Catholics and those who may have lapsed in their faith. Parishes, schools and other groups are encouraged to link with these training opportunities and to support the inaugural Diocesan Communications Conference which will launch in September of this year.

Over the coming period, you'll hear more about the Commission's work to support you, your parishes, schools and groups. If you're interested in getting involved or simply want more information, contact media@rcdom.org.uk

As we await the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, let's pray for the work of our new Commission and let's pray that we will all use the gifts of the Spirit for the upbuilding of the Church in our own times. May we be bold in casting out into the deep and bringing Christ to new places.

Yours sincerely,



+ Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Frankie Logan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton.

RECENTLY DEAD - Tony Marzella, Elizabeth Harkins, Susan Coyle, Gerald Kelly. Davie Joyce, Jacqueline Crollly, Catianna Darragh.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Elio Faccenda, John Kennedy, Neil McTaggart, Michelle McKechnie, John Geraghty.

FUNERALS

Tony Marzella - Reception at 9.15am and Requiem Mass Monday 22nd May 10am.

Elizabeth Harkins - Funeral Service at Philipshill Cemetery Wednesday 31st May 11.30am.

Susan Coyle - Reception Thursday 8th June 6pm. Requiem Mass Friday 9th June 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

For the week ending 13th May £2435. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £193,000. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows:
Stbrides, Sort Code 82-62-24, Account Number 40500017.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you wish to donate by Bank Transfer to Saint Vincent De Paul Society, the details are:
SSVP, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.