

Bulletin for the Fourth Sunday of Easter 30th April 2023

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY PRAY FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

oday, the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide, is sometimes called 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because today's Gospel, from Saint John's account of Our Lord's life, always highlights the image of the Shepherd. The Good Shepherd is closely associated with the Priesthood, since the Priest is in a special way like the shepherd of the flock entrusted to his care. For this reason, today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood, and in many dioceses around the world, there are ordinations.



We rejoice because Motherwell Diocese has an Ordination to the Priesthood in May, that of Deacon Colum Martin in the Cathedral, Motherwell. We have several seminarians for the Diocese at the moment: Chris Furmage (Saint Augustine's, Coatbridge), Kieran Burt (Saint Joseph's, Blantyre), Chris Igwe (Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride), Aidan Kelly (Saint Ninian's, Hamilton) and Matthrew O'Neill (Saint Mary's, Coatbridge). They study in Rome and in Birmingham.

With Roman Catholics around the world today, please pray earnestly to the Good Shepherd for an increase in vocations to Priesthood, particularly in our own Diocese, and pray for those who will serve him in the future.



NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS

Starts this Wednesday and finishes on the 28thJune

Please consider coming along to the Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots, which begins this Wednesday at 7pm. The Service will include the recitation of the Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Pope Francis has said that in this powerful Novena, "Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our lives." What are these knots? They are the problems and struggles we face for which we see no solution. Knots

of discord in our families: lack of understanding between parents and children; the knots of deep-rooted hurt, and the absence of peace and joy in our homes. There are also the knots of despair: of separated couples; those who no longer practise their faith; of children and grandchildren who are not baptised. There are the knots of addictions: to alcohol, drugs, gambling... The knots of loneliness, depression and fear... The knots of unemployment, of health worries, and a million other things besides.

Through this Novena: families have reconciled! Family members have returned to the Church! Jobs have been found! Conversions have taken place! Problems have been solved! Our Lady comes to us as the One who unties these impossible knots, the One who knows all about us, who has compassion for us and hurries to help us. Our Lady will not let you down!

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF OUR SEMINARIANS

Today there will be a retiring collection for the education of our seminarians, that is to say, those who, God willing, will serve as priests in our parishes in the future. Please be generous as you always are.

FIRST COMMUNIONS AT SAINT BRIDE'S

On Saturday 6th May for Saint Kenneth's Primary School at 10am and Saturday 13th May for Saint Kenneth's Primary School at 10am and Saint Hilary's Primary School at 12noon. Please remember the First Communicants and their parents in your prayers during these weeks.

Please note that we will not be able to have the recitation of the Holy Rosary, other Devotions, or indeed Confessions, on each of these days. Thank you for your understanding.



MAY IS MARY'S MONTH...

"May is Mary's month, and I muse at that and wonder why: her feasts follow reason, dated due to season — Candlemas, Lady Day; but the Lady Month, May..."

From *The May Magnificat* by Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889), a convert to Roman Catholicism and a Jesuit priest

Many of us would have grown up with so many traditions associated with the month of May. The 'May altar' in primary school: pupils bringing in bunches of tulips, daffodils, and sometimes later in May, early roses, to decorate it... The custom of saying a decade of the Rosary each day as part of our

daily prayers at school, the crowning of the statue of Our Lady... Would it not be great if classrooms in our Primary Schools had statues or images of Our Lady today!

Many of us too would have attended May Devotions in honour of Our Blessed Lady in the Church. On Sunday 7th May at 6pm, and on each of the Sundays of May, there will be traditional Devotions: a prayerful recitation of the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto, with its beautiful titles of Our Lady, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and the traditional hymns in honour of Our Lady. I hope very much that you will join us.

PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

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

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30am HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday at 9.40am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY – Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - On Tuesday this week after Mass NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS - begins on Wednesday at 7pm

CLUB 200

This week's winner is Catherine McDonald. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CALENDAR



Monday is the memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker, established by Pope Pius XII, in 1955, in order to Christianise the concept of human work and give to all workmen a model and a protector. By his daily work, Saint Joseph offered to God his work with patience and joy, and provided for the needs of Our Lord and Our Lady.

On **Tuesday**, we remember **Saint Athanasius** (+373), Bishop of Alexandria and a great defender of the Faith in the face of the Arian Heresy. By denying that Christ was God's Son, the Arians reduced Christ to a mere man. Athanasius took part in the Council of Nicea (modern-day Turkey) in 325AD which defined the true divinity of Christ. Athanasius endured many trials and tribulations throughout his tenure as Bishop but always

remained faithful. He is a Doctor of the Church.

The feast of the Apostles **Saint Philip and James** falls on **Wednesday**. Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee. Mentioned a few times in the Gospels: he introduced Saint Bartholomew (Nathaniel) to Christ; Our Lord also famously declared to Philip "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father...I am the Father and the Father is in me" (John 14,8). According to tradition, he was crucified in Phyrgia (central modern-day Turkey), where he had preached the Gospel. Saint James was a cousin of Our Lord. He is often called 'Saint James the Lesser' because of Saint Mark's reference to him as "the younger" (Mk 15,40). He was the first bishop of Jerusalem, and was martyred for the faith by being thrown from the top of the Temple and then stoned to death.

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Could the new ministers please speak to me after Holy Mass today. Thank you.

A NEW NUNCIO TO GREAT BRITAIN

Pope Francis has nominated His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendia, presently Apostolic Nuncio in Romania and Moldova, as Apostolic Nuncio in Great Britain. The Nuncio is the Ambassador of the Holy See to a particular country. The Nunciature (the embassy) is located in Wimbledon in southwest London.

STALL

A selection of modestly priced First Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts are on sale at the stall.

GLASGOW KILTWALK

A couple of parishioners are walking the Glasgow Kiltwalk on Sunday 30 April for their chosen charities. Margaret Mary Cowan and her sisters are walking to raise funds for Kilbryde Hospice and Yvonne Kirkwood is walking for Diabetes UK. If anyone wishes to sponsor them please use the following links <u>www.justqiving.com/Margaret-Cowan6</u> or <u>https://gofund.me/af191fb0</u> Thank you for your generosity.

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801			

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Samantha Beach, Lorraine O'Donnell-Browen, Richard O'Donnell, Ray O'Donnell, Joanne Barrett (England), Brian McKenna, Eileen Biggins, Satya B Metha, Patricia McCormack, Helen Walton, Fiona Docherty, Margaret Deehan, Patricia Williamson, John Lang, Francis and John Reilly, Terry Cassidy, Theresa Fleetwood, Bailey Barnes, Liam Greig, Nicholas Oakes, Gillian Congdon, Liz Knight, Rita Baxter, Jean O'Neill, Ann Dillon (Dublin), Sarah Collins, John Thomson, Nora Houston, Catriona Slorach, Liz Nicol, Patrick Gahagan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Maureen Macrae, Kate Milligan, Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Tony Marzella, Amanda Sherwood.

RECENTLY DEAD - Michael Feeney, James Lanagan, Alan Hendry, Harry Henderson, Marcia Quiston, James Nellany, James Parick Docherty.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Brian Curran, Liz Gallagher, David McGovern, Cassie McGee, Gerry McCorry, Margaret Mary Caullay, John Connor, Denis Maguire, Tony Coll sen.

FUNERALS

Frank Mulligan - Reception - Tuesday 9th May 6pm. Requiem Wednesday - 10th May 12noon. Thomas Harkins - Reception - Tuesday 16th May 6pm. Requiem Wednesday - 17th May 10am. Michael Feeney (former parishioner) - Requiem Mass in Saint Leonard's, 5th May.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending 16th April - 2562.20 and 23rd April - £2471. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £196,000. 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.