



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

17th March 2024

ITE AD JOSEPH...GO TO JOSEPH

In a world where all our families live under so much pressure, where workers' rights are often devalued and good jobs difficult to find, now more than ever we must "Go to Joseph." His feast day is on Tuesday of this week.

Saint Joseph in the Bible

Joseph, meaning "God will add" appears about a dozen times in the Gospels, mainly in the first two chapters of Saint Matthew's Gospel, in connection with the early life of Jesus. Since in God's plan of salvation Joseph was to legally insert Jesus into the line of King David from whom, according to the prophets, the Messiah would be born, he was probably born at Bethlehem - the City of David. He was destined to become the spouse of Mary. About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a "just man" - an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his roles of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary. Although descendent of King and a part of a royal dynasty, Saint Joseph was a man who worked by the sweat of his brow - he was a carpenter, a manual labourer. Of Saint Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing.



The Saints and Saint Joseph

In the sixteenth century, devotion to Saint Joseph was flourishing in Spain. Saint Teresa of Avila (+1582) became his great devotee - she believed his intercession had healed her of paralysis. Saint Teresa praised him as a helper in every need. By the 1550s she began reforming the Carmelite Order, to which she belonged - placing this difficult project, under Joseph's protection. Twelve of the seventeen new monasteries she founded were dedicated to the Saint, and all of them were adorned with his statue. One of her friends, the Carmelite Priest, Jerónimo Gracián, coined the phrase "*Ite ad Joseph*" ("Go to Joseph") from the story of the Old Testament patriarch Joseph in the Book of Genesis. This quote was often inscribed on his altars and images. The foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Saint Jeanne Jugan (+1879) made Saint Joseph the *de facto* patron of all its homes for the elderly. In Montreal, Canada, Saint André Bessette (+1937), a brother in the Congregation of the Holy Cross, had a tremendous devotion to Saint Joseph, and always advised people with troubles to pray to him. He built a huge basilica that still draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims each year.

The Popes and Saint Joseph

A number of Popes of modern times have had strong devotion to Saint Joseph. In 1870 Blessed Pope Pius IX declared him patron of the Universal Church. In 1930 Pope Pius XI named Saint Joseph a special patron of Russia to counteract Soviet persecution. In 1955 Pius XII introduced the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on 1st May. Pope Saint John XXIII declared him patron of the Second Vatican Council and inserted his name in the First Eucharistic Prayer. Pope Saint John Paul II in his Apostolic Exhortation *Redemptoris Custos* places Saint Joseph firmly in the foreground of efforts to renew the family and the Church. Pope Francis celebrated the inaugural Mass of his Pontificate on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph eleven years ago this week and has since had his name inserted in each of the other three Eucharistic Prayers. He has spoken too about his personal devotion to the 'Sleeping Saint Joseph' (about which we wrote on another occasion). **Father McGachey**



THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH THIS TUESDAY, 19th MARCH

The Solemnity of Saint Joseph, the spouse of Mary, the foster-father of Jesus and Patron of the Universal Church will be celebrated on Tuesday of this week.

In place of the Stations of the Cross that morning, we will have Devotions in honour of the Saint, including the famous Litany of Saint Joseph, composed in 1909 by Pope Saint Pius X.

At 10am, we will celebrate of Festal Mass with organ and incense. Please join us if you can as we honour this wonderful Saint.

READERS -THE SUNDAY READINGS ARE TAKEN FROM THE YEAR A

THE FIFTH WEEK OF LENT 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

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS - HOLY MASS at 7am (church opens at 6.30am)

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross 9.35am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesdays after Mass

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Thursdays after 10am Mass

Please note that when there is a Requiem Mass, there will be no Stations or Novena

NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY

Palms will be blessed and carried in procession next Saturday/Sunday at all Masses.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND THE TRIDUUM

Copies of the Passion for next Sunday (Palm Sunday) and Good Friday, are available in the Sacristy. If you are reading next Sunday or on Good Friday, please come to the sacristy to let me know you are here 10 minutes before the Mass is due to begin. Thank you.

EASTER REMEMBRANCES

If you would like your dead relatives and friends to be remembered at the three Easter Masses at Saint Brigid's, then please hand them in by Holy Thursday evening. I will offer these Masses for them, and their names will feature in the special Easter Sunday Bulletin.

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS

Will be taken-up on Sunday 24th March, Palm Sunday.

200 CLUB

200 Club winner is Robert McAinsh. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

WE CONTINUE OUR NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS ON TUESDAY EVENING

with Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm in the Parish Church. If you could not manage last week, there are copies of the third week's prayers below the notice board at the back of the church. "In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life." *Pope Francis*



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

I would like to invite all our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist attend the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, 28th March, to renew their commitment to this Ministry.

STALL

A selection of Easter Cards and Easter Mass Bouquet Cards are available from the Stall at the back of the Church. There is also a selection of statues, including the Sleeping Saint Joseph and Our Lady, Untier of Knots, as well as First Communion and other gifts. Please have a look! If there is anything you would like and do not see, please speak to Marie or Frances.

Copies of 'My day by day' for the Easter Season are on sale priced £1.00 each. Please place all monies in the wall-box marked 'Stall'.

CLUB 200

Firstly, thank you for your continued support of the Parish through the Club 200. It is much appreciated! For those who pay contributions on a 6-monthly basis, the amount due is £30 and falls due on 1 April 2024. Those wishing to pay by cheque, should make their cheque payable to 'St Bride's Club 200'. Cheques can be mailed to St Bride's RC Church, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride, G74 1NN or handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please do not send cash through the post. Envelopes with cash can be handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please mark Club 200 and your name on the envelope. Thank you.

TRIBUTE NIGHT

Pat Cairns as Kenny Rodgers and Neil Diamond. 23rd March at 7.30pm, in Saint Bride's Church Hall. Tickets priced £15.00. Contact John McGowan on 07989392287.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We will be continuing our programme of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation with the children of Primary 7 at St Kenneth's School. The programme will continue over the remaining Sundays of March. We will also have our regular Children's Liturgy for other Primary School children at the same time. Please pray for these children and their parents.

CONFESSIONS IN HOLY WEEK



I will offer individual Confessions after each of the Sunday Masses; after the 7am and 10am Masses in the morning, Monday to Wednesday; on Tuesday evening after the Novena. There are two additional opportunities on Good Friday and Holy Saturday morning. Please use these opportunities to put things right with God and experience the healing of this wonderful Sacrament.

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE...?

Could you spare an hour on the Wednesday of Holy Week to help me wash down the benches after 10am Mass? The Main Altar, Our Lady's Altar and the Baptismal Font are also in need of some elbow grease - would you help to wash these down? If you can, I would love to see you! It may be an idea to bring your own bucket since there does not seem to be enough to go round. Cloths and suitable detergents will be provided.

My sincere thanks to the small group of ladies who keep the Church spick and span all year round for all their hard work.

SCIAF LENTEN ALMS BOXES

Please return these by the end of the week, either to the porch or the sacristy.

GIFT AID

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We are almost at the end of the Financial Year, and those of you who use collection envelopes have just about finished your booklets. New envelopes will be delivered to your homes over the next few weeks.

There are lots of people coming to Mass at the weekend at Saint Bride's. And when I empty the collection bags on a Sunday, there are lots of high value notes. I often wonder to myself: how many of these contributions could be Giftaided? I would encourage you to think seriously about joining the Giftaid Scheme - particularly our younger parishioners. **It costs you absolutely nothing - the only qualification is that you pay Income Tax.** I think, too, that some of you may believe that you are already signed-up to the Giftaid scheme, and in reality you are not. Please check with me if you are in doubt.

This is a very important source of income for the parish, since for every pound you contribute to the collection, we can claim 25p from the Government. Money for nothing! Last year we earned almost £21,000 from your contributions. With so much work to be done around the Church and Presbytery, this will help us face these tasks with more confidence.

Forms will be available next week if you would like to sign-up. You can choose to make your contribution by using envelopes, or, if you prefer, to give your weekly offerings through Bank Standing Order. Perhaps you wish to increase your donation to the Church. If you have any questions, please speak to me, I will be happy to help! Sincere thanks for your continued generosity to Saint Bride's. God reward you!

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary Accies will take place on Saturday 23rd March at Saint Vincent's Parish, East Kilbride. Rosary 10.30am, followed by Holy Mass at 11am. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. All welcome.

FOODBANK

Leaflets detailing the items required for the Easter food collection are being distributed this week. Donations will be taken-up on Palm Sunday, 23rd and 24th March.



HOLY WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S 2024

PALM SUNDAY - NEXT SUNDAY

Holy Masses with the Blessing of Palms at Vigil 4.30pm, Sunday 9.30am and 11.30am

Confessions before the Vigil Mass from 4pm-4.20pm and after each Mass for 30 minutes

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

The Church opens at 6.30am and closes at 6pm (Monday and Wednesday)

Holy Mass 7am, followed by Confessions

Stations of the Cross 9.35am

Holy Mass 10am followed by Confessions

Tuesday - Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots, with Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction at 7pm, followed by Confessions

HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am

The Chrism Mass in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Good Aid, Motherwell, 11.30am with the Renewal of Priestly Commitment and Blessing of the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick, and the Consecration of the Oil of Chrism

7pm Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper and Procession to the Altar of Repose

10pm 'At Gethsemane' - a Special Service for Holy Thursday with Night Prayer of the Church at the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY

10am Morning Prayer of the Church, followed by Confessions

3pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Collection for the Holy Places and Holy Communion

7pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Collection for the Holy Places and Holy Communion

HOLY SATURDAY

10am Morning Prayer of the Church, followed by Confessions

6.30pm The Great Easter Vigil, with The Liturgy of Light, of the Word, of Baptism and the Eucharist

EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Mass of the Resurrection with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises at 9.30am and 11.30am. Easter Water will be distributed after Holy Mass for you to bless your home

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Steven Holiway, Margaret Rose McMahan, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Father Bill Tollan, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Madge Reilly, Jan Milligan, Betty Cunningham.

RECENTLY DEAD - Vincent Dodds, Jean Ormsby, John Ingalls, Frank Barrett, Elizabeth Crane, Roddy Neeson.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Margaret M. Muldoon, Terry Cassidy, John Hughes, Alexandra McGovern, Libbano Simi, Mary and John Davidson, Edward Garry, Andrew McShane, Annie Flaherty, Thomas Flaherty.

FUNERALS

Jean Ormsby - Vigil and Reception, Thursday 21st March 6pm. Requiem Mass, Friday 22nd, 10am.

John Ingalls - Reception and Requiem Mass, Tuesday 2nd April, 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 10th March - £2856. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. 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: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97

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.

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. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.