

St Columbkille's Rutherglen

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CLERGY

Parish Priest: **Fr Bernard Mournian**

In Residence: **Fr Pat Hennessy**

In Residence: **Fr Stephen Reilly**

Deacon: **Rev Bill M^cMillan**

EASTER SUNDAY

SATURDAY 3RD APRIL/SUNDAY 4TH APRIL 2021

Parish Services for Easter Week

EASTER WEEK

Holy Mass:- Mon – Fri - 10am and **1pm**
Saturday - 10am; 4pm (Vigil); 5.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday - 9am; 10.30am; **12 noon** & 4pm

Funeral Mass:- Thursday 8th April, 10 am - **John Richard Keoghan R.I.P.**

Friday 9th April, 10 am - **Hilda M^cNaught R.I.P.**

Saturday 10th April, 10 am - **Peter Fitzpatrick R.I.P.**

MOURNERS ONLY – NO PUBLIC MASS AT THESE TIMES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Mon-Sat - 9.30-9.55am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mon-Sat – 9.30-9.55am

*** advance booking required**

For those unable to attend, services marked in red will be live-streamed

You can access all our services on the parish Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stcolumbkillesrutherglen>

Booking Mass:- <https://st-columbkilles-sunday-mass.eventbrite.co.uk>

or phone or text **07783 340539** to book.

PLEASE ONLY BOOK BY PHONE IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS

Last week's collection - £1931 - Thank you for your generosity

EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE CLERGY

“Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.” This traditional greeting on Easter morning echoes the greeting of the angel to Mary Magdalene. As we proclaim the Easter acclamation with joy in our hearts the clergy of St Columbkille’s, would like to wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter season. During this Easter season may the risen Lord be ever more present in your lives.

EASTER OCTAVE

The Feast of Easter lasts for eight days – The Easter Octave. Mass on each of these days is an Easter Mass. As with the Feast of Christmas, Easter is too special to be restricted to just one day, therefore the Church celebrates the Easter season or Eastertide. St. Athanasius said “The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one ‘great Sunday’” but the first eight days or octave specifically celebrate the solemnity of Easter.

‘If Holy Week is the most sacred and most important week of the entire ecclesiastical year, it is because it draws its importance from Good Friday, the day on which Christ, the God-Man and Redeemer, died on the cross for us. Rightly, therefore, can this week be considered the most serious and awe-inspiring in the Church’s calendar. But Easter Week is the antithesis of Holy Week. Since the Resurrection was the most significant event in the life of our Lord, who by means of this wonderful and undeniable fact, made His divinity known to the entire world, Easter is the highest Sunday and Easter Week the greatest week of the entire Church year.’ (With Christ Through the Year, 1947, Bernard Strasser, p. 144).

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Please support your parish through the weekly collection, our income relies solely on the donations of our parishioners. Contributions can be made in the form of a standing order or online donation through our website, using the bank details below.

Sort Code: 83-26-24

Account No: 00255006

Filling out our Gift Aid form will allow us to claim an extra 25% of your donation from the taxman, at no cost to yourself! Standing order and Gift Aid forms are on our website.

Card Machine:- We have had a new and improved card machine installed in the church which is able to capture your Gift Aid details. When you tap your card for the first time, you will be prompted to enter your name and postcode, which will allow us to claim back the tax on your donation, at no extra charge to you! The details are saved on the machine for future use so you will only need to enter your details once.

Gift Aid:- For those who use Gift Aid envelopes these are available to collect at the back of the church.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We have been overwhelmed by the interest in our projects available for sponsoring. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners we have been able to complete all of these projects:-

- Paschal candle restoration
- Restoration of the inside of the tabernacle
- New lighting for the sanctuary
- Planting of trees at the front of the church
- New cameras in the choir loft
- Easter flowers

Thank you to everyone who has donated to these projects. If you would like to sponsor a project, please contact us at the Church Office. Gift certificates are available.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Our series of talks will now take place after Easter beginning Tuesday 13th April; the schedule is included in your Easter pack. Please email the Church Office if you wish to attend.

'PAVE THE WAY - BE A HOLY SOLE' – KILTWALK 2021

We invite you to help us **Pave the Way** by being '**A Holy Sole**' and sign up to this year's Kiltwalk to raise funds for the replacement of the paving around the Church. This year the Kiltwalk is a **virtual** event, taking place on the weekend of the 23-25 April 2021.

'You can walk, you can run or you can just have fun.'

What you do and how you decide to complete your challenge is entirely up to you, the more imaginative the better! All funds raised will be topped up by 50%, courtesy of the Hunter Foundation. This is a really fun event for everyone in the parish to get involved with, no matter your age or level of fitness. Each volunteer who signs up to the challenge will pay a registration fee of:

Adults (16+):- £12.80

Children (5-15):- £6.50

Toddlers (under 5's):- Free

For your entry fee you get access to the 50% top up, a 2021 Virtual Medal, Personalised JustGiving fundraising page, Digital Challenge Pack containing fun activities for all the family, chance to win a car from Arnold Clark and more.

Please ensure when you are registering as a volunteer that you choose the event called:

- **Scotland's Virtual Kiltwalk 2021**

And when you go on to choose the charity you are raising funds for, please ensure you choose:

- **RC Diocese of Motherwell**

To find out how to register as a volunteer and raise funds for the parish, contact Paul McLaughlin at paul.mclaughlin57@ntlworld.com or 0141-643-2126 for all the details. **Paul will also be available to sign people up after 1pm Mass on Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th and Monday 12th April.**

RCIA CANDIDATES

Our RCIA candidates – **Nicola Docherty, Gemma Murdoch, Deborah and Louis Lalande** - will be received into the church next weekend on Divine Mercy Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers as we welcome them to our community. Thank you to our RCIA team for preparing them.

THANK YOUS

- The generous donor who financed the vests for our stewards.
- Thank you to everyone who is in our Gift Aid scheme, we claimed £1460 through Gift Aid for our Lenten collection!

EASTER COLLECTION

Envelopes have been sent out with our Easter packs. Please return these as soon as possible, if you are in a position to do so. There will be a collection box at the back of the church or they can be posted through our door!

300 CLUB

March Draw Winners

1st Prize (£100) - No. 171 Mrs McCreadle

2nd Prize (£50) - No. 286 S McGuire

3rd Prize (£30) - No 169 A.M Parker

Collectors:- Next Draw Sunday 25th April

New members required:- Anyone wishing to join the club please contact Rosaleen Anderson TEL 647 2301 or leave your name with one of the Priests. Membership cards, for those who don't have one yet, are in the box at the back of the church.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise your business in our bulletin, please get in touch with the Church Office.

STALL

Mass cards, mass bouquets including for Easter are at the back of the church. All cards £1.

Please pray for the following:-

Sick:- Frank Ward, John Cameron, Alan Cameron, Jennifer Milne Mary Linstrum, Isabella Flannery, Neil Craig, Steven Murphy, Ann Ward, Kevin M^cKeown, Manus Gallagher, Mary Margaret M^cLaughlin, Christopher Browne, John Hanlon, David Milligan, Patricia Ferguson, Christopher Coleman, Mary and Niall Greenan, Baby Ronan Jackson, Mary (Molly) Gray, Patricia Fay, Marie Murphy, Helen M^cAllister, Fraser M^cAllister, Isabel M^cEwan, Sophia Walker (9).

Recently deceased:- Wallace Shirreffs, Crawford Piper, Mary Ellen Friel, Nathan Hadlow, Betty Robertson, Bridget M^cKernan, Barry Good, Charles M^cLaughlin, Emily Garrington, Robert McCarthy, James Hendry, Joanne M^cCue, Michael Smith, Betty Robertson, Rose Polland, Mary Dunese, Elizabeth O Callaghan, John Keoghan, Hilda McNaught, Catherine D'Arcy Purdon, Peter Fitzpatrick

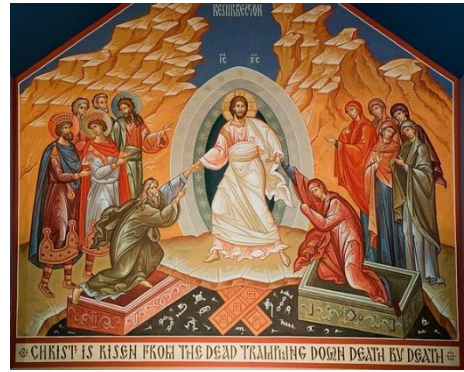
Anniversaries:- Euphemia Gallagher, Grace M^cFadden, John Brogan, Hugh Durnin, Catherine Moore, Patricia Plommer, Matt Mitchell, James Donachie.

Birthday Remembrance:- John Farrell Donnelly, Margaret M^cCarron, Susan Fulton.

Special Remembrance:- Jenny Rea

THE LORD'S DESCENT INTO HELL
An ancient homily for Holy Saturday

"What is happening? Today there is a great silence over the earth, a great silence, and stillness, a great silence because the King sleeps; the earth was in terror and was still, because God slept in the flesh and raised up those who were sleeping from the ages. God has died in the flesh, and the underworld has trembled.



Truly he goes to seek out our first parent like a lost sheep; he wishes to visit those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. He goes to free the prisoner Adam and his fellow-prisoner Eve from their pains, He who is God, and Adam's son.

The Lord goes in to them holding his victorious weapon, his cross. When Adam, the first created man, sees him, he strikes his breast in terror and calls out to all: 'My Lord be with you all.' And Christ in reply says to Adam: 'And with your spirit.' And grasping his hand he raises him up, saying: 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.

'I am your God, who for your sake became your son, who for you and your descendants now speak and command with authority those in prison: Come forth, and those in darkness: Have light, and those who sleep: Rise.

'I command you: Awake, sleeper, I have not made you to be held a prisoner in the underworld. Arise from the dead; I am the life of the dead. Arise, O man, work of my hands, arise, you who were fashioned in my image. Rise, let us go hence; for you in me and I in you, together we are one undivided person.

'For you, I your God became your son; for you, I the Master took on your form; that of slave; for you, I who am above the heavens came on earth and under the earth; for you, man, I became as a man without help, free among the dead; for you, who left a garden, I was handed over to Jews from a garden and crucified in a garden.

'Look at the spittle on my face, which I received because of you, in order to restore you to that first divine inbreathing at creation. See the blows on my cheeks, which I accepted in order to refashion your distorted form to my own image.

'See the scourging of my back, which I accepted in order to disperse the load of your sins which was laid upon your back. See my hands nailed to the tree for a good purpose, for you, who stretched out your hand to the tree for an evil one.

'I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side, for you, who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side healed the pain of your side; my sleep will release you from your sleep in Hades; my sword has checked the sword which was turned against you.

'But arise, let us go hence. The enemy brought you out of the land of paradise; I will reinstate you, no longer in paradise, but on the throne of heaven. I denied you the tree of life, which was a figure, but now I myself am united to you, I who am life. I posted the cherubim to guard you as they would slaves; now I make the cherubim worship you as they would God.

"The cherubim throne has been prepared, the bearers are ready and waiting, the bridal chamber is in order, the food is provided, the everlasting houses and rooms are in readiness; the treasures of good things have been opened; the kingdom of heaven has been prepared before the ages."

BISHOP TOAL'S EASTER MESSAGE

25th March 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we look forward to Holy Week, beginning this weekend with Palm Sunday, it is with much relief that we can now return to the public celebration of our faith, and I extend a very warm welcome to those who will venture out to Mass, while reassuring those who will remain at home that you are very much in our prayers. The celebration of Holy Mass, and our participation in it, are at the centre of our Catholic faith, and not being able to be physically present during the lockdowns of the past year has been a trial. Hopefully we now return in good spirit and with renewed energy and commitment to share in the Lord's goodness to us and to thank him for his blessings.

The last year has been a difficult time, and we need to pray that the seeds of recovery will continue to grow and that we can regain some of what has been lost, as well as appreciating all that has been learned. Life always moves on and we do need to adapt to our changed circumstances and the requirements now placed upon us. These do require continued vigilance and patience as we strive to protect one another and ensure our churches are safe as well as welcoming.

We keep in our memory and prayers all who have suffered because of the pandemic, particularly those who have been seriously ill, those who have lost loved ones, those distressed or isolated, all whose lives have been badly disrupted. We pray also for those who have died trusting that they will share in the Lord's Resurrection, the celebration of which we look forward to on Easter Day. We offer prayers of gratitude for all who have given so much of themselves in caring for others, especially the sick and those in need of care and protection. The efforts made by so many, both professionally and voluntarily, have been inspiring and have ensured that our services have been maintained and that there is the possibility of recovery and renewal.

Through Holy Week we follow Our Lord's path of suffering and unite our own life experience with his, thus gaining strength to carry our crosses and the trials that come our way, while quietly coming to terms with our own humanity, its fragility and inevitable end here on earth. As we move from the pain and sadness of the Lord's Passion and Death on Holy Thursday Evening and Good Friday, we look forward with renewed faith to the joy of Easter and our firm hope of sharing in his Resurrection. The possibility of being present at Mass again and of receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion will surely bring much consolation and blessing as we seek to grow in love of him and each other. May his words to the disciples at the Last Supper – *"Love one another, just as I have loved you"* - resonate in our hearts and minds as we renew our baptismal promises and our desire to be faithful witnesses to Jesus in our own time.

Although the numbers attending will be restricted, I will concelebrate the Annual Mass of Chrism with some of the Diocesan priests in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral on Holy Thursday, April 1st, at 11am. The Mass will be live-streamed by Sancta Familia Media and will also be available through the Diocesan Media. I invite you to follow the Chrism Mass, during which the Oils will be blessed and the priests will renew their Priestly Promises, and to pray with us and for us.

I pray for the Lord's blessing upon you and all your loved ones this Easter, thinking also of the people of our own country and, indeed, of every country in our world. May we feel the protection of God over, among and within us, and may the light of the Risen Lord bring new hope to places and moments of darkness and uncertainty. May the intercession of Our Blessed Lady and St Joseph also bring protection and solace and keep us in communion with Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

+ Joseph Toal

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