

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

THE SEASON OF LENT

*LENT prepares for Easter, for the Lenten Liturgy disposes both the faithful and Catechumens to celebrate **THE PASCHAL MYSTERY** as the centre of the Liturgical year and of the Christian life.*

Lent was originally the time of preparation for those who were to become members of the Church at Easter (the Catechumens).

*Purple is the colour of the season. Flowers are not used and musical instruments are only used to support the singing. The **Gloria** is omitted except on Solemnities and Feasts other than Sunday.*

TODAY is traditionally known as **Laetare Sunday** (=Rejoice Sunday) as we are now more than half way through our Lenten journey to Easter.

SATURDAY:

**ST. PATRICK,
BISHOP,
PATRON OF OUR PARISH.**

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS MARCH 2018

Evangelization: Formation in Spiritual Discernment

That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

PARISH PRAYERS

We pray for all who are ill or housebound: in particular, we remember:

Eugene MacMahon,
Graeme Ford, Teddy O'Neil.

We pray for all who have died recently, R.I.P.:

**Henry Black,
Moira McGranaghan,
George & Margaret McInulty,
John O'Hagan, Alex Mullen.**

We remember those whose anniversaries are at this time, R.I.P.:

Celia Bradley, Bridie McCready,
Teddy O'Neill.

THE INNOCENTS

Pregnancy testing and counselling done in confidence,
Mondays and Thursdays 7.00-9.00pm. Tel. 743809

ST. PATRICK'S NEWSLETTER

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Website: www.stpatricksgreenock.org

Parish Clergy: Rev. Gerard Gallagher
Rev. Thomas John Erambil



11th. March 2018

4th. SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY MASS: Saturday Vigil; 7.00pm: Sunday; 9.00am, 11.00am & 7.00pm

Sunday Readings: 4th. Sunday of Lent, Year B

WEEKDAY MASS: 8.00am & 10.00am: **SATURDAY** 10.00am & 7.00pm (Vigil)

Weekday Readings: 4th. Week of Lent

PENANCE & RECONCILIATION: Saturday; 9.30-9.50am & after Mass: 6.15-6.45pm

MORNING PRAYER: Monday-Thursday 9.45am (in the Cry Chapel)

Divine Office: 4th. Week of Lent: **Psalms:** Week 4

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday – Saturday, 9.00am–9.30am

Rosary: Each weekday after 10.00am Mass (in the Cry Chapel)

Way of the Cross: Thursday 6.30pm (with Night Prayer): Friday 9.45am

Baptism: Sunday after 11.00am Mass

Marriage: Please give at least 6 month's notice of Marriage

TODAY'S LITURGY

1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36.14-16, 19-23:

The wrath and mercy of God are revealed in the exile and in the release of his people.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2.4-10:

You who were dead through your own sins have been saved through grace

THE GOSPEL: John 3.14-21:

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.



Today's Liturgy: Today's Gospel ends by reminding us that everything is "done in God", a powerful phrase that embraces both God's restoration of the exiles from Babylon and God's continued liberation from darkness through Jesus as he speaks to Nicodemus. Paul stresses that God's surrounding love and mercy is "for all ages".

LENT 2018

We have some additional opportunities for communal prayer during the Season of Lent.

Mass: Monday-Friday 8.00am & 10.00am

Eucharistic Adoration: 9.00-9.30am (Monday—Saturday)

Morning Prayer: 9.45am (Monday—Thursday)

Rosary: After 10.00am Mass, Monday—Saturday (in the Cry Chapel)

Way of the Cross: **Thursday 6.30pm** (with Night Prayer); **Friday 9.45am**

TODAY: SECOND COLLECTION for **SVDP** or at the door on the day. **PAPAL & EPISCOPAL CHARITIES**, Donations for raffles gratefully appreciated. **especially for SCIAF. We have a message from Bishop Toal at all Masses today.**

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK

Because the feast of our Patron falls on a Saturday this year we have two opportunities to celebrate.

On Friday the boys and girls of St Patrick's School will join us for 10.00am Mass.

On Saturday we will have our parish celebration on the Feast Day itself at 10.00am followed by tea-coffee and rolls in the Hall.

It would be great if as many parishioners as possible could join us on both days for the Feast of our Patron.

THANK YOU for last week's **Offertory Collection** which came to £1,219.05.

BINGO AFTERNOON on **Saturday 24th March** at 2.00pm, in aid of Parish Funds. Tea, Sandwiches and Biscuits will be provided. Tickets, priced £1 from any member of the

or at the door on the day. Donations for raffles gratefully appreciated.

PARISH CENSUS

Today we undertake our Parish Census and we ask you to return the forms as soon as possible. Pens are available at the doors of the Church if you would like to complete the form immediately.

You are asked to give your name and contact details. You are also asked if you would like to take on a role within the Parish, especially if you do not already do so. Among other tasks, we really could do with more Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion (for the Church and for home visits), Ministry of Welcome-Passkeepers, Altar Servers (Young people and adults). We already have people doing all these things, but we could use more and so we could better share the workload.

CONSULTATION ON MASSES & MASS TIMES At the recent Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, it was agreed that we will undertake this consultation during Eastertime.

AT MASS DURING LENT

For the **PENITENTIAL RITE**, we are using the Confiteor everyday ("I confess to Almighty God...") and for the "**Lord, have mercy**" we use the original Greek formula, "**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**".

For the **PROFESSION OF FAITH** (the Creed) we are using the **Apostles Creed** on which is based the **Renewal of our Baptismal Promises** on Easter Sunday.

DIOCESAN CHOIR Rehearsal in St. Charles', Paisley, at 2.30pm TODAY (Sunday). All welcome! Contact Mgr. Denis Carlin: ctkolf@rcdop.org.uk

LENTEN EVENINGS Thursday evening in St. Mary's Parish Hall, Houston Street, beginning at 7.00pm.

This week: Catholic Education's contribution to Scotland's history.

PAISLEY DIOCESAN WORLD YOUTH DAY GATHERING on **Sunday 25th March (PALM SUNDAY)** at **St Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley, from 2.00pm till 6.00pm** Join young people from across the Diocese: secondary and young adults. All participants **MUST BRING** a signed consent form, available from your Parish Priest. Evening meal and transport will be provided. If you would like to come along then please register your interest by contacting Fr Frank Hannigan on 07944343494 or youth@rcdop.org.uk

MASS OF THE CHRISM on **Wednesday 28th March** at **7.00pm** in St. Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley .

LENTEN REFLECTION

Today's Gospel reminds us that, "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved."

Here, then, are **Primary 4's** thoughts on **FORGIVENESS**.

We know that during Lent we try to grow closer to God. In Primary 4 we have been talking about **FORGIVENESS** and how important it is. We think that forgiveness is important because God forgives our sins when we are truly sorry. This is very important for us this year as we made our **First Confession**, when we confessed our sins to God and sought forgiveness. We always try to forgive our friends because we know it is what God would want. We say sorry and accept our friends' apologies. We think that forgiveness makes you feel good inside because you know you have helped to make someone feel a bit better to stop their worries. Forgiveness feels good because it is like a fresh start.
