

Parish Ministers' Rota
18th March 2018 (Fifth Sunday of Lent. Year B)

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
5 pm Vigil St Aidan's	S.Corr, M.McKenna, D.Chalmers	K.Cassidy*, M.McCardie
9.30am St Mary's	E.McBride (B), B.Lynch(A)	H.Bradley
11 am St Aidan's	C.Irvine, J.Burton, J.Slavin	A.McCrossan*, M.Clark
4.30 pm St Mary's		L.Higgins

TODAY'S READINGS

Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today's Gospel consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23

Response to the Psalm:

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not.

Second Reading:

Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

11am Mass sung

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; everyone who believes in him has eternal life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

11am Mass sung

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel:

John 3:14-21

St Mary's and St Aidan's

Year B

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

11th March 2018



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

Parish Priest: Rev. Liam O'Connor
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'St Mary's Cleland and St Aidan's Wishaw'

Scottish Registered Charity Number 11041

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT YEAR 2.

Sat 17th March, Feast of St Partick, Patron Saint of Ireland. He travelled the length and breadth of Ireland, planting the faith everywhere despite the hostility of the Druids, and succeeded in converting several members of the royal family. It is believed that he died on 17th March 461AD.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Gerard O'Neill, Jim Nolan, David Beck, Mary Theresa McCormick, Cathie Bryce, Cathie McConnachie, Cecilia Moore, Lynne Watters, Mary Kelly, Ellen Dunn, John Lochrie, Anne Roarty, Bernard Gallacher, John Friary, Catherine Grant, George McKinney, Bridget McNally, Mary Lambert, Peter McGhee, Elaine Farrell Cleary, Rose O'Donnell, Margaret Whelan, Mary T. Stones (McKinney) and Henry Hughes who are sick.

Sandy Ferrier, Cathie Brennan, Patricia Collins and Mary O'Raw, who have died

The Month's Mind and Anniversaries of: Peter Deans, Anne Jane Briody, William & Mary Anne Green, Arthur Cairns, Bridget & Patrick McFarlane, Peggy Henderson, Archie & Margaret McFarlane, William & Elizabeth Brophy, Brophy Family, James & Elizabeth Nolan, Nolan Family, Mary O'Brien, Anne Hattie & Rita Kane, Patricia Collins, Frank & Katie Waple, Euphemia Donnachie, Philip Mellon, Ann Meharry, Eleanor Cassidy, Mary Cunningham and Arthur O'Neill.

NOTICE TO ALL GROUPS

Please note that the floor in St Aidan's Church Hall is being refurbished. This work will commence on **MONDAY 19th MARCH** and will take one week to complete. Thereafter the Hall will require a "deep clean" and will remain closed for a further week. During this time there will be no access to the Church Hall. Groups will be able to recommence from **TUESDAY 3rd APRIL**. Thank you for your patience during this time.

SVDP HELPLINE

If you require the services of the SVDP you can contact a member by phoning **07561843580**

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

This week is the 4th Sunday of Lent (SCIAF Sunday) and the second collection will be taken up for the work of SCIAF.

Gift Aid envelopes available at end of pews.

MENS LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday 17th March 10am – 3pm approx.

The Retreat will consist of talks, Holy Mass, Confession, Stations of the Cross in Carfin Grotto (weather permitting) and lunch. Cost £15. If you are interested, please contact George McAleenan (842846) or email georgemcaleenan@gmail.com

RACE NIGHT FOR HCPT

Once again the **Men's Club** is holding a race night to raise funds for **Canon Clements' HCPT group**.

This will take place at **7.30pm on Friday 16th March in St Aidan's Church Hall.**

There will be a licensed bar.

If you or your company or business wish to sponsor a race, buy a horse, donate raffle prizes or support us in any other way, please contact a member of the Men's Club or **phone Pat O'Connor (384440).**

A good turnout on the night would be appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Confirmati of St Aidan's Primary School. They were a credit to their parents, teachers and the Parish on Thursday night.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 16th MARCH 2pm

ST AIDAN'S CHURCH

Tea/Coffee in hall after service.

We hope that as many parishioners as possible can attend.

COLTNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The next meeting takes place in Carrick Hall, on Tuesday 13th March at 7pm. All welcome!

PARISH OF ST MARY'S AND ST AIDAN'S MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday

St Aidan's: 5pm Vigil Mass
St Mary's: 9.30am Mass
St Aidan's: 11am Mass
St Mary's: 4.30pm Mass

Weekday

Monday: St Mary's 10am
Tuesday: St Aidan's 10am
Wednesday: St Mary's 10am
Thursday: St Aidan's 10am
St Mary's 7pm (*Latin Mass*)
Friday: St Mary's 10am
Saturday: St Aidan's 10am
St Mary's 10am St Aidan's 11am

First Friday of the Month (during term time)

Confessions: After weekday Masses in relevant church.
Saturday: 4.30pm – 4.50pm and after Vigil Mass in St Aidan's.
Thursday Evening: 6.30pm – 7pm in St Mary's before Latin Mass

Baptisms

St Aidan's Church 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 12 noon
St Mary's Church 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12.30pm
To arrange please contact: **Fr O'Connor Tel: (01698) 860254.**

LENTEN PROGRAMME

EARLY MASS:

St. Aidan's: Mon, Wed & Fri 8:20am
St. Mary's: Tues & Thurs 8:30am
(please encourage school children to attend.)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

St. Aidan's: Tuesday 6:30pm
St. Mary's Thursday 6:30pm

ROSARY & BENEDICTION:

Saint Mary's from First Sunday of Lent 5:15pm approx., immediately after the 4:30pm Mass.

ST MARY'S HALL

Some work has been carried out in recent weeks to upgrade the hall at St Mary's. Three new doors have been installed, and the windows have been upgraded. We hope to carry out more work in the coming months ahead.

WISHAW GENERAL CHAPLAINCY

Contact Fr Ricklan Mallya, RC Chaplain, either by phoning the hospital (361100) or St Bernadette's (263945).

CAFÉ LINDISFARNE

The Café will be serving Rolls n Sausage, bacon, toast and home baking in the hall after Mass this morning. **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

COFFEE MORNING

Coffee morning each **WEDNESDAY** after Mass in **St Mary's Parochial Hall**. The coffee morning is for everyone, both men and women, and takes place on a weekly basis.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Saint Mary's: Monday 12th March 6:30pm
Saint Aidan's: Tuesday 13th March 6:30pm
(Stations of the Cross cancelled that Tuesday)

POPE FRANCIS' MISSION INTENTION
March 2018

Pope Francis asks us to join with him this month in praying:
That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

PARISH NOTICES

The Stall is open in St Aidan's Hall after 11am Mass.
The Morning Café is open in St Aidan's Hall after 10am Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Café open in St Mary's Hall after 10am Mass on Wednesday.
Indoor Bowling Club meets in St Aidan's on Tuesdays 1.30pm - 3pm. **New members welcome!**
St Mary's Rosary Group meets in St Mary's every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. **All welcome!**
The CADALBA Group meets in St Aidan's Hall on Wednesdays 11.15am. This group meets to raise funds for Third World countries. A large number of the members crochet or knit blankets and baby clothes but others just enjoy the blether. **New members welcome!**
The Men's Club meets in St Aidan's Hall every Thursday at 7.30pm. **New members welcome.**
Hall Bookings for St Aidan's Hall: Phone Cathy McCallum (01698 383553)