**JUSTICE AND PEACE SCOTLAND**

The annual collection to support the Church’s work in promoting a just and peaceful world will take place this weekend.

**WEE BOXES**

Parishioners who have taken home a Wee Box for the St Nicholas Care Fund and/or St Margaret’s Adoption Society are kindly requested to return these to the parish by Sunday 20th January 2019. After this date donations should be sent directly to the charity.

**THANKS**
Fr Joe and Deacon Tommy wish to thank you for your kind greetings, cards and gifts this Christmas. We are truly grateful for your support in our ministries. We wish you a blessed and holy year ahead.

**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK**

Last week’s Offertory Collection came to £552

*Many thanks for your ongoing support of the parish.*

**ST MUNGO FESTIVAL**

A variety of events has been organised to mark the feast day of St Mungo (celebrated on 14th January this year due to the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord on the 13th). For further information visit: <http://mediaevalglasgow.org/>

**OCTAVE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

The theme for this year’s Octave, which takes place form 18-25th January 2019, is *Only Justice*. “Our prayers for Christian unity are offered within a context of a world where corruption, greed and injustice bring about inequality and division. We ourselves are often complicit in in justice, and yet called together to form a united witness for justice and to be a means of Christ’s healing grace for a fractured world.” (resource pack)

**VOCATION DISCERMENT**

A series of evening of catechesis, prayer and support has been organised for next year. Anyone considering their future and what God is calling them to do is welcome. The first event is at 7.00pm pm on Fri 11 January 2019 in Turnbull Hall, Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.

**FAITH FORUM: EXPLORING CATHOLIC DOCTRINE**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).  Keen to learn more about the Church’s magisterial teachings? Come along to the Glasgow Faith Forum’s fortnightly series of talks in 2019: 10 January – *The Most Holy Trinity* (Archbishop Tartaglia). Turnbull Hall, University of Glasgow Catholic Chaplaincy, 13-15 Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.  All young people welcome.

**SPUC 2019 YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Joi young people from around the country to learn how to be a voice for the voiceless. 15-17 March 2019, Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Milton Keynes. Cost £115 covers accommodation, food and conference costs. [www.spuc.org.uk](http://www.spuc.org.uk) for further information and booking.

**SPRED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**

For 34 years SPRED has provided friendship, catechesis and opportunities for people with learning disabilities to be fully included in the liturgical life of Glasgow parishes. To help us continue this journey we require new volunteer drivers. Commitment involves, only 14 times a year (during school term time), going to a friend’s home to drive them to the SPRED centre at Provanmill for 7pm and returning at 9pm to take the person home. Please contact SPRED on 0141 770 5055 or email:

glasgow.spred@btconnect.com

or drop in and visit us at the SPRED OFFICE: 20 Robroyston Road, Glasgow G33 1EQ

**POPE FRANCIS TWEETS**

May Mary, Mother of God, protect and accompany us during this new year and bring the peace of her Son into our hearts and the world.

@Pontifex

**POPE FRANCIS WRITES:**

**REJOICE AND BE GLAD**

Pope Francis renewed the Lord’s call to holiness in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*. The full document can be purchased in the Pauline Multimedia store in St Enoch’s square or downloaded from the Holy See’s website: [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

*“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God”.*

Certainly there can be no love without works of love, but this Beatitude reminds us that the Lord expects a commitment to our brothers and sisters that comes from the heart. For “if I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have no love, I gain nothing” (1 Cor 13:3). In Matthew’s Gospel too, we see that what proceeds from the heart is what defiles a person (cf. 15:18), for from the heart come murder, theft, false witness, and other evil deeds (cf. 15:19). From the heart’s intentions come the desires and the deepest decisions that determine our actions.

86. A heart that loves God and neighbour (cf. Mt 22:36-40), genuinely and not merely in words, is a pure heart; it can see God. In his hymn to charity, Saint Paul says that “now we see in a mirror, dimly” (1 Cor 13:12), but to the extent that truth and love prevail, we will then be able to see “face to face”. Jesus promises that those who are pure in heart “will see God”.

Keeping a heart free of all that tarnishes love: that is holiness.

**PARISH PRAYER**

*Father, almighty and eternal God, whose praise is sung throughout all creation and whose glory is proclaimed by all peoples. You create us in love and call us to our eternal destiny of loving communion with You. May the parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel be a place where Your Name is hallowed and Your chosen ones are united in Holy Mass with Your Son in praise and thanksgiving.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, Word of God, Incarnate of the Virgin Mary, You manifest the Father’s love and reveal His will for us. May we always be aware of our Baptismal dignity as the Children of God by our sharing through the Holy Spirit in Your Sonship, and so respond to Your call in service of each other, our parish, Holy Mother Church and the world.*

*Holy Spirit, Advocate and Spirit of Truth, You breathed your life into the Apostles at Pentecost, inspiring them to be preachers of the Word. May we always be open to Your promptings that our parish may be renewed in praise of God and in living the truth in charity.*

*Our Lady, Mother of the Church*

*Pray for us.*

*Our Lady of Good Counsel*

*Pray for us*



**VOCATIONS**

The monthly meetings for men who are considering a vocation to the priesthood held in Turnbull Hall, the Catholic Chaplaincy, University of Glasgow. Meetings, which are informal and involve no commitment, take place on the second Friday of each month. A period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a talk on priestly life will be followed by supper and the chance to share with other men who are undertaking a similar time of discernment. The next session will be on Friday . For further information contact Fr Ross Campbell: 0141 339 4315. Email:

Ross.Campbell.2@glasgow.ac.uk