**Presbytery**

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**Parish Clergy**

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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

Our Lady of Good Counsel

**Baptisms**

Usually take place after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday. Parents are requested to make arrangements with the Parish Clergy in good time.

**Marriages**

Couples are requested to speak to the Parish Clergy at least six months before a wedding and before any other arrangements are confirmed.

**Funerals**

Families are asked to contact the Parish before making any arrangements with a Funeral Director.

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

Meets every Sunday after the 11.00am Mass. Its members keep regular contact with the sick and elderly and support parishioners in time of need.

*Our Lady of Good Counsel is a parish of the Archdiocese of Glasgow, a Designated Religious Charity, No. SCO18140*

**INTIMATIONS**

In charity we are asked to pray for:

Sick: All commended to our prayers.

Recently deceased:

Silvana Zani; Mgr Jack Sheridan; Michael Duffy;

Anniversary:

Blanche Bradley; June McCafferty; Sam & Agnes Lynn; Francis Wood Snr; Francis Wood Jnr; Ellen Wood; Dick Rigley; Joe Smith; John McCutcheon; Kevin John McGee;

**The parish bulletin is sponsored by parishioner John Watters, painter & decorator. Free estimates 0141 554 7454**

**Our Lady of Good Counsel**

**4th SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C**

**31 March 2019**



**Liturgy of the Word:**

1st reading: Josh 5:9-12

Psalm 33; Response:

*Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

2nd reading: 2 Cor 5:17-21

Gospel: Lk 15:1-3.11-32

Divine Office: week 4, of the season.

Feast Days:

**MONDAY GROUP**

**Sunday Masses**

Vigil 5.30pm

11.00am; 5.30pm

**Children’s Liturgy**

is available during school term at the 11.00am Mass for children

primary 1 to 4.

**Daily Mass**: 10.00am

(Thursday: Liturgy of the Word)

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**:

Friday after 10.00am Mass – 11.00am

**Confessions:**

Saturday after 10.00am Mass

4.30pm - 5.15pm

The next couple of meetings will be devoted to the sacrament of Marriage. This is an important topic in today’s society, even for those who are not married. Meetings take place at 7.00pm in the parish hall. We begin by praying Vespers (Evening Prayer) together after which there is an input on an aspect of the Catholic Faith. Light refreshments give us time to continue discussion and to socialise. Next meeting is on 1st April.

**LENT**

To offer people the opportunity to attend **Holy Mass** during Lent, there will be an extra Mass in the parish: Monday – Friday at 7.30am (excluding 25-27th March).

**Stations of the Cross** (Via Crucis) is a wonderful devotion that has been prayed by the saints for centuries. Come and join us reflecting on Christ’s saving love for us on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7.00pm.

**LENTFEST** leaflets and **SCIAF** Wee Boxes are available at the back of the Church.

**COLLECTIONS**

Last week’s offertory collection came to £595

£337 was donated to the Sick & Retired Priests Fund.

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

**GIFT AID DONATIONS**

The Gift Aid scheme is a great financial benefit to the parish. GA Envelopes for the upcoming new tax year are available for collection at the back of the church. Please only use envelopes if you pay tax. I would kindly ask any parishioner who pays tax but has not signed up to the scheme to consider doing so. Forms are available at the back of the church.

**LENT COLLECTIONS**

During Lent there will be a second collection for the Sick & Retired Priests Fund. The annual SCIAF collection will be taken up on the 4th Sunday of Lent.

**POPE FRANCIS TWEETS**

Where should we fix our gaze along the journey of Lent? On the Crucifix. Jesus on the Cross is the compass of life that points us to heaven. @Pontifex

**KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA: TELL OUR STORY LIVE OUR DREAM.**

The Knights of St Columba are looking for new members to join our organisation.  We are looking for all men aged 18 years to 65 to assist us to promote the work of the  Catholic Church, to help our clergy, to help others in need, to get involved in all the work that we do throughout Scotland. If you think you are suitable and are interested in joining us, or would like more information, please contact John O' Donnell on 07854886425 or Paul Laird on 07875499608.

**LET'S MEET**

Would you like to meet someone special? ‘Let’s Meet’ is sort of like speed dating and is a very friendly, relaxed way to meet fellow single Catholics (Aged 21-40). Browns Brasserie & Bar, Glasgow. 7pm, Saturday 6th April. To find out more and buy a £10 ticket email [letsmeetscotland@gmail.com](mailto:letsmeetscotland@gmail.com)

**LENTEN DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

A Day of Confessions will take place in Saint Andrew’s Cathedral, Clyde Street, on Thursday 11th April, from 7.45am until 5.45pm.

**POPE FRANCIS WRITES: REJOICE AND BE GLAD**

Pope Francis renewed the Lord’s call to holiness in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*. **SIGNS OF HOLINESS IN TODAY’S WORLD**

126. Christian joy is usually accompanied by a sense of humour. We see this clearly, for example, in Saint Thomas More, Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Philip Neri. Ill humour is no sign of holiness. “Remove vexation from your mind” (*Eccl* 11:10). We receive so much from the Lord “for our enjoyment” (*1 Tim* 6:17), that sadness can be a sign of ingratitude. We can get so caught up in ourselves that we are unable to recognize God’s gifts.[[101]](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exsultate.html" \l "_ftn101" \o ")

127. With the love of a father, God tells us: “My son, treat yourself well... Do not deprive yourself of a happy day” (*Sir* 14:11.14). He wants us to be positive, grateful and uncomplicated: “In the day of prosperity, be joyful... God created human beings straightforward, but they have devised many schemes” (*Eccl* 7:14.29). Whatever the case, we should remain resilient and imitate Saint Paul: “I have learned to be content with what I have” (*Phil* 4:11). Saint Francis of Assisi lived by this; he could be overwhelmed with gratitude before a piece of hard bread, or joyfully praise God simply for the breeze that caressed his face.

128. This is not the joy held out by today’s individualistic and consumerist culture. Consumerism only bloats the heart. It can offer occasional and passing pleasures, but not joy. Here I am speaking of a joy lived in communion, which shares and is shared, since “there is more happiness in giving than in receiving” (*Acts* 20:35) and “God loves a cheerful giver” (*2 Cor* 9:7). Fraternal love increases our capacity for joy, since it makes us capable of rejoicing in the good of others: “Rejoice with those who rejoice” (*Rom* 12:15). “We rejoice when we are weak and you are strong” (*2 Cor* 13:9). On the other hand, when we “focus primarily on our own needs, we condemn ourselves to a joyless existence”.

**FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE**

Glasgow’s 40 Days for Life Vigil at the QEUH will come to an end on Saturday 13th April with our traditional silent candle lit hour at 7pm. Our formal Closing Event will take place in George Square the following day at 3pm, Sunday 14th April, Palm Sunday. Jamie McGowan a member of Glasgow Students for Life is the Guest Speaker. Opposition is expected on Sunday 14th April. Please come along and be a witness to hope for a culture of life here in Scotland.

**VOCATION DISCERMENT**

**THE EVERLASTING FOODBANK**

Donations are collected on the first Sunday of the month. This is a local, faith-motivated initiative to help those in need in our area and is worthy of our support.

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 next meeting is at 7.00pm pm on Fri 12th April 2019 in Turnbull Hall, Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.

**SPRED**

SPRED is a ministry within the Archdiocese that supports the faith formation of Catholics who have a learning disability. We are always in need of new volunteers. All we ask is that you have a warm heart and an ability to be a friend to someone. To find out more, come to our open evening on 25th Fevruary 2019, at 7pm in Lourdes Hall, Lourdes Avenue, G52 3QU. Call 0141 770 5055 or email [lisbeth.spred@btconnect.com](mailto:lisbeth.spred@btconnect.com) for more information.

**FERTILITY CARE SCOTLAND**

We are opening a new clinic in the Diocesan offices, Paisley on alternative Monday evenings from 7 – 9pm. We run clinics in Edinburgh, Hamilton, Aberdeen and Paisley. At Fertility Care Scotland we teach The Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation, which helps couples achieve or postpone pregnancy in a natural way. We can help couples optimize their chances of conceiving. Our service is free and confidential and no appointment is necessary. We invite you to come and visit us at one of our clinics. Phone: 0141 221 0858; E-Mail: [info@fertilitycare.org.uk;www.fertilitycare.org.uk](mailto:info@fertilitycare.org.uk;www.fertilitycare.org.uk) Join us on facebook [www.facebook.com/fertilitycarescotland](http://www.facebook.com/fertilitycarescotland) Follow us on Twitter:  [www.twitter.com/billingsscot](http://www.twitter.com/billingsscot)

**CRAIGLOCKHART**

To celebrate the centenary of the founding of Craiglockhart College of Education, a reunion rally has been planned for Saturday 11th May 2019 in Napier University Craiglockhart Campus. 10.30 Registration, 11.30 Mass, 1.15 lunch. Various events to follow. The cost is £40 per person, which includes a welcome drink, three course lunch and afternoon tea/coffee. For further information and application form please email [gripfast2019@gmail.com](mailto:gripfast2019@gmail.com) or phone Anne on 07762 575803 or Silvanna on 07793 545 025 by 1st March.