



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Sixth Sunday
of the Ordinary Season - 12th February 2023

SAINT GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Francesco Possenti was born at Assisi on 1st March 1838, the eleventh of thirteen children. Both his father and mother were distinguished, not only by birth and position, but for their personal holiness. He was baptised the same day he was born, and at the same font where, over six hundred years before, another Francesco, Saint Francis of Assisi, had been baptised.



In his early years he showed very few signs of the sanctity for which he became renowned in later life. Disobedience was his principal fault, and when corrected by his father, his bad temper would get the better of him. But his anger would cool as quickly as it had heated, and in a few moments he would return in tears to beg pardon of his father. At school Francesco quickly made himself a favourite with both companions and teachers - he was brave and outspoken and a staunch friend.

Twice he had been seriously ill, and seemed in danger of death. On both occasions he had promised God that, if he were spared, he would enter a Religious Order. The promises were evidently accepted, for each time he quickly recovered. Despite protests from his father, he decided to join the Passionists, an Order that had been founded by Saint Paul of the Cross in the early eighteenth century, and who were dedicated to the Passion of Christ - the same Order has looked after Saint Mungo's Church, across the way from Royal Infirmary in Glasgow, for many years. In 1856 he received the religious habit, and was given the name of Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows.

The twelve months he spent as a novice were a time of trial - a continual round of prayer, study and manual work. Except during short intervals of recreation, silence was to be kept throughout the whole day. Even as a novice, Gabriel was regarded as a model of holiness by his fellow students. His heroism lay in obedience and doing everything without complaint.

Although never very robust, Gabriel enjoyed good health for the first four years in the Order. He then began to show the symptoms of consumption: for months he suffered terrible pain and severe haemorrhages, but he bore it all patiently. Gabriel was only twenty-four when he died, and not yet a priest. He was buried at Isola di Gran Sasso, in southern Italy. Gabriel's tomb is a place of popular pilgrimage, and his intercession powerful. His feast falls around about now.

He famously wrote of Our Lady:

Love Mary! She is loveable, faithful and constant. She will never let herself be outdone in love, but will ever remain supreme. If you are in danger, she will hasten to free you. If you are troubled, she will console you. If you are sick, she will bring you relief. If you are in need, she will help you. She does not look to see what kind of person you have been. She simply comes to a heart that wants to love her. She comes quickly and opens her merciful heart to you, embraces you and consoles and serves you. She will even be at hand to accompany you on the trip to eternity.

PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - After 10am Mass on Saturday and after the Vigil Mass

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Friday at 9.40am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - On Tuesday this week after Mass

CALENDAR



Tuesday is the Feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Saint Cyril was a priest and a philosopher, who accompanied his brother, Saint Methodius, to Moravia to preach the Gospel. They both perfected a Slavonic alphabet, which is nowadays known as the Cyrillic alphabet, and translated the liturgy into this language. They were summoned to Rome, where Cyril died on this date in 869, and Methodius in 885, in the Czech Republic. Friday is the memorial of the Seven Founders of the Servite Order. These were seven noble Florentines who in the thirteenth century, at a time when Florence and all Italy was torn by civil strife, banded together to found, at Monte Senario, not far from Florence, the Order of Servites of the Blessed Virgin Mary, especially dedicated to penance and meditation on the sorrows of our Lady in the passion of Our Lord.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

This Sunday is the final Sunday for Sacramental Preparation. For the next few Sundays, we will be running our normal Children's Liturgy for Primary School children. We will also be starting a 4-week programme of Sacramental Preparation for First Communion on Sunday 5th March for children in P4 at Saint Kenneth's and Saint Hilary's (more details to follow).

CLUB 200

This week's winner is John Doogan. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday falls on the 22nd February this year. Holy Mass, with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes, will be celebrated at 10am and 7pm. Mass with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes will be celebrated in Saint Kenneth's Primary at 2pm.

It is a day of Fast and Abstinence. Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food, in this case, meat. Those over eighteen are bound by the law of fasting until the beginning of their sixtieth year, while all over fourteen are bound by the law of abstinence.

I will publish a full programme of liturgies for Lent in next weekend's Bulletin.



THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN EDUCATION MASS

The annual Diocesan Education Mass, which had to be cancelled in November due to an industrial dispute, has been rescheduled for Thursday 23rd February at 7pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral in Motherwell. All welcome.

FABRIC MATTERS

Thank you to the parishioner who paid for the carpentry work to be done at the tabernacle, and to all of those who have given donations for the new candlesticks - they are much appreciated.

I have been told that we are due a general inspection, for insurance purposes, by the Diocese on the 28th March: this will involve: certifications of PAT testing, boiler and gas inspections, fire safety and emergency lighting, and electrical inspection of the Church, the Hall and the Chapel House. These certificates have to be held by law, and if they are not, then insurance is null and void. There may be some minor disruption as these inspections are carried out. I ask for your patience and understanding.

The wall by the side of the garage will have to be repaired. Thank you to the parishioner who organised a structural inspector to look at the wall. The area behind will have to be cleared of the junk that is stored there, as well as the branches that were left there when the trees were pruned in the summer. My thanks to the parishioners who have agreed to do this.

Last weekend we had an intermittent problem with one of the heater units in the Church. The engineers will carry out a service of the appliances on the 27th February. My thanks to the parishioner who has organised this.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING SERVICE

Article Number 1 of the Code of Practice agreed by the Bishops of Scotland safeguarding the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults, states: "The Catholic Church in Scotland is concerned with the lives, safety, wholeness and well-being of each individual person within God's purpose for everyone. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of people of all ages who are involved in whatever capacity with the Church and its organisations. As a Church community, we accept that it is the responsibility of all of us, ordained, professed, paid and voluntary members, to work together to prevent the physical, emotional abuse or neglect of children, young people and adults at risk."

CAN YOU HELP?

One of our young parishioners, Gregor Williamson, is travelling to Lourdes at Easter as a helper with HCPT Group 23. Gregor will be selling raffle tickets (£1.00 per strip) to enable a child to take part in the pilgrimage. The tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses on the 25th/26th February. Please support this worthy cause if you can, a help a child have a wonderful experience in Lourdes.

NEW DIOCESAN MAGAZINE

Fontes, is a new monthly magazine for the Diocese of Motherwell which launches this Ash Wednesday, 22nd February 2023. Featuring news, events and features from parishes and schools around the Diocese, the monthly magazine will be available for FREE on the last weekend of every month.

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Samantha Beach, Lorraine O'Donnell-Brown, Richard O'Donnell, Ray O'Donnell, Joanne Barrett (England), Brian McKenna, Eileen Biggins, Satya B Metha, Patricia McCormack, Helen Walton, Fiona Docherty, Margaret Deehan, Patricia Williamson, John Lang, Francis and John Reilly, Terry Cassidy, May McLaughlin, Theresa Fleetwood, Bailey Barnes, Liam Greig, Nicholas Oakes, Gillian Congdon, Liz Knight, Rita Baxter, Jean O'Neill, Ann Dillon (Dublin), Sarah Collins, John Thomson, Nora Houston, Catriona Storch, Liz Nicol, Patrick Gahagan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Maureen Macrae, Kate Milligan, Drew and Monica McShane.

RECENTLY DEAD - Jeanette Kelly, James McVittie, Vera Sweeney, Paul Steven, Agnes Kerr (East Mains), Timothy Montgomery, Rena Crawford.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Teresa Convy, Ian Caddenhead, Jim Thomson, Maureen Hughes, Anne (Hughes) Turner, Bridget McHugh, David Knight, Margaret McAuley, Terese Docherty, John McAuley, Frank Corrigan, Barry Spicer.

FUNERALS

Jeanette Kelly - Requiem Mass Thursday 16th February 1.30pm.

James McVittie - details to be confirmed.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 5th February, was £2512.17. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £207,000. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows:
Stbrides, Sort Code 82-62-24, Account Number 40500017.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you wish to donate by Bank Transfer to Saint Vincent De Paul Society, the details are:
SSVP, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417.