



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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## THE TRADITIONS OF 'LAETARE' SUNDAY

**T**he Fourth Sunday of Lent marks the half-way point in the Season. In the past, this Sunday was known as *Laetare* Sunday. Why? In the Missal each Mass has an Entrance Antiphon - this is a sentence or two, taken mostly from the Scriptures, which can be sung or recited at the beginning of the Eucharist. At Saint Bride's we replace the Antiphon with a hymn. In days gone by people gave a title to each Sunday's Mass, on the basis of the first word in Latin of the day's Antiphon. Today's Antiphon (pictured in its format in the *Liber Usualis* or book of

Intr.  
5.

**L** Aetá- re \* Jerúsa-lem : et convén-tum fá- ci-

te ómnes qui di- lí-gi- tis é- am : gau-

Latin chants) is taken from the 66<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah: "Rejoice, Jerusalem! Come together all you who love her!" In Latin, 'laetare' means 'rejoice': so today was called *Laetare* Sunday. The reason for the joyful tone was given by Pope

Innocent III in 1216 when he stated that the faithful needed lifted so as "not to break under the severe strain of Lenten penances but bear them with a refreshed and easier heart."

The joyful theme is evident in the prayers of the Mass, and it is underlined further by two old customs: the royal purple vestments are replaced with rose-coloured ones; additionally, pink roses may be used to decorate the sanctuary area of the church - both things we will do today.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

**I**n Britain the Fourth Sunday of Lent each year is also 'Mothering Sunday'. Why? From the time of the Middle Ages many young people worked away from home as apprentices and servants. The Fourth Sunday in Lent was one of the few days in the year when employers would give their workforce the day off so that they could return to their 'mother church' - the place where they were baptised or grew up.

As they walked along the hedgerows, they would gather bunches of Spring flowers to place at the Lady Altar in the local church. The Lady Altar in our own Church is specially decorated today - Mary, is our heavenly mother. Hopefully you will be able to spend a few moments there.

They were also allowed to visit their mothers, bringing with them gifts, usually flowers and a *Simnel* Cake (from the Latin 'simila' meaning 'fine flour'). This was a fruit cake, covered in marzipan; around the top of the cake there would be eleven marzipan balls, representing the eleven 'good' Apostles. Some supermarkets sell Simnel cakes around this time - have a look!

Today, then, is an opportunity to honour and pray for our mothers, whether they are still with us, or whether they have gone to their eternal reward. It is also an opportunity to relax, for one day at least, from our Lenten penances, and celebrate the fact that Easter is almost here.

Father McGachey

# TODAY IS SCIAF SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) Sunday. There will be a traditional second collection to support the work they do on our behalf. Please give generously as you always do.



I have now made two telephone approaches to SCIAF headquarters in Glasgow requesting the 'Wee Boxes' and other Lenten materials. They promised they would send them, They still have not arrived! To be honest, I doubt if they will now. If you have any loose change you would have given to the SCIAF 'Wee Box', leave it in the sacristy, please.

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## GIFT AID SCHEME

*giftaid it*

I would encourage you to think seriously about joining - particularly our younger parishioners. It costs you absolutely nothing - the only qualification is that you pay Income Tax. This is a very important source of income for the parish, since for every pound you contribute to the collection, we can claim 25p from the Government.

If you took home a Giftaid sheet and would like to use envelopes - please speak to me after Mass. I will give the envelopes to you today. Please return the sheet to me.

If you took a Giftaid sheet and would like to pay by Standing Order - please return the sheet to me after Mass.

Although many of you pay by Standing Order, this does not necessarily mean that you are signed up to the Giftaid Scheme. I have identified 20 such people. Please check with me after Mass if you have any doubts about whether you are signed-up or not.

Thank you for generously supporting Saint Bride's.

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Being 'Mothering Sunday' there will be no Evening Service today.

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## MONDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH transferred from today

Saint Joseph, the spouse of Mary and the foster-father of Jesus, was probably born in Bethlehem. His important mission was to legally insert Jesus into the line of David from whom, according to the prophets, the Messiah would be born, and to act as his guardian. Most of our information about him comes from the first two chapters of Saint Matthew's Gospel. No words of his are recorded; he was the original 'quiet man'. Pius IX (1870) declared him Patron and Protector of the Church. Please join us for a Sung Mass with organ and incense on Monday at 10am.

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## FROM THE MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN CHOIR

The Motherwell Diocesan Choir are performing John Stainer's *The Crucifixion*, and supporting programme, in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Admission is free and there will be retiring collection.

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# THE SEASON OF LENT - THIS WEEK

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## SUNDAY

Holy Mass 4.30pm (Saturday Vigil) followed by Confessions,  
9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am - No Devotions today

## MONDAY - SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH (transferred from 19<sup>th</sup> March)

6.45am the Church opens and closes at 4pm - 7am Holy Mass for Saint Joseph -  
9.40am Stations of the Cross - 10am Solemn Mass with organ and incense for Saint Joseph

## TUESDAY

Requiem Mass for Isa Jackson at 10am  
Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion at 7pm

## WEDNESDAY

6.45am the Church opens and closes at 4pm - 7am Holy Mass  
9.40am Stations of the Cross - 10am Holy Mass - Pro-life Rosary after 10am Mass  
Reception of May McLaughlin 6pm

## THURSDAY

Requiem Mass for May McLaughlin 10am  
6.30pm Confessions - 7pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

## FRIDAY

6.45am the Church opens and closes after 10am Mass - 7am Holy Mass -  
Requiem Mass for William Crawford 10am

## SATURDAY

9am the Church opens and closes after the Vigil Mass - 9.40am Stations of the Cross  
10am Holy Mass followed by Confessions - 4.30pm Vigil Mass followed by Confessions

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## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - A GENTLE REMINDER

Please note, if you cannot attend, you should find a replacement to cover for you. Please do not assume that someone will automatically be there to step in for you. This has happened several times over the past few weeks. I hope to Commission some new Eucharistic Ministers before Easter.

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## SICK VISITATION

I have begun once again to make my monthly visitation of the sick. As I go round the parish, I keep discovering more people who are unwell. If you know of such person, and they would like a visit, please let me know. I will be happy to visit them.

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## SCHOOL CONFESSIONS

I begin next week to hear the Confessions of Primary 4-7 at Saint Kenneth's School.

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## THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

There will be a short meeting at 6pm on Tuesday evening.

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## CLUB 200

This week's winner is Linzi Mack. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
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**HALL BOOKINGS** Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan [hall@sbek.org](mailto:hall@sbek.org)  
**BULLETIN NOTICES** Contact Fr. McGachey or [bulletin@sbek.org](mailto:bulletin@sbek.org)

### PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Samantha Beach, Lorraine O'Donnell-Browen, 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, Liz Nicol, Patrick Gahagan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Maureen Macrae, Kate Milligan, Drew and Monica McShane, Clare (Slorach) Keane.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Isa Jackson, May McLaughlin, William Crawford, James McCabe (Giffnock), Patrick Gerard McCann, Marilyn Shearer.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS, MOTHERING SUNDAY AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Jim Hendry, Jim Graham, Alberto Facenda, Luisa Facenda.

### FUNERALS

Isa Jackson - Reception and Requiem Mass Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 10am

May McLaughlin - Reception Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm and Requiem Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 10am

William Crawford - Reception and Requiem Mass Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 10am

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 12<sup>th</sup> March, was £2487. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £202,000. 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801