

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for Palm Sunday

2nd April 2023

A LETTER FROM FATHER MCGACHEY

Dear Parishioners,

If there were three days when Roman Catholics should want to go to Church to pray, they are: **Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.**

They celebrate the most sacred mysteries of our faith: the life, death and resurrection of Our Lord - the most important days in the Church's Calendar.

Please make it an priority to go to Church to celebrate these three days this year. Reserve the time! Rearrange your schedule if necessary! Suspend errands or jobs around the house! Drop everything! And come to Church!

Plan to attend the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** on Holy Thursday, to honour, the Holy Eucharist which was instituted at the Last Supper. And to pray for your Priests, who pray for you, God's Holy People, five times every day, and who despite their limitations and weaknesses, try to serve you as best they can. This is a beautiful Mass - make the effort to be there!

On Good Friday, to **Commemorate the Passion and Death of Our Lord.**

On Holy Saturday, for the **Great Easter Vigil**, celebrating the resurrection, when Christ conquered Death with Life.

Enter the mystery of these three Holy Days at Saint Bride's!

Father McGachey, Parish Priest



THE EASTER TRIDUUM

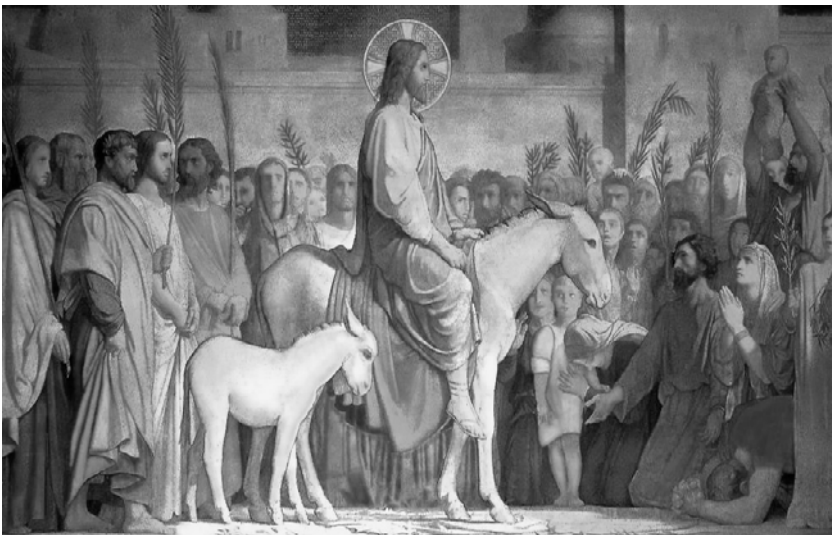
PALM SUNDAY - DOMINICA IN PALMIS

Today is Palm Sunday (*Dominica in Palmis*) and the beginning of Holy Week. This Sunday is synonymous with the blessing and carrying in procession of palm branches in imitation of those carried by the Hebrew people who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem.

In the ancient world palm branches were a sign of peace and victory; they were carried by Romans and Greeks in their great state processions, and often used as adornments.

In the Holy Land, as in most parts of the Middle East, the type of palm tree that grows is called in Latin *Phoenix Dactylifera*, better known to us today as the Date Palm, from which succulent dates are harvested. These trees apparently grow to heights of eighty feet, although forty feet is more common, and they yield dates suitable for eating six years after they have been planted; they continue to produce fruit for around one hundred years. Its trunk is straight, tall and unbroken, terminating in a crown of fronds.

As its Latin name indicates, palms were associated with the mythical bird, the Phoenix, because it was thought that the bird would land on the fronds of this majestic tree, then combust in flames, and from the ashes of the old bird a new bird would rise through a kind of regeneration. For obvious reasons the early Christians came to associate the *Phoenix Dactylifera* with Christ, who from rose from death to new life. *Dactylifera* simply means 'date bearing'.



Many familiar Biblical places have a connection with palm trees: Jericho, for example, was known as the "city of palm trees". Bethany, where Martha, Mary and Lazarus lived, means the "house of dates". Phoenicia, mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, is in all probability derived from the Greek word for palm. In the Book of Psalms, Psalm 92, the familiar comparison is made: "The

righteous shall flourish like the palm tree." In the Book of Revelation, the saints are described in heaven as: "clothed with white robes and with palms in their hands." Palms became symbol of martyrdom in the early Church.

Blessed palms are sacramentals. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, sacramentals are: "sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the sacraments. They signify effects, particularly of a spiritual nature, which are obtained through the intercession of the Church." Other sacramentals include relics, holy oils, holy water, a rosary etc. They should therefore be treated with respect and given a place of honour in our homes. **Father McGachey**

HOLY WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S 2023

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Masses with the Blessing of Palms at Vigil 4.30pm, Sunday 9.30am and 11.30am. Confessions after each Mass for 30 minutes

Solemn Stations of the Cross and Benediction 6pm

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Holy Mass 7am

Stations of the Cross 9.40am

Holy Mass 10am followed by Confessions

Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion at 7pm followed by Confessions

HOLY THURSDAY

7pm Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper and Procession to the Altar of Repose

10pm 'At Gethsemane' - a Special Service for Holy Thursday with Night Prayer of the Church at the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY

12noon Stations of the Cross, especially for children and families, with the Veneration of the Cross, followed by Confessions

3pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Collection for the Holy Places and Holy Communion

7pm Stations of the Cross with Veneration of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY

10am Morning Prayer of the Church, followed by Confessions

7pm The Great Easter Vigil, with The Liturgy of Light, of the Word, of Baptism and the Eucharist

Easter Water will be distributed after the Vigil for you to bless your homes

EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Mass of the Resurrection with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises at 9.30am with Organ and 11.30am

EASTER REMEMBRANCES

If you would like your dead relatives and friends to be remembered at the three Masses on Easter day at Saint Bride's, then please hand in their names by the **Thursday evening of Holy Week**. I will offer these Masses for them, and their names will feature in the special Easter Sunday Bulletin.

CONFESSIONS IN HOLY WEEK



I will offer individual Confessions after each of the Sunday Masses (please allow me five minutes to say farewell to the congregation); and after the 10am Mass in the morning and Stations of the Cross in the evening. There are two additional opportunities on Good Friday and Holy Saturday morning. Please use these opportunities to put things right with God and experience the healing of this wonderful Sacrament.

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE...?

At the most recent meeting of the Fabric Committee, it was felt that the benches in the Church could be doing with being washed down - a film of grime (and dust underneath) is quite evident. Could you spare an hour on Tuesday morning to help me wash down the benches after 10am Mass? The Main Altar, Our Lady's Altar and the Baptismal Font are also in need of some elbow grease - would you help to wash these down? If you can, I would love to see you! It may be an idea to bring your own bucket since there does not seem to be enough to go round. Cloths and suitable detergents will be provided.

My sincere thanks to the small group of ladies who keep the Church spick and span all year round for all their hard work.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

I would like to have a short meeting, lasting 30 minutes, with the NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, on Tuesday evening after the Stations of the Cross. I would like to invite ALL the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist attend the Mass of the Lord's Supper, to renew their commitment to this Ministry.

GOOD FRIDAY - IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

STALL

The Eastertide edition of *My day by day* is on sale at the Stall, priced £1.00. A selection of modestly priced Easter Cards and religious gifts are available too.

MUSIC DURING THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Saint Augustine said '*Qui cantat bene, bis orat*' (He who sings well, prays twice over). It is good that, as congregation, we sing well in Saint Bride's, and that we have a variety of cantors and accompanists.

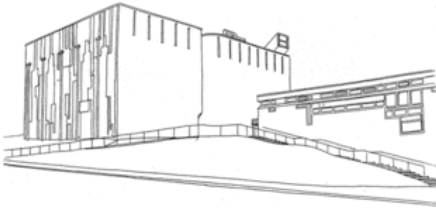
Since the Jubilee Choir provided the music at Christmas time, I thought it was only fair to give the 11.30 Mass Choir the opportunity to sing on Holy Thursday, at the Mass of the Lord's Supper and on Good Friday afternoon, at the Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion and Death. Since Ronan McQuade, the 11.30am organist, has commitments elsewhere, they will be accompanied by John Pitcathley, the organist for the Motherwell Diocesan Choir; he will play at the Easter Vigil too.

SCIAF LENTEN ALMS BOXES

Please return these by the end of the week, either to the porch or the sacristy.

THE GOOD FRIDAY WALK

Please Join the Legion of Mary, as we walk visiting the Catholic Churches in East Kilbride on Good Friday. Throughout the walk, we will pray the mysteries of the Rosary and sing hymns, stopping at each of the parish churches to pray the Stations of the Cross. We will begin at 9am, at Saint Vincent de Paul's in Greenhills, then on to Our Lady of Lourdes, Saint Bride's and finish at Saint Leonard's around midday. We invite you to join us for all or part of our prayerful walk.



THE EASTER COLLECTION

You should find with your bulletin today the traditional 'Easter Collection' envelope. This income from this Collection is used to help support the Parish's daily liturgical life, the costs of heating and lighting the Church, as well as looking after the general fabric of the properties.

We are lucky not to have a weekly second collection. This is not the case in many other parishes. Therefore, this is the only time, apart from Christmas, when we ask for a little extra help. Please give what you can afford. Thank you very much!

If you are a member of the Giftaid scheme, then please mark as 'Giftaid' and add your name or number.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy will be returning on Sunday 23rd April. However, on Good Friday (7th April), we will hold a special Children's Passion for all Primary School children in the Hall at 3pm (the same time as the Good Friday afternoon service in the church). The children will enact the Passion. We have many parts (and costumes) for the actors needed (Jesus, some apostles, Mary, Judas, Pontius Pilate, Roman soldiers, two thieves, etc.) so we are hoping for a strong turnout. The children will have their own Veneration of the Cross, and a Eucharistic Minister will come from the church to distribute Holy Communion to older children. We will also have colouring in and related games and quizzes, as well as some drinks and snacks after Holy Communion. The children will stay in the hall until the church service ends and parents and carers come for the children. The Children's Passion is a highlight of the year for Children's Liturgy.

CLUB 200

Thank you for your support of the Parish through the 200 Club. It is much appreciated! For those who pay 6-monthly Club 200 subscriptions by cheque or cash, the £30 subscriptions are due now for the period 1st April to 30th September. Those wishing to pay by cheque should make their cheques payable to 'St Bride's Club 200'. Cheques can be mailed to Saint Bride's RC Church, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN or handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please do not send cash through the post. Envelopes with cash can be handed into the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please mark Club 200 and your name on the envelope. Thank you.

This week's winner is **Tricia Moran**. The quarterly winner is **Elizabeth McEntaggart**. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*
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HALL BOOKINGS Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org
BULLETIN NOTICES Contact Fr. McGachey or 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, Marion Greenan.

RECENTLY DEAD - Margareta Silvia Gabor, Fiorina Kennedy, Jean Webb,

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Victor Gordo, Margaret Anne Kennedy, Gerard Kennedy, Bob Hendry, Cathie Hughes, John McFadden, Tony Stevenson, Maurice Ward, Paul McAndlish.

FUNERALS - There are no Funerals this week.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 26thMarch, was £2598.15. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £200,000. 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