



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Second Sunday of Easter

7th April 2024

THE DAY FOR LEAVING ASIDE THE ALBS...

If you happened to see anything of the Easter Vigil from Saint Peter's at the Vatican last Saturday evening, you would have noticed how the eight adults, who had been baptised by Pope Francis, were clothed in a white cloak-type robe before they received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This custom is, in fact, a nod to a tradition of the Church from the fourth century. In those times, today, the Sunday after Easter, was known as '*Dominica in albis deponendis*' that is to say, 'the day for leaving to the side the albs'.

In fourth century in Rome, baptisms usually happened only once a year - on the night before Easter Sunday, during the Great Easter Vigil. Those to be baptised, usually only adults, would be clothed in a white garment, called an alb, like the long white robe which the priest wears underneath his chasuble (the coloured outer garment) at Mass.

Those who were to be baptised, would descend three steps - in memory of the three days Christ spent in the tomb - into a large pool of water, properly called the *baptistry*. This was located in the Lateran Basilica, the public building, gifted to the Church by the Emperor Constantine, after he gave Christians freedom to leave the cemeteries of the city, the catacombs, and worship publicly.

Introit

1 Pet 2 : 2

VI

Q Ua-si modo * gé- ni-ti infántes, al-le- lú- ia :

They were baptised by total immersion in the water. Then they would climb three steps at the other side of the pool, in memory of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, whose lives they

now shared. They wore their baptismal albs for eight days to remind themselves and other people that they "had been clothed with Christ" and had taken on a new identity, that of a Christian. On the Sunday after Easter, they would lay aside these albs.

When infants are baptised today, they usually come dressed in white, and during the baptismal liturgy are wrapped in a christening shawl. The christening shawl conveys the idea of the white robe of the Early Church.

Today, the Second Sunday of Easter, is the conclusion of the Easter Octave - the eight days of solemn celebration of Our Lord's resurrection from the dead. The idea of an 'octave' or 'eight days' is an interesting one, based on Biblical symbolism: in the Bible, seven is a perfect number, but seven plus one represents ultimate perfection, God himself. In the present liturgical calendar, there are two Octaves, that of Easter and the other of Christmas - the two principal feasts of the Christian year.

This Sunday was also known as 'Quasimodo Sunday'. The name Quasimodo comes from the Latin text of the Introit Antiphon for the beginning of Mass today, which begins "Quasimodo geniti infantes...". It comes from the First Letter of Peter 2,1, roughly translated as "As new-born babes...". Literally, *quasimodo* means "as if in [this] manner".



In Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, the main character *Quasimodo* is so-called because he was born on Quasimodo Sunday (the Sunday after Easter). Abandoned on the steps of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, he was raised in its precincts by the Dean, he would go on to become a bell ringer there.

Today is also known as 'Low Sunday' the reason for this being that the liturgy of the Second Sunday of Easter contrasts with that of the Easter Sunday, as a day when a lower level of ceremonial is used.

Finally, today is Divine Mercy Sunday, instituted by Pope Saint John Paul II in 2000. It focuses on the merciful love of God's Son, and the desire to let that love flow through one's own heart to those around us. The devotion came about thanks to the apparitions of Christ received by the Polish Saint, Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938). **Father McGachey**

THANK YOU

I would like to thank you for your wonderful attendances at the liturgies of the Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday. They were truly magnificent. Your prayerful participation was heartening to witness. Secondly, thank you for your generosity to the Easter Collection - between the basket collection and online donations, it amounted to around £6,600. The collection for the Holy Places, taken-up on Good Friday, realised around £1,500. A record for Saint Bride's Parish! God reward you for this!

WE CONTINUE OUR NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS ON TUESDAY EVENING

with Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm in the Parish Church. If you could not manage last week, there are copies of the sixth week's prayers below the notice board at the back of the church. "In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life." *Pope Francis*



GIFT AID

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Giftaid 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. Money for nothing!

Last year, there were four parishioners who had to use ordinary envelopes. We are now in a position to give you a proper set of envelopes. Please speak to me after Mass today in order to collect these envelopes.

It is not too late to sign-up: forms are available on the large table beyond Saint Anthony's statue today, if you would like to sign-up. Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be no Children's Liturgy over the Easter school break. Children's Liturgy will return on Sunday 21st April.

TODAY, DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AT SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, GREENHILLS

At 3pm, the Divine Mercy devotion and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, during which there will be an opportunity for Confession. At 4pm, Holy Mass. Refreshments in the Hall afterwards. All welcome.

SOME PURCHASES FOR THE CHURCH

After many requests for a permanent supply of Holy Water, we have bought a new ornamental Holy Water container, which has been placed at the back of the Church, opposite the Notice Board. Please use it freely, receptacles should be filled by means of the small tap at the bottom of the container.

We have also had to buy a new Paschal candlestick. A few weeks ago, the candlestick broke into various pieces when it was being moved for a funeral. It was put back together but has not really been safe ever since - we had a few tricky moments with it last Saturday during the Easter Vigil.

I hope both items will have arrived for the weekend!

FROM THE FAMILY OF MADGE REILLY

The family of Madge Reilly would like to say a huge thank you to all parishioners and friends for their prayers and support during the last few months of Madge's life. It has been a great consolation to the family to feel so supported during what was a difficult time. Thanks are also due to Dr. Peacock, his team and all the staff of Ward 13 Hairmyres for the high standard care provided. Thanks, too, to Heritage Funeral Services for the sensitive handling of the arrangements. Holy Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

CONGRATULATIONS

To our parishioner Deacon Joe Dowds who celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary of Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. Deacon Joe served latterly in Saint Joseph's Parish, Blantyre. We wish him every blessing. *Ad multos annos.*

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass; 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

MONDAY-SATURDAY - The Holy Rosary 9.35am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am (Requiem Masses on Monday and Thursday)

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesdays after Mass

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesdays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Thursdays after 10am Mass

200 CLUB

Last week's 200 Club winner was Hazel Armstrong. This week's winner is Rose McCabe. John Farrell is the quarterly winner. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Storach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Father Bill Tollan, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan.

RECENTLY DEAD - Alice Fraser, Lilly Halleron, Betty Cunningham.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY AND EASTER REMEMBRANCES - David Cook, Andrew, Annie and John McShane, Lorenzo Di Vito, Antonio Di Vito, Alfonso Faccenda.

FUNERALS

Lilly Halleron - Reception, Sunday 7th April 6pm, Requiem Mass, Monday 8th April 10am.
Betty Cunningham - Reception, Wednesday 10th April 6pm, Requiem Mass, Thursday 11th 10am.

Alice Fraser - Details to be confirmed.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Easter Sunday 31st March - £6485. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. 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: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.

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. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.