

## The Ordinary Season in St. Brendan's.

**In the last two Sundays the print quality of the bulletin has been unsatisfactory. This was due to a failure of a component which could not be repaired and would have been very expensive to replace. For several months Strathlyde Reprographics of Coatbridge, who had supplied that printer to us in 2019 had been looking for a suitable replacement from among printers which they had supplied and serviced for other customers. Last Monday they supplied a suitable and more modern printer to us at reasonable cost. Today's bulletin has been published using this printer and we hope this SHARP colour printer will prove a worthy successor to the one it has replaced.**

**Your weekly financial contribution to the parish, allied to donations from parishioners and fundraising such as the 200 Club, have made it possible for us to buy the printer to invest in the future development of our community. Communication by every modern method between parish and parishioners is an essential part of our development.**

**A series of messages sent to all parishes this week by Bishop Toal:**

### **Confirmations.**

Confirmations will be celebrated in the pre-Christmas term and the parishes/schools have been given their dates. There will be one celebration in each Church during this period with Bishop Toal as sole celebrant.

**We have been allocated 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in our church for the Sacrament conferred by the bishop on P7.**

FURTHER POINTS OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE SACRAMENT:

1. Letters of Request **for completion by each child personally** to receive this Sacrament are available with a courtesy envelope from the basket at the Barons Road doorway into the church. All completed Letters should be returned to the Parish by using the postbox at the doorway to the chapel house.
2. The Letters of Request when completed, will provide the parish with contact details for each family so that the parish can keep everyone up to date with all that relates to the Sacrament. **This is done mainly by the weekly bulletin.** Please ensure that you download the bulletin or collect a print of it 24/7 at the church doorway to take home.
3. Our parish has its own preparation programme for Confirmation, known as **Faith Friends**. It was used to prepare for the Confirmations celebrated here by P7 children on 30th April 2019 and also on 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June this year.
4. The Leaders will present the programme to the P7 children over the period of six Sundays before 25th November.
5. **Faith Friends is all about participation in the life of the Parish. Families are expected to engage in the preparation by accompanying their child to Mass in the parish whenever possible over the summer and into the autumn.**
6. The Primary School will issue a catechesis [instruction on the Church's teaching] booklet to each P7 child who has requested the Sacrament, BUT the centre and source of each and every sacrament is the Church.
7. In October, the parish will arrange a meeting in the church with those families whose child has written and delivered a Letter of Request. **All relevant information about the Sacrament will come from the Parish. Please ask the Parish about all and any concerns which might arise regarding your child or family.**

### **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup>**

Pope Francis invites the Church throughout the world to keep the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of Our Lady, Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup>, as the Church's Day of Prayer and Support for Grandparents and the Elderly, *recognising the vital part they play in all societies and families, and in the life and mission of the Church.* The involvement of a grandparent within a family introduces three ideas to the young of that family: *experience, wisdom and protection.* Grandparents and especially grandmothers have come very much "into their own" in terms of their active and faithful presence within their family circle. Pope Francis' Message and the Liturgical and Pastoral Materials prepared by the Dicastery for the Laity, Family, and Life have already been sent out, so I hope they are made available [in our Diocese] on websites and other social media and are of assistance in planning our Liturgies on the weekend of July 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Special Collection for July – Peter's Pence:**

The Special Collection for the Month of July in the parishes in Motherwell Diocese is the annual collection to support the ministry of Pope Francis and the Work of the Holy See, known to us all as **Peter's Pence**. We traditionally have taken up this collection on the Sunday closest to the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, and it has been very well supported by the faithful in the Diocese. In line with the procedure for the special collections in present circumstances, the opportunity should be given for contributions to be made through the month of July and hopefully the Diocese will again be able to make a fine contribution in support of Pope Francis and the Holy See.

There will not be a designated Special Collection for August. In September it will be the important Diocesan Collection for the cost of leading the training [Formation] of our Ecclesiastical Students, both seminarians and diaconate students.

The SCIAF Summer Appeal is to help those suffering in Tigray, Ethiopia, due to the terrible consequences of the Civil War there. Bishop Toal visited the Diocese of Adigrat in Tigray and the funds raised by SCIAF this summer will go to assist that Diocese.

## **St. Brendan's Church – the place of worship and Sacraments for families.**

### **The Liturgical Guidelines for Holy Mass issued by the Bishops of Scotland.**

Whatever we do in our church, **keeping things safe for all is the priority.**

**The virus is predominantly contagious through the breathing in of air droplets, windows and doors in the Churches should be open especially between Masses.**

Provided we enter Level 0-1 with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> July the restrictions defined in the Liturgical Guidelines will be eased further but **Track and Trace remains, face masks must be worn, sanitizing must continue and physical distancing must be kept although reduced from 2m to 1m. We will re-set our church interior lay-out from that day to accommodate this significant and welcome change.**

1. There may be altar servers. **The children who want to resume as an altar server should tell Fr. Ness, Anne Therese or one of the stewards when they come into the church. Children who want to begin to serve at the altar should do the same and leave the family name and family telephone number so that they can be contacted.**

The Stewards have provided the community with an essential service for almost twelve months, as have parishioners in many other parishes. **They continue to provide cover for all weekend Masses during the summer school holiday to sanitise the church for the safety of all. Help with this will be very welcome here.**

**Resumption at Mass for families who have been unable to arrange attendance and the continuation at Mass for those who have attended – a priority to which we need to give deep thought.**

**The Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship explains the role of parents: *The initiation of children into the sacramental life is ordinarily the responsibility and concern of Christian parents.***

For almost a year we have used a system for attendance at Mass which has served us well. After consultation, we introduced two additional Masses – Saturday at 12 noon and at 6pm. With families leaving home on holiday over the next six weeks **there will be ample opportunity for other families and individuals to reserve a place at one of the four weekend Masses – perhaps for the first time for a long time. Please take this opportunity!**

**Telephone Kathleen on 07585-225837 or Lynne on 07803-314555.**

***A special invitation to do this is made to families of First Holy Communion children in P5 who will celebrate this sacrament on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The celebration was delayed from May/June to allow this very opportunity. Another special invitation is made to the families with a child soon to be in P7 who will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 25<sup>th</sup> November.***

PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS:

**Birthday Remembrance for those who have died:** Peter McAlinden.

**those whose Month Mind or Anniversary occurs about now:** Henry Douglas; Connie McGinn.

**THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY 2021:**

COMMUNITY.

**Saints Peter and Paul, Solemn Feast Day last Tuesday and a Holy Day of Obligation:**

If the Primary School had been open on Tuesday, all children at school would have come here for Mass. They would have been warmly welcomed by our morning Mass community. Pupils selected from Primary 3 to Primary 7 would have proclaimed the Scriptures and led the Prayers of Intercession. Our accustomed journey through life has been brought to a halt by the coronavirus pandemic. What ministry will be like in the future is unknown but what seems likely to continue is the great array of ministries now at work in the Church. We need to keep these ministries woven together. For the good of those same children, **we must read and respond to the signs of the times. This is the way Pope Francis wants us to do these two things:**

**Synod of Bishops' 2023 – *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission:***

Cardinal Mario Grech, General Secretary of the Synod, invites every Diocese to participate in the Synod through a period of consultation from October 2021 to April 2022 on this topic, *“For a synodal Church: communion, participation, and mission”*. It is hoped that our Diocese will participate in the way requested by Cardinal Greco on behalf of Pope Francis. Therefore, Bishop Toal has invited Fr Tom Magill, Vicar Episcopal for Mission and Evangelisation, to form a working group to begin this work and **to advise the parishes, societies, schools, and other groups in our Diocese as soon as possible how they can participate in and contribute to the synodal process.**

**The Piety Stall:** Access to it in the hall is available after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday. A print of the [My Day by Day Scripture booklets for July](#) and the [Magnificat booklet](#) and the [Messenger magazine](#) can be taken *gratis* from the tables at the two exits from the church. A donation to the cost is not necessary but is still very welcome.

**Use of the Hall for private purposes and events:**

If the social distancing provision is reduced to one metre on 19<sup>th</sup> July, we will carry out a risk assessment with a view to re-opening the Hall for the parish's spiritual, sacramental, pastoral and social events, **especially the Monday pm Senior Citizens Group and the Wednesday Coffee Morning social gathering which followed morning Mass.**

**Finance Committee:** As reported last week, this parish has received £6,493.24 from the Diocesan Levy Support Fund. Us and 18 other parishes were given Levy Support of 50% of the levy for 2021. The Diocesan Trustees selected the parishes within our Diocese who should benefit from Levy Support by taking account of:

- Income from Collections over the last three years and the amount of money held in a parish's bank account(s).
- deposit in PIF/PAF and PIF loans - we *have no deposits but we have a debt to the PIF which we have reduced by £8000 so far this year thanks to the generosity each week of many of our parishioners.* Thank you.
- the financial value of the total net assets of a parish.

Parishioners have suggested that we apply this Diocesan Grant to the significant cost of restoring the surface of our car park. Many elderly parishioners risk losing their footing on the dislodged stones. In addition to our use of the car park, it is widely used during the school terms as a drop off and collection point. The Committee will meet to consider how best the parish and all others who use the car park can pay for its restoration and future maintenance. Can we accept the generosity of the levy support donated to us unless we for our part, do all we can to provide for our own needs?

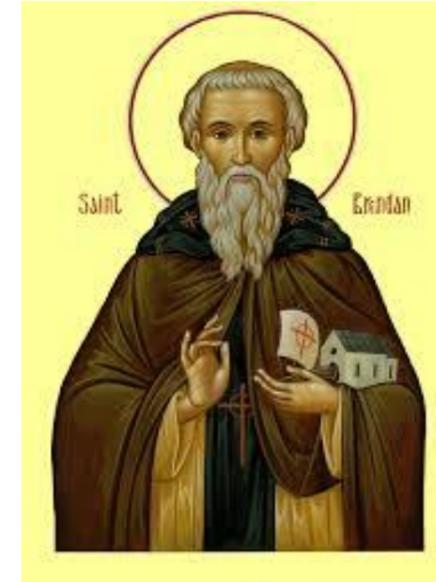
**St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish**

**51 Barons Road Motherwell. ML1 2NB.**

**[01698] 264448**

**Twitter: [stbrendanrcdom.](#)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc](https://www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc)**



**Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time.**

**Fourth day of July 2021.**

**Liturgies for this week:**

**Monday to Friday except Wednesday: Mass at 9.30 AM [streamed live on our Facebook page.]**

**Wednesday: Mass at 7pm. - no Mass in the morning.**

**Saturday: Vigil Mass of Sunday at 12 noon and again at 6pm.**

**Sunday: Mass at 10.30AM [celebrated and presented for children with their families] and at 4.30pm.**

**[Mass on Saturday at 6pm and Mass on Sunday at both 10.30AM and 4.30PM is streamed live on our Facebook page.]**

**The parish's Facebook page and Twitter feed show any changes to the schedule.**