

Our sacramental, spiritual and pastoral life in St. Brendan's.

We publish a bulletin each week to keep everyone up to date about our community.

The Response to Psalm 65 today: "Cry out with joy to God, all the earth"

Lucy from P4 with her mum and dad, Catherine Anne [Cat] and Jamie can be seen and heard on line each week singing the psalm of the day. Lucy sang the Psalm solo for the Mass on Friday for P1&P2 children.

We hope this will encourage children from within other families of the parish who have musical talent to offer to sing, like Lucy at parish liturgies. Please contact Fr. Ness on ojness@hotmail.com if you wish to do this

Pope encourages us to pray Rosary at home:

Letter of Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020. [abbreviated for this bulletin]

Dear Brothers and Sisters, We have entered the month of May, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view. [Note: we do this "online" by Facebook each day at 12 noon from Monday to Friday after reciting the Regina Coeli prayer.]

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done according to your own situations. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow. [Try using CatholicOnline.org.]

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, **and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you.** I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Second Prayer: In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection. Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope, and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust. Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health. Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus. Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity. Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer. Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

O Glorious and Blessed Virgin, we fly to thy protection O Holy Mother of God;

do not despise our petitions in our necessities but deliver us always from every danger,

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves,

O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

Call to Prayer @ 7pm today with all Christian communities in Scotland

In the days following the first Easter Sunday, the disciples of Jesus would have gone through many different reactions, from uncertainty and anxiety to joy and celebration, through incomprehension and fear to recognition and hope. If the Cross had deprived them of his presence, the Resurrection has restored his presence. Surely Jesus will continue to be with them always?

The Gospel of John in today's passage (14: 1-21) portrays the disciples wrestling with the dawning reality during the Last Supper that Jesus will not continue to be physically present to them. It would seem that they are again to be left bereft and 'orphaned'. Uncertainty and anxiety threaten once more. In response, Jesus speaks into their incomprehension and fear with the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus reassures them that they are not alone and that his spiritual presence will be renewed in this world through the Spirit. Jesus, through the Spirit, continues with us always as the assurance of God's love for us.

Let us pray:

Living God, you are our Creator and our maker and the very breath of life is given as your gift. We thank you for the gift of life and we embrace and treasure that gift.

Living God, you are the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ whose presence in the world reveals your love for us. In the giving of your Son, you reveal the depths of your love.

Living God, your Son embraced the cross and the depths of human suffering. We thank you that you delivered him on the day of Resurrection

Living God, as you spoke to the bereft and the orphaned in days past, speak to the bereft and the orphaned in days present. Speak to the uncertain and the anxious. Speak into the depths of our incomprehension and fear.

Living God, your promise is that we will not be left alone to face the world. We thank you that through the gift of your Spirit, that promise is fulfilled.

Living God be with all who sustain our common life at this time, carers and nurses, cleaners and porters, medics and ambulance staff, delivery drivers and posties. Through their giving our common life is sustained.

Living God, as you have watched over us in the past, watch over us in the present. As once more we thank you, that through Christ and by your Holy Spirit, we are not alone. Amen.

Our Prayer Life in St. Brendan's parish during these times.

FAITH AND FAMILY - A SCHOOL OF LOVE for families in this parish will be distributed in hard copy today to those who call at the church. It is available also "online." Please read and consider all that it contains as it poses questions about the level of engagement families are asked to have with the church so that we thrive in our spiritual and pastoral life. Consider our invitation to P7/S1 altar servers in the new cassocks and surplices

PLEASE WATCH AND LISTEN "ONLINE" AS WE WILL SPEAK TODAY about Mass on Tuesday at 7pm for all P5 children and on Friday at 7pm for all P6 children. This will complete the celebration of Mass with all class groups in St. Brendan's PS before the end of May. Children in both age groups are asked to provide a recent photograph or drawing of themselves to display on the benches AND to volunteer to read the Scriptures including a Psalm and to make a Welcome and a Thank you and write and speak five bidding prayers on video.

The parish's Children's Liturgy programme: Margaret Dochlenko will present the spiritual content for the children during our "Online" morning Mass today. Many children have given in their artwork of doves, sandals and Easter Day drawings and then sheep and last week - signposts. All these are all displayed prominently on the sanctuary and are visible every day during Mass. We continually post and update photographs online on our web page and Facebook and Twitter pages.

WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN IN THIS PROCESS AND BRING THEIR ART & CRAFTS THIS WEEK TO REPRESENT THE HOLY SPIRIT. VERY WELL-DONE BOYS AND GIRLS.

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PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS

those who have died recently: Mary McMorrow.

those whose Anniversary or Month Mind Remembrance occurs about now: Pat Whelan & Maisie Kelly; Betty Garvin, Betty Farrell, Susan Nelson [1st anniv]; Cathie Kerr; Geraldine, John, Tom & Mary Whelan; Marie Cooper; Lorna Harvey; Fr. John Kelly and Hugguy Kelly; James Higgins & James McAuley [Sen]; Marjory McGuinness McConnell

The Piety Stall: Alternative sources which we can use. For those who can access the internet please use Redemptorist Publications [rp@ShineOnline.net] and The Catholic Truth Society [www.ctsbooks.org].

In July the My Day by Day monthly publication of the Readings of the Day will celebrate its 150th edition. The editor has published a Reflection on the Word of God and a card with this printed on it will be given in the edition for the month of June, available directly from Elspeth.

The Revised New Jerusalem Bible. We use this in our 1pm Talks on Scripture. The Study Version has an Introduction to each Book of the Bible and footnotes to each chapter of each book. The Study Version costs £20 from the Stall, one half of the recommended retail price. Twenty copies have been taken of the forty we have acquired. Should any parishioner wish to have one of the bibles, please make this known to Fr. Ness.

Matters for our community: Families with a relative confined to the house and anyone living alone should note that if they wish the Sacrament of the Sick or wish a visit from Fr. Ness this can be arranged by a telephone call to the chapel house. He will be very happy to visit and and at the same time he will obey the social distancing provisions.

Lockdown: parishioners and others call at the church and the chapel house. **The ministry of the priest is to be the good shepherd after the heart of Jesus Christ [Pope John Paul II] and the good shepherd will willingly lay down his life for his sheep.** Bishop Toal while counselling all priests on the need to take care of themselves, has reminded all of us that Jesus is the model of our ministry. It is very hard to comply with the current rules of self-distancing while remaining open to the needs of all people. Please continue to call as you normally would for all purposes including Mass Intentions and any questions regarding the celebration of Mass on Tuesday and Friday of this week for the children of P5 and P6 of the Primary School.

The Society of the SVdP: people call each week to ask for help to make ends meet. They've come to know the charitable outreach of the Catholic Church. A "yes" answer is not always possible but every request is carefully considered. Please continue to support financially this pastoral care in the Muirhouse area and recall that no one is excluded from those we will help in your name and using funds from your donations.

One parishioner can represent the whole community at Mass. Bishop Toal has introduced two new conditions this week: Holy Communion is not to be distributed from the Sanctuary and a face mask must be worn by anyone other than the priest who comes on to the Sanctuary e.g. a Reader or Children's Liturgy Leader.

200 Club Renewal: as at today >60 members have re-registered. John Campbell is grateful for this support. No prize draws will be made until he can fully organism the membership but there will be 12 draws during the year. John will make the April, May, June etc. draw when all members have re-registered and normality restored.

Gift Aid Scheme: we repeat the request to those families who by joining this scheme, can contribute to an increase in income for St. Brendan's at no cost to themselves, to please do so. Two questions determine this: do you contribute regularly to the income of this parish? Do you pay income tax? If so, are you willing to allow the sum you pay to the parish to be recorded on an annual basis? Forms are available from Fr. Ness.

St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish

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Twitter: [stbrendanrcdom](https://twitter.com/stbrendanrcdom).

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc



The Sixth Sunday of Easter - Seventeenth May 2020

on Facebook view:

Weekday morning Mass at 9.30; Mass on Saturday at 6pm and on Sunday at our scheduled times, 10.30am and 4.30pm.

Monday - Friday, the Regina Coeli prayer will be recited at 12 noon "online" on Facebook with the Rosary offered for your intentions each day.

The "on line" Talk on Scripture at 1pm will continue from Monday to Friday focusing on the Book of Exodus and the three other Books of the Law of Moses and Mark's Gospel and at 4.15pm the "20+" minute Prayer Time.

Thursday: Feast of Ascension [Day of Obligation]: "streamed" second Mass at 19.00.

SCIAF Appeal: if anyone still wishes to donate to this Appeal please do so this week.