

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 the Psalm today: *"May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place all our hope in you."*

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 P4 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.

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 "on line" by Facebook each day at 12 noon from Monday to Friday after reciting the Regina Coeli prayer followed by the Novena Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima and the rosary.

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.

FIRST PRAYER: *The Second Prayer will appear here next week. Both were printed last week.*

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people" and of all people in the world through your Son,
you know our needs, and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

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.

St. Paul declared that we are part of the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ. He also used the phrase that *Life is PARTICIPATION* when he spoke and later wrote to the Christian communities which he either visited or founded. *Last week many families of the parish with children in either or both P3 and P4 participated in a way which they had perhaps never done before - they wrote and recorded on video prayers, words of welcome and of thanks and goodbye which their children read to accompany the children who read the passages of Scripture for the Mass celebrated for P3 on Tuesday and for P4 on Friday. PARTICIPATION at this level shows the presence of the Holy Spirit in our community.*

CALL TO PRAYER: TODAY - SUNDAY 10th MAY

Prayer @ 7pm with all Christian communities in Scotland and remembering our neighbours in St. Margaret's.

As Scotland locked down in March, so our usual way of life came shuddering to a halt. Travel was restricted to an extent not experienced in any living lifetime. Our way of life changed too. Some faced traumatic, heart-rending personal situations, from illness to hospitalisation, anxiousness for and separation from loved ones. Others experienced new risk through their roles, including those serving in hospitals and care homes, and key workers in other sectors that are vital for life. Yet others faced difficult personal situations: hunger, tension in relationships and worse, and overnight, everyone had to find a new way of living life.

Today's gospel reading from John Chapter 14, tells of a traumatic time in the life of the disciples and Jesus. After three years travelling together around Galilee, they arrive in Jerusalem amidst an atmosphere heavy with threat. Gathering behind a closed door, in the hour of his own need, Jesus sought to offer comfort and guidance to his followers and friends, telling them of a place in God's house, and that he was going ahead to prepare a place for them. Thomas, bless him, asked the question which is on the hearts of so many, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way? To which Jesus replied: "I am the way, the truth and the life."

"Today, in these times, we pray that we may sense Christ's guiding presence:

Come, Jesus Christ, come my way; showing me your way, through these disorientating days,

and opening my eyes to your accompanying presence.

Come, Jesus Christ, come my way; teaching me your truth, through these confounding days

and opening my mind to your living Word.

Come Jesus Christ, come my way; revealing to me your life, through these bewildering days,

and opening my heart to the fulness of your being. Amen.

Day of Prayer, fasting and works of charity on Thursday 14th May set by the Papal Council for Interreligious Dialogue:

In compliance with the initiative of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity and the Appeal by Pope Francis on 3rd May, the Council ***"invites believers of all religions and people of goodwill to spiritually unite themselves on this day to implore the divine to help humanity in overcoming the pandemic caused by coronavirus"*** This is ***"a witness to the greatness of faith in God that unites divided hearts and elevates the human soul"***

This is not, surely, a time for indifference, selfishness or divisions because the whole world is suffering and must unite itself in facing the pandemic (Pope Francis in his Urbi et Orbe Easter Message 2020.)

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

Priestly ministry at all times must be to sustain and to nourish the spiritual and the pastoral life of the whole community to which he is sent. Bishop Toal instructed priests who celebrate Mass and "stream this on line" to prepare well and to preach fully on the Scriptures. He also wishes quality time on Sunday to be given over to the children in the form of a liturgy for children. Next Sunday we will give out Faith and FAMILY in St. Brendan's.

ALL PARENTS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN READY TO WATCH AND LISTEN "ON LINE" AS WE WILL SPEAK TODAY about Mass on Tuesday at 7pm for all P7 children and on Friday at 7pm for all P1&P2 children so that they and all children can be aware of how they share the experience of being part of the CHURCH with their family and the community of this parish - St. Brendan's parish.

The parish's Children's Liturgy programme: Angela Sewell will present the spiritual content for the children during our "On Line" morning Mass today. Many children have given in their art work of doves, sandals and Easter Day drawings and then sheep. All these are all displayed prominently on the sanctuary and are visible every day during Mass. We continually post and update photographs on line on our web page and Facebook and Twitter pages. WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN IN THIS PROCESS AND BRING THEIR SIGNS THIS WEEK TO BE PLACED ON THE (PATH)WAY TO HEAVEN.

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PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS:

For those who are ill. (it is not permitted to publish the names of the sick in the online version of the bulletin. It is still permitted to display them on the print version)

those who have died recently: Agnes Connelly [Holytown];

those whose Anniversary or Month Mind Remembrance occurs about now: John Campbell
Hugh Carroll [father] and Derek Carroll [Son].

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 celebrates its 150th edition. The editor has published this timely Reflection on the Word of God:

Lord Jesus you assured us "that heaven and earth would pass away but my words will never pass away." Especially in these times of change and uncertainty, help us to be untroubled by what passes, and strengthen us by your enduring word - for your words "are spirit Lord and they are life." Day by day renew us in that life and fill us with your spirit, that we may hold firm to the Father's love in childlike trust and hope. Amen.

The Revised New Jerusalem Bible. We use the Study Version of this further updated translation and annotation of the Bible in our 1pm Talks on Scripture. It has an Introduction to each Book of the Bible and footnotes to each chapter of each book. We have the best price available for this Study Version, sourced by William Brown from the publishers DLT through Norwich Books and Music at £20, one half of the published 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 will obey the social distancing provisions..

Lockdown: people have continued to call at the church and the chapel house. It is a very strange experience to have to stand back from visitors and callers when the whole ministry of priesthood is to approach people and to be pro active in going forward to meet them. It's essential to observe the norms in place to protect our health - the people and the priest but please continue to call as you normally would for all purposes. All are very welcome. Thank you for the great generosity to **the Society of the SVdP despite its temporary suspension. Please continue to support financially this essentially pastoral concern.**

One parishioner can represent the whole community at Mass, and doesn't need to proclaim the Scriptures. No one aged 18+ yrs is excluded. Mums and dads from families with children of school age please take this role and symbolize the presence of our worshipping community - be a model of participation for children to follow.

Anne Keogh [RIP]: at 7pm on Wednesday prayers will be offered "on line" from our parish in advance of the funeral on Thursday pm of Anne Keogh [RIP], the mother of Michael Cassidy. We will do this for every family during the Lockdown period, with one member of the family present with Fr. Ness on the sanctuary.

200 Club Renewal: 59 members have re-registered. John Campbell is grateful for this support. No prize draws will be made until he can fully organise 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: the form which is a standard form produced by the Diocese for use in all parishes. It is available from Fr. Ness on request. Ten parishioners have recently joined, many of whom have been contributing to the income of the Parish for many years. **We renew continuously the request for those families who 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?

St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc



The Fifth Sunday of Easter-Tenth 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.

Funeral of Mrs Anne Keogh, mother in law of Mrs Anne Cassidy of Saint Brendan's PS, Prayers on Wednesday at 7pm "on line" and Requiem Mass "on line" on Thursday at 9.30AM, followed by Internment Service at 2.30pm

Monday - Friday, the Regina Coeli prayer will be recited at 12 noon "on line" on Facebook with Novena to Our Lady offered for your intentions each day.

The "on line" Talk on Scripture at 1pm will continue from Monday to Friday this week, and also at 4.15pm the "20+" minute Prayer Time.

SCIAF Appeal: LAST WEEK WAS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE WITH THE BENEFIT OF GOVERNMENT DOUBLING THE VALUE OF YOUR DONATION.