

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: "The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want." 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.

Pope encourages us to pray Rosary at home.

Letter of Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020.

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.

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 either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

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 include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

FIRST PRAYER:

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 your 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 declares that we are part of the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, we are part of the Church founded and directed not on the initiative of man, but of God by the Holy Spirit. The Church is One, Apostolic and CATHOLIC, meaning it is UNIVERSAL - it is found everywhere in the world. It is found in MUIRHOUSE, MOTHERWELL - we have to preserve and nourish it here - people with the priest.

SECOND PRAYER: "We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God."

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 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.

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

The letter from Pope Francis emphasises that 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 each day, to explain their meaning to parishioners. He also wishes quality time on Sunday to be given over to the children in the form of a liturgy for children.

Please connect to the parish if you can on all our social media to help us to sustain the spiritual life of the community. Families can come all week to the church door from the Barons Road [chapel house] entry for the following safe and secure items: ***Easter Water for the home; Easter work books for children and today's bulletin which will also be available on the Parish's web site.***

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 P3 children and on Friday at 7pm for all P4 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: Mrs. Ferns, the teacher with Miss Burns of P5 children, in P5f and P5b [Debiie Ferns of this parish] 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 they 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 OT SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN IN THIS PROCESS AND BRING THEIR SHEEP THIS WEEK TO BE DISPLAYED IN OUR FIELD.

PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS:

for those who are ill: Lauren Neilly; Tess Murray; Gerald Waddle; Henry Douglas; Louise Foley; Jim Doyle; Margaret Carroll; Angela Torrance; Mairi Sneddon; Elaine Farrell and Helen Farrell; John Dobbin; Zoe Ewing; Ownie McKenna; Robert Nimmo; William Brown [Snr], Patrick Francis O'Rourke; Teresa Welsh; Sandra McLean; Jack McGarry [aged 8]; Marianne Britton.

those who have died recently: Anne Hannah [Netherton Court.] Martin O'Rourke; John Durkin; Alice Grimes .

those whose Anniversary or Month Mind Remembrance occurs about now: Connie McGinn; Rose Daly; Mary Parks [7th]; William McGinn [70th]; Kathleen Johnston; Catherine Nolan and William Nolan [33rd]; Charles and Margaret Miller; baby Naimh Collins.

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 Jerusalem Bible and now 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.

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 to do so and will obey the social distancing provisions applicable to all of us. **On Good Shepherd Sunday** here is a lovely thought taken from a letter written to us by Alice Crowe for her aunt, Miss Mary Paterson (aged 95 years): Aunt Mary is missing the Eucharistic Ministers Richard, Ann Marie & Bill **but she understands**. But my brother puts Mass on then 'phones her and she can listen to the Service.

Gratitude: in the continuing Lockdown, Social Distancing restricting freedom of movement, people have continued to call at the church and also at the chapel house for diverse reasons, always observing the norms in place to protect our health. All are very welcome. **Some people have come looking for financial help from our parish community. In your name we do offer help - arranged by 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.

Margaret Hannah: this evening at 7pm prayers will be offered "on line" from our parish in advance of the funeral tomorrow pm of Anne Hannah [RIP], the mother of Margaret and Allan, which will be conducted at Cambusnethan Cemtery by the locum minister of Cambusnethan Old Parish Church. .

200 Club Renewal: by today, 31 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.

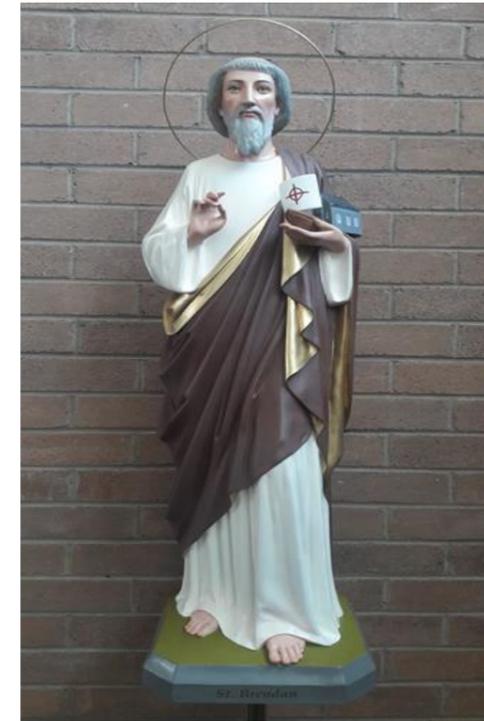
Gift Aid Scheme: the form is available on request. Ten parishioners have recently joined, including Aileen McGuinness, once the scheme had been explained to her, and her daughter, Julieann too. Thank you to all.

St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish

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



**Good Shepherd Sunday - The Fourth Sunday of Easter -
Third May 2020.**

Using the parish's site on Facebook you can 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 "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: Funds raised will be matched by the UK Government. Donations can be given on line to SCIAF or at St. Brendan's church or by adding to your SCIAF Wee Box. Please be generous - THIS WEEK IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE.