

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

Easter Sunday (A) 11th / 12th April 2020

Parish of Saint Conval, Greenfarm Road, Linwood PA3 3HB
T: 01505 323751 E: stconval@rcdop.org.uk W: stconvals.com
Parish Priest: Canon Michael McMahon



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: Winnie Deighan, Margaret McDonald, Giuseppe Frangipane and for those who are working so hard to care for the sick especially those who work in our hospitals.

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died Recently: Kevin Toal, Ann Trodden and Martha Drennan (Private Family Committal at the Cemetery on Tuesday).

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Marie Scarff, James McGrattan, Charles Shields, Annie Shields, Betty Horsburgh and for the month's mind of Elsie Miggins, Elizabeth McAdam and Jim Clark.

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Mass Sheets, Standing Order Forms and Gift Aid Declaration Forms.

Fr. Michael Will Celebrate Mass Alone Each Day praying for the members of the Parish Community and their intentions. Fr. Michael is still available in emergencies but is observing the Government's advice on social distancing.

Fr. Michael Will Take Several Minutes Each Day to reflect on the Scriptures and his Reflections will be available on St. Conval's Church Linwood You Tube Channel - visit: <https://tinyurl.com/u2rtyra>

St. Mirin's Cathedral And Local Parishes are livestreaming their privately celebrated Masses:

St. Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley - Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/qv7uqhl>

St. Charles', Paisley - Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/r2gww7a>

St. Margaret's, Johnstone - Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/qv5wde5>

Financial Support: The Parish still requires your financial support to pay our bills so please continue to be generous. Electronic donations can be made to St. Conval's RC Parish Church at The Bank of Scotland, Johnstone Branch Sort Code 80-16-53, Account Number 00356472. Standing Order Forms for each Parish can be downloaded from the Diocesan website, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/wj3bone> Please complete the Form, post it in the Parish House and Fr. Michael will forward it to the Bank. Forms also available in the House Porch. Many thanks indeed to those who have already signed up for a Standing Order and those who have posted their envelopes and contributions through the door. Very much appreciated and thanks for your thoughtfulness - prayers for all at this time!

Gift Aid: This weekend is the start of the new tax year for the Gift Aid Scheme. Unfortunately, we are presently unable to safely distribute the boxes of envelopes for 2020-2021. However, if you are able to post your donation at the House, please write your existing number or your name and gift aid on the envelope. You may wish to consider making your donation by Standing Order and our Parish's Standing Order Form can be downloaded from the Diocesan website, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/wj3bone> If any parishioners would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) Forms are available in the House Porch or can be downloaded from the Diocesan website, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/wj3bone> Please complete and sign the GAD Form and post it in the Parish House. Thank you for your continued support of the Gift Aid Scheme.

Weekly Parish Bulletin: Any items for inclusion in the bulletin (including names for the sick, month's mind and anniversary lists) should be put through the letter box of the Parish House or sent by email: stconval@rcdop.org.uk by **12noon on the Thursday** before publication. Copies of the Bulletin will be available in the House Porch each week as well as online.

Holy Thursday Evening Mass Of The Lord's Supper

A Reading From The Holy Gospel According To John

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.' 'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.' He knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'though not all of you are.' When he had washed their feet and put on his clothes again he went back to the table. 'Do you understand' he said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'

Pope Francis' Homily

The Eucharist. Service. Anointing. The reality we live today in this liturgy is the Lord who wants to remain with us in the Eucharist. And we are to be tabernacles of the Lord. We bear the Lord with us to the point that he himself tells us that if we do not eat his body and drink his blood, we will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. This is the mystery of the bread and wine of the Lord with us, in us, within us. The service. That gesture that is a condition for entering the Kingdom of Heaven. Serve, yes, everyone, but the Lord -- in that exchange of words he had with Peter -- makes him understand that to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, we must let the Lord serve us, that the Servant of God is the servant of us, and this is difficult to understand. If I do not let the Lord be my servant, allow the Lord to wash me, to help me grow, to forgive me, I will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. And the priesthood. Today I would like to be close to priests. All of them - from the most recently ordained to the pope, we are all priests. The bishops, all ... We are anointed, anointed by the Lord; anointed to offer the Eucharist, anointed to serve.

Today we did not have the Chrism Mass. I hope we will be able to have it before Pentecost, otherwise we will have to postpone it until next year. But I cannot let this Mass pass without mentioning the priests. Priests who offer their lives for the Lord, priests who are servants. In recent days, more than 60 have died here in Italy, in the care of the sick in hospitals, and also with doctors, nurses ... They are "the saints next door," priests who gave their lives by serving. Priests who go far to bring the Gospel and die there. A bishop said that the first thing he did, when he arrived in these mission posts, was to go to the cemetery, to the grave of the priests who lost their lives there, young, by the local plague [local diseases]. They were not prepared, they had no antibodies. No one knows their names. Anonymous priests.

The country parish priests, who are parish priests of four, five, or seven villages in the mountains and go from one to the other, who know the people ... Once, one told me that he knew the name of all the people of the villages. "Really?" I said to him. And he said to me: "Even the name of the dogs." They know all. Priestly closeness. Well done, good priests. Today I carry you in my heart and I bring you to the altar. Slandered priests. Many times it happens today. They cannot go out on the street because bad things are said of them, in reference to the drama we have experienced with the discovery of priests who did ugly things. Some told me that they cannot leave the house in clerical dress because they are insulted, but they continue. Sinful priests, who together with the bishops and the pope, a sinner, do not forget to ask for forgiveness. And learn to forgive because they know that they need to ask for forgiveness and to forgive. We are all sinners. Priests who suffer from crises, who do not know what to do, who are in the dark ... Today all of you, brother priests, are with me on the altar. You who are consecrated in Baptism, I only tell you one thing: Do not be stubborn, like Peter. Allow your feet to be washed. The Lord is your servant. He is close to you to give you strength, to wash your feet. And so, with this awareness of the need to be washed, to be great forgivers. Forgive. A great heart has generosity in forgiveness. It is the measure by which we will be measured. As you have forgiven, you will be forgiven: the same measure. Do not be afraid to forgive. Sometimes there are doubts ... But look at Christ [look at the Crucifix] everyone's forgiveness is there. Be brave, also in taking risks, in forgiving in order to console. And if you cannot give or receive sacramental forgiveness at that moment, at least give the consolation of a brother or sister who accompanies and leaves the door open for their return. I thank God for the grace of the priesthood. I thank God for you, priests. Jesus loves you! He only asks that you allow him to wash your feet.