

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

Solemnity of Pentecost (A) 30th / 31st May 2020

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Parish Priest: Canon Michael McMahon



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: James Fryars, Maria Devlin 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: James Prior (Family Funeral Friday am), Mary Ferguson and Elizabeth Martin.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Fr. Hugh Ferguson and for the month's mind of Giuseppe Frangapane, Tommy Fulton, Sarah Conway, Sadie Allan and Patricia McCallum.

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Mass Sheets, Standing Order Forms and Special Donation Envelopes.

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.

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>

Online Parish Offertory Portal: The Diocese is keen that Parishes manage a form of fund raising in these challenging days. Bearing in mind your other important responsibilities, they have designed a pathway for more casual donations for those without gift aid and not wishing to commit to a standing order. You can now pay any amount to the Parish and make a donation with your debit or credit card using the portal (which is centrally administered by the Diocese) via the link on the Diocesan website homepage, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/y9r2dlcc> and thus make a donation to the Parish without obligation and in that sort of form for which we are able to do for all types of cases and causes.

Broadcasts From The Church: When the Pandemic first struck, Fr. Michael, together with a great many of you thought that this would last a month or two and like a very nasty Winter Flu' it would leave us in peace soon enough - how wrong we were! At the moment it looks like this will be with us in some form for many months to come and we will have to live with it and adapt our behaviours accordingly. We are still some way from the Public Celebration of Mass in our Churches and very far from being able to gather for a Sunday Mass together - and even if that were possible in some limited manner - there are those in the Parish who, because of health issues, would be strongly advised not to mix with others for the foreseeable future. So having investigated the costs and in discussion with technical experts Fr. Michael decided that this is the moment to build for and protect the future of our Parish and the Pastoral care of our elderly and infirm for the next few months and years and go ahead with installation of the required equipment.

Continued Overleaf

This leaves Fr. Michael to appeal to you, the ever generous Parishioners of St. Conval's with the request to make donations to cover the final portion of the costs - now well within our grasp. Money is short for us all at the moment so, bearing in mind your other responsibilities, can he appeal to your generosity? This is a project which brings us firmly into the 21st Century in time of Pandemic and is a way to ensure the Public Celebration of Mass for you all - albeit one at which, for the moment, you can only be 'virtually present'! More and more of our lives are moving online, into Social Media and electronic media, St. Conval's needs to be there too - in the 'Market Place' and 'Public Spaces' just as the Church has always sought to do!

So Mass will be available on our YouTube Channel (Search 'St. Conval's Church Linwood') - live and available all day every day, on our Website and on our Facebook Page beginning this Sunday - Pentecost Day (31st May) for Sunday Mass at 10.30am - may it be for us our moment of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to encourage our Christian witness to the Risen Lord! For Security reasons he will publicise the times of the next live celebrations at the end of each Mass.

Special Donation Envelopes are available in the Porch, if you have Gift Aid your donation is worth 25% more, so please add your existing Envelope Number or name!

Moving Forward: We are now going to move to a more interactive phase in the life of St. Conval's Parish - so Fr. Michael would like to begin it in a variety of ways with a few ideas...

A number of you have spoken to me or written emails, often briefly, to express what your faith in Lockdown has been like: the difficulties, the things that you miss about being able to come to Church and to gather together; the unexpected benefits as far as your prayer life is concerned, even the renewal of personal prayer in your life; the many Masses and Services available streamed; the kindness of others and the companionship felt in prayer during these weeks.

These are great testimonies to faith and I would like to share some of these (all anonymously) in the days after Pentecost, but I would also like anyone who wishes to feel free to contribute to this witness to faith. I have been immensely encouraged by the things written and I think many other people would be too. This will be for us a Testimony of how the Holy Spirit works in us and through us - we want to recognise that Pentecost is a daily reality for us in our lives today - not just an event in history for our Church.

These reflections don't have to be 'thought out' or great essays - some of the most poignant have been no more than one sentence: all it needs to be is something that truly reflects your experience of your faith in these times.

Secondly, each week Fr. Michael will suggest a topic and invite the Children of the Parish to contribute a drawing or sketch on the given topic. This topic will be in the Bulletin and Our Lady of Peace Primary School will contact their Pupils and Parents on Monday Morning with the topic. These drawings and sketches - a piece of A4 paper is great, will be posted in the Church and filmed on Sunday at Mass. These sketches should be submitted (please just leave it in the House Porch, front door is unlocked) before Friday at 7.00pm for display on Sunday. The topic for this coming week 1st - 5th June is 'The Holy Spirit'.

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.