

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 14th / 15th November 2020

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Parish Priest: Canon Michael McMahon



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: Frances Reid, Pauline Garvie 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: Cathie Thom (Family Funeral on 24th November 2020), Mary McLean (Family Funeral on 27th November 2020) and Charles Lapsley (Family Funeral - date to be confirmed).

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: John Kelly, John McGrory, William Wishart, Dan Hunter, Mary Hunter, for the six months mind of Mary Ferguson and for the month's mind of Robert Gray, Maria Devlin, Gillian McGourlick, Mary McGrory and Willie McKenna.

Please Pray for the young men and women of our Parish who will be Confirmed on 21st November 2020. Fr. Michael, with the permission of Bishop John, will celebrate with them all at a number of Services on Saturday morning.

Education Sunday - 22nd November 2020: The special second collection next weekend supports the Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) which promotes and protects our Catholic Schools in issues of national significance, and supports our Schools, Parishes and Dioceses. The national office supports three employees. In 2019 this collection a raised £18,530, which represents 50% of our expenditure of £37,340, resulting in a shortfall of £18,810.

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Census Forms, Standing Order Forms, Gift Aid Packs and Financial Statements.

'Illustrate The Sunday Gospel' Competition: Fr. Michael has asked the young people of the Parish to contribute a sketch or drawing each week. The theme for next weekend is 'Christ's Kingdom'. Paper and pens are available in the porch of the house - help yourself. Please hand in by midday on Saturday and remember to put your name and class on the picture.

Fr. Michael is attempting to compile a database of the Parish to help us stay in touch with one another - there were no records kept by previous Parish Priests. Please take a Census Form and complete it, returning it to the House (outside door of House Porch accessible). All data held in accordance with GDPR.

Schedule This Week For Masses And Private Prayer:

Saturday, 14th November: Vigil Mass at 5.30pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 5.00pm until 7.00pm

Sunday, 15th November: Mass at 10.30am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 9.30am until 12noon

Tuesday, 17th November: Mass at 10.00am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed

Thursday, 19th November: Mass at 6.00pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed

Saturday, 21st November: Vigil Mass at 5.30pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 5.00pm until 7.00pm

Sunday, 22nd November: Mass at 10.30am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 9.30am until 12noon

More volunteers for stewarding and sanitising would be most welcome.

Please Note: As we have a Funeral on Tuesday, 24th November 2020 Mass that morning will not be available to Parishioners except on Live Stream.

Malawi Appeal: St. Benedict's High School have an annual appeal for Christmas Parcels which will be sent to Malawi as part of our Partnership with St. Patrick's School. As ever with crises it's the poorest who suffer most so Malawi has been hard hit with the effects of the Pandemic. Perhaps we could appeal to you - our generous Parishioners - for donations to add to the parcels, yours are the only gifts these children will receive and many of them have absolutely nothing. But as our Partnership is based on Education and our Partners in Malawi are so focused on study and learning as a path out of poverty, they are looking for donations of Pencils, Pens, Pencil Cases, Toothbrushes, Candy Canes(!), Socks, Wrapping Paper / Christmas Cards. Perhaps we could donate these items in the month of November as donations will be shipped early December, so our deadline is the end of the month. Please leave them in the receptacles on the Sanctuary steps and if you would be so kind, please remove them from plastic shopping bags which are a potential source of cross-infection.

Christmas Presents For Disadvantaged Children: The risk of cross-infection means that we should not, as normally we do in Advent, collect Christmas Presents for disadvantaged children. Fr. Michael would love to have any suggestions you might have for any alternative - Gift Cards perhaps? All helpful suggestions welcomed.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has presented the Church with unprecedented challenges. It has brought about the temporary closure of parish churches and, following the resumption of public worship, the introduction of rigorous health and safety measures to prevent transmission of the virus. Since the resumption of public worship our parishes have been meticulous in controlling infection to ensure the safety of all those who cross the threshold of a Catholic church. The tireless work and co-operation of priests, parishioners and volunteers whose extraordinary efforts have ensured that Catholic Churches are among the safest places for people to attend in the midst of this Pandemic has been commendable. We are now at a fragile point. The rate of Covid-19 infections appears to be on the rise and public anxiety is increasing. At this critical moment, Scotland's Bishops have written to all our parishes urging that they redouble their efforts to reduce the risk of transmission and ensure that we all adhere to the infection control measures that we have put in place. Our discussions with the Scottish Government assure us that they are aware of our excellent protocols and trust us to see to our public worship and parish life with the discretion of good citizens and partners. Although no evidence has emerged of cases or clusters connected to our churches, we are not blasé and continue to assure the Government that we employ discretion and caution in full co-operation with the intentions of their advice. On that basis, we have every confidence that, if parishes continue their high standards of infection control, then public worship and parish life can carry on and we will continue to be able to attend to the spiritual welfare of the nation. Thank you for your co-operation, please be careful to respect our protocols for the safety of yourselves and your fellow Parishioners.

In St. Conval's we will continue to use an internet Booking Form to request a place at Mass in the coming week. Please use this link rather than emailing the Parish, we seem to have evolved a useful method and timings for booking, so on the link that follows, requests for a place at Mass are available from 7 days until 24 hours before the celebration of Mass on the Internet, from 24 hours until 2 hours before the celebration of Mass telephone bookings to the Parish can be requested. Fr. Michael will send you an email or call you back to confirm you have a place, you can come on spec if you wish and if there is space, we will be delighted to welcome you but cannot guarantee a place! Our link for Internet booking is

<https://forms.gle/ZU2pJCq3s2GyFHnA8>

this will centralise and manage booking for us in a way that will avoid errors and misunderstandings - we hope! If there is a place available, you will receive an email (normally 24 hours prior to the Mass) confirming your booking request. There is no Obligation to attend Sunday Mass at the moment. If you are assigned a place, please arrive in good time (as places still vacant at the time Mass is due to begin will be given to those not able to book in advance), please tell the Stewards who you are - to indicate your presence on the sheet that lists those attending. Please wear a face covering. Please follow the direction of the Stewards and occupy only the seat you are given. Please do not wander around the Church. At the end of Mass please leave by the side door following the direction of the Stewards, so that we can keep our distance as we leave. The Church will remain open after Mass for prayer. We will try to evolve our plans to accommodate the demand in the weeks ahead. The reason why there is not Mass daily at the moment is that we require to clean the Church between each Celebration and, as Fr. Michael has had two Funerals a week during lockdown, this will leave a couple of days in the week when Funerals can be celebrated with the family without having to call people who have booked to tell them they may not attend. If you have booked ahead and then discover you cannot attend, please call to inform us, and someone else can take your place. This has worked well through our first few weeks - so thank you for your co-operation, for your patience and understanding.

Adult Education Talks: This series of talks continues on Monday, 16th November 2020 on Zoom at 6.30pm with Mgr. Denis Carlin on the theme of Liturgy. Please use this link to join:
<https://zoom.us/j/97338649635?pwd=b1o2alR5SUU2Rmo3OXIHMGGRxS2liZz09> Passcode: 058852.

Future Adult Education Talks: Monday, 21st December 2020 - Canon Michael McMahon and Fr. Ryan Black on the theme of New Testament and Monday, 18th January 2021 - Bishop John on the theme of Teachings of Saint John Paul II.

St. Aloysius' College will host a 'Virtual Open Day' for the Junior School on Saturday, 21st November 2020 at midday. Visit: www.stalloysius.org for full details.

Working To Eradicate Domestic Abuse: The Scottish Interfaith Group on Domestic Abuse invites you to their Webinar on Wednesday, 25th November 2020 at 7.30pm (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women). The webinar will inform you with: insights into domestic abuse from a survivor: how COVID-19 has impacted abuse (Women's Aid and an MSP); the collaboration of all faiths against domestic abuse: the international aspect of domestic abuse from a leading charity: learning how to help. To register and receive the Zoom code visit: <http://ifgoda.org.uk> You will receive an email with all the details. We can all help in the work of countering abuse.