

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

4th Sunday of Lent (B) 13th / 14th March 2021

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: Eleanor McMahon, Tracy Gallagher, Marie Murphy 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: Isla MacDonald (Family Funeral on Wednesday, 17th March at 10.00am), Abbie Mullan, Geoff Gardyne and Tommy Simpson.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: William McCallum, Margaret Mullan, Betty Sillars, John and Mary McGovern, Davie McFarlane, Kathleen McCormack, Robert Beggs and for the month's mind of John and Mary McGrory, Maria Devlin, Gillian McGourlick, Angela Adams (Logue), Mary Ferguson, Peter Gray and Eileen Gray.

Second Collection: This weekend's special second collection is for SCIAF and Papal and Episcopal and St. Mirin's Fund. The proceeds of this collection are divided 75% to SCIAF and 25% to our new St. Mirin's Fund. SCIAF is the official aid and international development charity of the Catholic Church in Scotland. It works in sixteen countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America to help the poorest in the world, regardless of religion, to work their way out of poverty. The St. Mirin's Fund awards small grants for good causes that promote the Kingdom of God among us, with special consideration to children and young people, the elderly, those with disabilities and special needs, or suffering from poverty, mental illness, homelessness or refugees. In 2018 this collection raised £28,013, which represents 110% of our expenditure of £25,389 resulting in a small fund surplus of £2,624. The Papal and Episcopal Fund also contributed £15,000 from reserves to the SPRED Fund.

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Census Forms and Standing Order Forms. If you would like a copy of the Bulletin or any of these forms, but cannot get out to collect them, please email the Parish with your address and you can have them delivered by email or by hand. There are also Memorial Cards for Canon Healy, Lenten Prayer Calendars for Priests of the Diocese, 'Day by Day' Lent Prayer Books and copies of a form of the Stations of The Cross (also available on our Facebook page and website).

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 from the Porch or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/1bo24gvv> to download the Form for printing. Completed Forms should be returned to the House (outside door of House Porch accessible). All data held in accordance with GDPR.

Financial Support: Thanks to your ongoing generosity in February, Fr. Michael received £2,423 from the contributions to the weekly Offertory Collection which you have made with envelopes and donations. He has also received second collection contributions for SPRED (£358) and the Building Fund (£280).

A Word Of Thanks again for your continued Financial Support of the Parish - our situation will be clearer with the production of our Annual Account which will be available to you all with the distribution of the new sets of Collection Envelopes around 4th April. You have continued to be very generous even when unable to attend Mass by handing in weekly envelopes, Direct Debits and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish electronically, and other donations in various ways. Our income has obviously declined substantially but we have kept our expenditure down also - full details in due course.

Lenten Almsgiving: Thank you also for directing your Lenten Almsgiving to our Meals Project. We distributed 200 meals again last week as we have got our operation up to full speed bringing the total of meals distributed since the beginning of February to over 1000. We will continue this as long as we can and at the moment we will continue through the Easter Holidays into the New Term thanks to your help. Donations of food, toiletries and cash can be safely left in the Parish House Porch as it is monitored by CCTV. The outer door is open but the inner one is locked. The link for online giving is: <https://tinyurl.com/3ro5rwzm>

Year Of St. Joseph: As you may know, this year has been designated as the Year of St. Joseph by Pope Francis. Looking towards the Solemnity of St. Joseph on 19th March, we host Novenas to St. Joseph. There will be a daily Novena celebrated in the Diocese: Christ the King, Howwood will celebrate the Novena at 4.00pm until 18th March and St. Margaret's, Johnstone will celebrate at 6.00pm on the same dates. Full details available on their websites and Facebook pages.

We will celebrate the Solemnity with a Vigil Mass at 6.00pm on Thursday, 18th with special Prayer for those who have died over the last year, as this marks the Anniversary of our going into Lockdown on 20th March 2020.

Re-opening Of Churches: We had some good news on the re-opening of Churches from the First Minister and her Health Advisors: we can resume daily Mass after Friday, 26th March for a maximum of 50 people. We will revert to the Internet / Telephone Booking System that we used before Christmas as our basis for applying to attend Mass. 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! When arrangements for Easter have been finalised, our link for Internet booking will be:

<https://forms.gle/ZU2pJCq3s2GyFHnA8>

This system worked well for a cap of 50 (less so for a cap of 20!) attending Mass. The only difficulty that we will have is for the Vigil Mass for Easter Day due to the fact that it is the one Sunday in the year when no early Vigil is permitted. However, we will look at arrangements for Easter and let you know as soon as possible as to what we will be able to do. Being open again from 26th means that we can celebrate Palm Sunday together and the Holy Week Liturgies, though we will need to adjust some of our celebrations to take account of Covid-19 protocols. The Diocese will advise Fr. Michael of the decisions of the Hygiene and Safety Working Group on how to celebrate together safely. It is likely that we should omit the Washing of the Feet and the Procession to the Altar of Repose at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday Processions and Kissing the Cross (though the Veneration of the Cross will take place) on Good Friday and the Procession with Candles at the Easter Vigil. At the moment Fr. Michael intends to celebrate Palm Sunday Vigil and Sunday Mass, Mass on Tuesday of Holy Week, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Solemn Commemoration of the Passion on Good Friday, The Easter Vigil, Mass each day of the Easter Octave (each day, like Christmas is celebrated as "Easter Day"). Again, when you are booking, please be considerate and allow others who wish to attend also.

Adult Education Talks: You are invited to our next talk on Monday, 15th March 2021 at 6.30pm on The Social Doctrine of the Church by Mgr. Gerry Gallagher. Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/98755682864?pwd=SCtzMW9QZTZ5RIJzTWdtMzJBR3RGZz09>
Passcode: 435655

Inaugural Family Mass For The 'Amoris Laetitia' Family Year: Bishop John will celebrate a Live Streamed Mass for families to mark the beginning of this special year proclaimed by Pope Francis on Sunday, 21st March 2021 at 11.00am. Families are invited to sign up for the Live Stream via the Marriage and Family page on the Diocesan website, where they can also download an order of service, submit petitions and contribute to a charitable offertory, visit: tinyurl.com/edv6spz4