

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

5th Sunday of Lent (C) 2nd / 3rd April 2022

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



Mass Times

Sunday:	5.30pm	Vigil (Saturday) and 10.30am.
Monday:	10.00am	St. Conval's joined by a Class of Pupils from Our Lady of Peace Primary School.
Tuesday:	10.00am	St. Conval's.
Thursday:	6.00pm	St. Conval's followed by Exposition and Benediction at 6.50pm.
Friday:	10.00am	St. Conval's.
	12.25pm	St. Benedict's High School.

Confessions

Thursday:	6.30pm	Available in the Meeting Room during Exposition as required.
Saturday:	5.00pm	Available in the Meeting Room before Vigil Mass.

Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: Andrew Irvine, Elizabeth Kelly, Gary Danks, Nellie McNamara, Janice Mackin, John and Isabella Gilmartin, Terry Porter, Eileen McKenna, Fr. Andrew Coleman, Fr. Oliver Freney, Gordon Finnegan, David McNish 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: Anna Uptun (nee Gray), John McDaid, David Gillespie and Jim McGregor.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Mr Flewitt McAlpine, Mrs Annie McAlpine, Betty Parker, Kathleen Sheerin, Joseph Barr, Dinky Drennan, Phyllis McMillan, Thomas Flood and for the month's mind of Elsie Muggins.

Second Collection: This weekend's second collection is for the Building Fund which is to pay off the debt to the Diocese.

Post COVID-19 we continue our journey to what will be our new normality with care for ourselves and each other. Accordingly, we will not pass the Collection Basket from hand to hand during Mass at the Preparation of the Gifts (and for Second Collections to avoid interrupting everyone's Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion). So the Basket for the Main Offertory Collection will be in the Porch as you enter and the Basket for the various Second Collections - which will be named - will be on the Altar Rail as you leave. Many of you now support the Parish by Standing Order or Electronically (for which Fr. Michael is most grateful) though for many causes the physical collection is their only opportunity for you to offer your financial support. Please continue to offer these causes your support. (If you forget the Offertory Collection on the way in, please leave your donation *beside* the Second Collection Basket as you leave). Thank you!

Live Streaming: All Masses are Live Streamed and can be viewed on our YouTube Channel. Weekday Masses are available for up to 12 hours after they are finished "live". Sunday Vigil and Sunday Morning Masses will also be uploaded to view later.

Stations Of The Cross is a popular Lenten Devotion and as restrictions continue to be eased, one which becomes easier to celebrate. You will doubtless have your own favourite texts for these which you may have been using for some years - if you follow the Stations around the Church, please be careful to maintain a distance that allows others to feel at ease. Fr. Michael has left a number of copies of this year's offering from SCIAF in the Porch - for use in the Church. If you take a copy as you arrive, please leave it as you leave the Church and we will sanitise and make it available again. Please don't take them home - allow others to use them. For home use please go to SCIAF's website or your own favourite prayer websites to find them. In addition to this provision for Private Devotions, Stations will be celebrated publicly after Mass on Monday mornings. The Rosary is recited each morning before Mass.

Tuesday Tea: This week will be the last one before Easter. We will be back on Tuesday, 26th April.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited each Friday morning after the 10.00am Mass.

Children's Liturgy: As things begin to return to normal, we are hoping to restart the Children's Liturgy on a Sunday morning. To do this we NEED more volunteers to commit to one Sunday a month. No experience necessary. For more information please contact Gemma, email: gemma.EYP@gmail.com

Church Clean For Easter: This will take place on Holy Saturday (16th April) after Morning Prayer. Anyone who can come along and help would be welcomed and much appreciated.

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.

The Parish have produced a Cookbook with many delicious baking recipes. Copies are available £1.50.

Collection Envelopes: Thank you to those who have signed up for Gift Aid (a scheme whereby HMRC gives to the Parish the tax which you have paid on the money that you give the Parish - 25p in every £1. All that is required is a form signed and a numbered envelope to maintain a record of your donations to enable Fr. Michael to claim). This year - thanks to your ongoing generosity in 2020-2021 - HMRC gave the Parish £8,600. They will also give the Parish a further £2,000 as a flat rate 'guesstimate' for the monies given 'loose' in the plate which has been taxed. The boxes of envelopes for 2022-2023 can be uplifted from the Meeting Room after Masses on 2nd / 3rd April. If you pay by Standing Order, please still uplift a box of envelopes for two reasons; some feel embarrassed at not putting anything in the Collection Basket and though the Standing Order supports the Parish week to week, boxes of envelopes contain an envelope for the Special Second Collections - you may wish to support a particular one of them in a particular way. If any members of the Parish Community would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please call into the Meeting Room on one of the above dates.

Sunday Mass And Holy Days: The Obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days has now been reinstated. There will, of course, be some people who do not have the confidence to return yet, but Bishop John encourages those who are fit and healthy, and confident, to return to Mass if they have not yet done so.

So, we are moving to the next stage of this long story which we have lived together over the past two years, and we are able to ease more of our protective measures. The following measures will still remain in place (for the time being):

- The sanitising of hands on entering and leaving Churches.
- The wearing of face coverings.
- One-way system of entering and leaving the Church.
- Stewarded Procession for Holy Communion.
- Continued good ventilation: we will continue to do what we reasonably can to allow good air circulation around the building - it will feel cool in the Church!
- Please remember that you are asked **NOT** to attend Mass or Liturgies if you are carrying an infection or have the symptoms of Covid.
- Please be aware of those around about you, especially those who may be more vulnerable.
- There is no need for us to book Masses, to make the return to Mass as simple and easy as possible.
- There is now no legal requirement to maintain the track and trace protocols, so we will **not** continue this process.
- The sanitising of Church buildings after each Mass is not now required, infection control reverts to our personal responsibility, but we will continue an enhanced cleaning regime in the Church.
- Thank you to you all for your patience, tolerance and understanding for many long difficult days.
- Thank you to those who helped in particular ways to offer the extraordinary help that has been required to allow us to continue to function in the various stages of restriction and lockdown - COVID free (Deo Gratias!).

All Day Confessions: This much beloved opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter will return this Lent. Priests from across the Deanery (and beyond) will be available to hear confessions in St. Mirin's Cathedral from 8.30am until 8.00pm on Friday, 8th April. Please note that there will be 30 minute breaks from 10.00am until 10.30am and 1.00pm until 1.30pm for the celebration of Masses. Although Confessional Boxes will not be used, anonymity will be preserved by means of the use of banners.

Chrism Mass: Bishop John invites the Priests and people of the Diocese to celebrate the Chrism Mass with him on Wednesday, 13th April at 7.00pm in St. Mirin's Cathedral. This celebration is a great opportunity for us to celebrate and express our faith together. Even more so this year as we have not been able to gather and celebrate this special Mass since the beginning of the pandemic. During the Mass the Priests of the Diocese will renew their priestly commitment and the oils will be blessed for use in the celebration of the Sacraments throughout the Diocese in the coming year. Refreshments in the Cathedral Hall after Mass. All welcome.