

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) 26th / 27th February 2022

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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.

Ash Wednesday

10.00am St. Conval's: Mass and Distribution of Ashes.
6.00pm St. Conval's: Liturgy of the Word and Distribution of Ashes.

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, Bernard McIlvennie, Fr. Andrew Coleman, John McDaid, Fr. Oliver Freney and for those who are working so hard to care for the sick especially those who work in our hospitals.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Alexander Barr, John Graham Snr, Stephen Ferris and for the month's mind of Jim Malley, Sean O'Neill, Ann and William McAdam, Gillian McGourlick and Josephine Gray.

Please Pray For The Special Intention: Leon McLaren (Age 7).

Please Pray For Archbishop Bill Nolan who was installed as Archbishop of Glasgow on Saturday.

Second Collection: This weekend's special second collection is for SPRED.

Next Weekend there will be a second collection for the Building Fund which is to pay off the debt to the Diocese.

Rites Of Enrolment: On Sunday we will have the Rite of Enrolment for First Communion and so the boys and girls of P4 and those others preparing for their First Holy Communion will ask God's Blessing on them and on their work - it's our opportunity to pray for them also. We will have the Rite of Enrolment for Confirmation on the Third Sunday of Lent (20th March).

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. Please feel free to stay at home if you are anxious about mixing with others. There is still no obligation to attend Mass (see overleaf) and our own safety and that of others is paramount.

As Restrictions Continue To Ease we can resume more of our Religious belief and practice which was curtailed by the Pandemic - we now have Holy Water as we enter and leave the Church to Bless yourself and see also changes to our Mass schedule.

Lenten Prayer Books are available as you enter or leave the Church - they cost £1.00. Calendars for our younger Parishioners are also available (free of charge!).

The Local Authority is also relaxing restrictions and so Fr. Michael's desire to celebrate together with the Pupils of Our Lady of Peace Primary can finally come to be - so our Monday Mass with the Primary School will now move to St. Conval's each Monday at 10.00am and one class from the School will come - all Parishioners are welcome too.

Tuesday Tea: Please join us in the hall after 10.00am Mass for tea, coffee and cakes. All are most welcome.

Ash Wednesday - 2nd March: The times of services on Wednesday are:

10.00am: Mass and Distribution of Ashes

6.00pm: Liturgy of the Word and Distribution of Ashes

A Service For The World Day Of Prayer will take place in St. Conval's at 2.00pm on Friday, 4th March. All welcome. Tea and coffee afterwards in Church Hall.

SCIAF Boxes for Lenten Alms will be available next weekend.

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.

Collection Envelopes: If any parishioners would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, sealed sterile Gift Aid Packs - which are all the same - containing a box of envelopes, a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) Form, a Standing Order Form, a Thank You Letter and Statement of Account are available in the House Porch. Please take the sealed sterile pack home with you. The Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) Form should then be completed and the signed GAD Form posted in the Parish House.

Sunday Mass And Holy Days: Bishop John informs us that the Obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days will be reinstated on the First Sunday of Lent, 6th March. There will, of course, be some people who do not have the confidence to return yet, but he 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!).

The Little Sisters Of The Poor in Greenock invite young people to join them for a Taize Prayer and Reflection on Friday, 11th March at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity to help discern GOD's will for your life in light of the Scriptures and the welcome calm of meditation and chant. As life gets back to 'normal' hopefully these prayer evenings will take place on a monthly basis. For information please contact Sr. Anna Maria, tel. 01475 722465 or email: ms.greenock@lspscotland.com