



The Catholic Parish of St. Patrick's

Third Sunday of Easter – 26th April 2020

Chapel House: 30 Low Craigends, Kilsyth, Glasgow G65 0PF

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Gospel Reflection for the 3rd Sunday in Easter

- presents us with a literal masterpiece. It is the story of the disciples on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus and is only found in Luke's Gospel [Luke 24:13-35]. Amid the joy and exaltation that we find in these Easter stories of the appearance of the Risen Jesus to his disciples, this episode begins with doubt, fear and even desolation. But it is a story of transformation – one that can occur when one has experienced a personal encounter with Jesus. Consider for a moment the state of these disciples – Cleopas and the other unnamed. They were returning to the hometown, Emmaus, some seven miles from Jerusalem. They had placed their hopes in the person of Jesus, as the one who was to set them free from all their 'captivities': political, moral, civil and economic that they had experienced through the Roman occupation of their homeland. We have the impression that they were in Jerusalem and would have seen the crucifixion of Jesus. Now they are returning home disillusioned, holding only the memory of the humiliated and crucified Jesus. So great is their despair that they do not even recognise Jesus who walks alongside them. [v15-24] Consider now the actions of Jesus. He does not rebuke them for their lack of faith in His promises, although his words towards them are harsh – **'you foolish men! So slow to believe all that the prophets have said'** [v. 25]. He simply allows them to continue with their story. Only then does he weave the elements of His story – the Scriptures – into their experiences. The burning sensation within their hearts allows them to eventually recognise him in the **breaking of the bread**. Here significantly, as the travellers offer hospitality to Jesus, it is Jesus who acts as host to them in the breaking of bread. The story of the road to Emmaus becomes, then, more than just a story of the appearance of the Risen Jesus. It is a paradigm for the Church and for our ministry. Countless times when we encounter people disillusioned with aspects of the faith or life in general, it is advantageous to allow them to recount their experiences, rather than have them receive a lecture. In such cases it is more beneficial to listen than to speak. In our

lives it is central for us to recognise the dual role of **Scripture** and **the Sacraments**.

Armed with these two fundamental elements, we walk alongside other disillusioned and hurt pilgrims, offering them the hope found in the Risen Christ. As we hear again the story of the Emmaus road, we can ask ourselves: **Do we recognise Jesus in our attempts to "feed" others? Do we recognise Jesus when others attempt to do the same for us? In what ways or experiences do I recognise or fail to recognise the presence of Jesus?** May we continue to experience the presence and power of the Risen Christ in our lives, especially when those moments of doubt and disillusionment occur in our own lives and those of our fellow travellers.

Mass intentions - please continue to hand in your Mass intentions as normal. The priests will continue to offer these Masses and pray for them. **We will also list them on the website as usual.**

In your prayers In your prayers - please continue to remember all our sick & housebound, not forgetting carers and family members who look after them.

Offertory Envelopes - at this time we feel we should not be talking about and certainly not asking for funding but, we still have a number of offertory envelopes to be collected for the new tax year. If you wish us to post them out to you or if you would rather collect them, please contact the chapel house. If you are in a position to do this, our bank details are as follows:

RBS, 18 Tay Walk, Cumbernauld G67 1DE.
Name of Account: Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh St Patrick's Church, Kilsyth.
Sort code: 832323
Account No: 00255000
 In the **reference section** please put your full name.
Or if you would prefer to complete a Standing Order form, please contact the parish house and one will be posted to you.

Please note Live Stream Sunday Mass by the Archbishop is at **9am** and there is also a Mass from Falkirk at **10am**

Lent Wee Box - grateful thanks to everyone who has already returned their SCIAF Wee Box. In spite of the Church being closed, you have managed to raise the wonderful sum of **£2,245.03** which will be doubled by the U.K. Government. In addition we hope to get around **£290** in Gift Aid. Well done everyone! But it's not too late to hand in any outstanding boxes/monies. Please do so by the end of April so that it can be doubled.

May the angels lead her into paradise - Please remember in your prayers June Mannering who died recently. We also remember their family at this very sad and difficult time.

Priest School - a documentary on life at the Pontifical Scots College in Rome was broadcast last Sunday evening. It is now available to view on **BBC iPlayer** at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000hmvf/priest-school>.

The Last Three Sunday and Building Fund Collections - totalled **£1450**. Many thanks to all those who popped their collection money into the chapel house. It is greatly appreciated. God bless you for your continued generosity.

Prayer Resources - There are an increasing number of valuable resources online that are very useful to Catholics during the lockdown. One which you may find worthwhile is on a website called They Kingdom Come, which has issued a range of neatly formatted resources, including Morning, Evening and Night prayer as well as a Pentecost Novena. You may wish to share these with parishioners. Visit: <https://www.theykingdomcome.global/resources/resources-catholic-church>

Saints of the Week

Tue	St. Peter Chanel & St. Louis de Montfort
Wed	St. Catherine of Siena
Thu	Pope St. Pius V
Fri	St. Joseph the Worker
Sat	St. Athanasius