



The Catholic Parish of St. Patrick's

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th February 2021

Clergy: Fr. Daniel P. Doherty & Fr William McQuillan



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SAINTS OF THE WEEK

<u>Monday</u>	<u>St. Jerome Emiliano</u> <u>St. Josephine Bakhita</u>
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>St. Scholastica</u>
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes</u>
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Our Lady</u>

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

Archbishop Cushley celebrates Sunday Mass at 9.30am every week, please visit <https://archedinburgh.org/watch-sunday-mass-with-archbishop-cushley> to watch.

Parish Income The collections for the past 4 weekends: Offertory £1,155 & Fabric £235. Thank you very much to all who continue to pop their envelopes every week through the door and also the many people who pay through the bank. Your generosity during these difficult times is greatly appreciated.

Baptisms The next course will be this Tuesday, 9 Feb. If you wish your child baptised after the lock down, please email the parish office and book a space for this.

St. Joseph's Prayer Book Pope Francis called for a year dedicated to St. Joseph from 8th December 20 to 8th December 21. In response to this, the Archbishop has commissioned a small family Prayer Book dedicated to St. Joseph for use in our own Archdiocese and beyond. The book is also very timely, as prayer is always important, but more so during a pandemic and as we begin another Lent. We have ordered enough for every parishioner in the parish. To make these available to as many parishioners as possible, we need your help! Could we ask people from different areas of the town to collect prayer books from the parish and deliver them to your neighbours, who come to Mass on a regular basis or not. If you can help, please email or telephone the parish leaving your name; contact no and street you live in. **Please note the Prayer Books will be in a sealed envelope for 72 hours before being delivered.**

Day by Day & Bible Alive Lent edition available at the front door of chapel house

We pray for the repose of the soul of Theresa Abercrombie who sadly passed away last Sunday. We remember the family at this difficult and sad time.

Couples' Retreat Married and engaged couples are invited to a Valentine's retreat! It features specially prepared video reflections from Canon John Udris, Spiritual Director at St Mary's College, Oscott (Birmingham), to help you grow together in Faith. It takes place on Zoom and last 90 mins. 3:00pm, Saturday 13 February. Free event organised by the Archdiocesan Marriage Commission. Register at bit.ly/CouplesRetreat2021

SCIAF Thank you to everyone who supported SCIAF during a very difficult 2020. SCIAF is only able to support our brothers and sisters in poorer countries through the generosity of the people of Scotland and your generosity in 2020 has been outstanding in the circumstances. Lent: £1.4 million raised and £1.2million matched by UK government £2.6 million. Summer appeal: £193,000 and £228,000 with Gift Aid. Christmas: Real Gifts £309,000 and £366,000 with Gift Aid. Advent Appeal: £147,000 and £174,000 with Gift Aid. 2021 looks like being another difficult year for everyone and we would be grateful for your continuing support for SCIAF. Wee Boxes will be available shortly for anyone who wishes to support SCIAF during Lent. Thank you.

Faith in the Time of Covid Archbishop Cushley invites you to join a series of Sunday talks from distinguished speakers who will offer their thoughts and approach to the pandemic. Each event lasts 30 mins. Dr Mary Rice Hasson, 5pm, 07 Feb. Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Hasson Professor John Haldane, 5pm, 14 Feb. Register: bit.ly/FaithCovid-Haldane Rt Hon Gordon Brown, 5pm, 21 Feb. Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Brown

This Thursday is World Day of Prayer for the Sick. We ask especially Our Lady of Lourdes intercession for all those suffering from the effects of Covid 19. Pope Francis has issued reflections for this day which are available on the diocesan & parish websites.

St Margaret Lecture Sr Catherine Droste OP will give this year's St Margaret of Scotland Lecture. Archbishop Cushley will conclude the event with a reflection. It takes place online this Wednesday, 4-5.30pm. <https://events.st-andrews.ac.uk/>

Archdiocesan YouTube channel If you miss any event from the Archdiocese find it at bit.ly/ArchYouTube. Latest upload is 'Fire & Water: The Power of the Sacraments, a talk by Sr Anna Marie McGuan.

5th Sunday of the Year Reflection In today's Gospel we see Jesus extending the Kingdom of God by entering Simon Peter's house and curing his mother-in-law of a fever. It is still the first day of Jesus' public ministry so we can assume that it is still the Sabbath. We see Jesus again healing and bringing life and health to people on the Sabbath day. Again Jesus goes beyond the religious demands of the day in order to bring God's healing presence into the life of others. We also find Jesus approaching Simon's mother-in-law in her illness but also touching her and lifting her up. The touching of women, especially those who were sick, was prohibited in Jesus' time. Again we see Jesus going beyond the traditions and regulations of the day when the health of a person was concerned. Her healing allowed her to be of service to Jesus and to others. This becomes a foreshadowing of Jesus' words: "I have come not to be served but to serve", and of the loving service of the unnamed woman, who just before Jesus' passion, will lovingly and appropriately anoint Jesus for his burial. Mark goes to great lengths to tell us how, through these actions, Jesus' reputation among the people has grown. By the end of the first day, people are bringing their sick to Jesus for healing, so much so that they were "crowding round the door". In all this Mark tells us that Jesus needed to find time to go to a "lonely place and pray". How frequently do we say we are too busy to pray. Today's Gospel challenges us to see that the busier we are, then the more need there is for us to pray. We need to ask ourselves whether our life and our prayer are indeed assimilated. Jesus always pre-empted any major work or announcement with a night spent in prayer before God. We need to ask ourselves also: do I make room to go regularly to this "lonely place" in order to be with God in prayer? Our prayer and our ministry need to go hand in hand.