

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

4th Sunday of Lent (A) 25th / 26th March 2017

Saint Conval's Parish, Greenfarm Road, Linwood PA3 3HB
Tel. 01505 323751 Email: stconvalslinwood@outlook.com
Canon Michael McMahon and Canon Willie Crawford



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: Dougal McClaren, Tommy McKinnon, Gavin Thomson, Pat Lavelle, Nancy Thompson, Anna Palmer and Billy McNeil.

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died Recently: Margaret Mullan, Gerry McMenemy, Alexander McGurk, Patricia Cassidy, Ann Kennedy and John Hughes.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Mick and Agnes Docherty, Peter and Helen McGourlick, James McMahon, James Lowe, Edward Clark, Patrick McGale, Betty Beaton, Philis Tianey, Grace Sheerin and for the month's mind of Lorraine Gaffney, Madge Lowe, Davie Dunnion, Isobel Sheerin, Charlotte McMahon and for the three months mind of Rena Symington.

Last Week's Collection amounted to £770.95. Thank you for your generosity.

Second Collection: On this fourth Sunday in Lent, all parishes in Scotland have a collection for the work that SCIAF does. This year please be particularly generous - the need is great. Part of the collection money will be going to Papal and Episcopal Charities.

Tea And Coffee With Biscuits After Sunday Mass In The New Hall: Each week a group from one of the Parish organisations will provide this hospitality. This will be free though there will be a basket available for donations to defray costs.

Weekday Masses During Lent: As well as 10.00am Mass (and 7.00pm most Thursdays) in St. Conval's, there will be Mass in St. Benedict's High School at 8.25am on Mondays and Wednesdays as well as the usual Friday 12.25pm Mass. All are welcome to the school to attend these Masses.

The Legion Of Mary are praying the Rosary in Kilbarchan Cemetery on Mother's Day on Sunday, 26th March 2017 at 1.30pm. All are very welcome.

Lenten Scriptures: Fr Michael's talks will continue on Thursday, 6th April 2017 at 7.30pm. All welcome to the hall for this exciting session!

Giving Tree And Prayer Tree: To offer a focus for this Lent - a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving - of sacrifice and repentance and generosity to our neighbour. You will see two trees on the Sanctuary: one is our **Giving Tree** hung with many labels. Please take a label and bring the item named on the label to the Church and place it under the tree. All these items are suitable for and will be given to the homeless and poor. There is no need to wrap or package them. The other is our **Prayer Tree**, it's bare at the moment, but there are labels beside it for you to take and complete with a prayer intention, which you can then hang on the tree. We will pray each day of Lent for these intentions. As Lent progresses therefore, one tree will empty of its 'leaves' (the **Giving Tree**) and one will flourish with 'leaves' (our **Prayer Tree**). The gifts need not be expensive, just the product of what we save through fasting, and the prayers need not be too personal – though they will not be read out!

Collection Envelopes: As is the custom in all parishes at our Offertory collection we have envelopes which enable us through the Gift Aid Scheme to reclaim the tax on all contributions made to the Church. You do not need a collection envelope in order to contribute! If you are a tax payer (even if you only pay a little tax) PLEASE sign a Gift Aid Declaration and the parish can claim back 25p of every £1.00 you contribute at no extra cost to you. This does not require you to divulge any personal information about your income or tax arrangements and Fr. Michael will be the only one who knows which envelope is yours. HMRC require him to keep this record and it is kept in the strictest confidence. Last year they sent us £4,832.00 – a substantial contribution – for the upkeep of the parish. The box of envelopes will contain green envelopes for the first collections and pink envelopes for the special second collections allowing the parish to reclaim tax on these Gift Aid contributions.

Any parishioners who would like to use Gift Aid envelopes and those parishioners who currently use them can uplift their box of envelopes for 2017-2018 from the meeting room after the Saturday Vigil Mass or after the Sunday Morning Mass during the weekends of 25th / 26th March and 1st / 2nd April 2017.

Thank You: There is a letter in the porch from Fr. Michael thanking parishioners for their generous financial support of our Parish. It provides a summary of account for the year 2016 with a few notes regarding the finances of the Parish. Please take a copy home with you.

Hall Update: We received our furniture for the new hall this week. Seamill Hydro were replacing their banqueting suite furnishings and we were able to obtain – at a very good price – the furniture they were selling on. Fr. Michael is still trying to obtain the certificate of completion from the Planning Department of Renfrewshire Council. The issue is a minor technicality but, as is often the case in these matters, it must be in order before certification can be obtained.

Weekly Parish Bulletin: Any items for inclusion in the bulletin (including names for the sick, month's mind and anniversary lists) should be put through the letter box of the Church House or sent by email: stconvalslinwood@outlook.com by **12noon on the Thursday** before publication.

Paisley Faith Forum: If Religions are the Cause of All Wars how can they Say they Bring Peace? Msgr. Denis Carlin on Thursday, 30th March 2017 from 7.00pm until 9.00pm in Paisley Diocese UWS Chaplaincy, High Street, Paisley. This is part of our Tough Questions We Catholics Get Asked Pope Francis' Challenge to Young People (II).

Quiet Day Of Prayer: Staying with Jesus through his passion: A prayer journey with St. Ignatius and St. John of the Cross on 1st April 2017 beginning at 10.00am for 10.30am finishing at 3.00pm at St. Columba's Parish, Renfrew.

Lenten Talks In St. Mirin's Cathedral: On Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm until 9.00pm - Understanding and Praying the Bible. Fr. David Birchall SJ and Dr. Catriona Fletcher of the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow. Two part sessions – first part is Mass in the Cathedral during which we shall look at ways of using the Bible for Prayer. The second part in the Hall is an introduction to the Bible.

29th March: The Gospels - The story of Jesus for different people. Prayer: Imaginative Contemplation

5th April: The letters of St Paul – Apostle to the gentiles Prayer: Lectio Divina

Monthly Divine Mercy Devotions And Holy Mass will take place on Friday, 31st March 2017 at 7.00pm in St. Margaret's Church, 49 Graham Street, Johnstone PA5 8RA and will be celebrated by Fr. Frank Hannigan. The Divine Mercy devotions will begin with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet followed by Holy Mass. Light refreshments will be available afterwards. All are welcome.

Song For SCIAF: Come along and enjoy an afternoon of musical entertainment in St. Patrick's Church, Greenock on Sunday, 2nd April 2017 at 2.00pm. Performers will include pupils from St. Patrick's Primary School and Notre Dame High School. Tickets available on the door are £2.00 adults, under 18s free. Refreshments will be served after the concert. All money raised will go to SCIAF's appeal for East Africa.

Seminars For Teachers: *Catholic Education, New Evangelisation and the Lay Apostolate*, Netherhall Educational Association Seminar, by Bishop John Keenan and Natalie Finnigan on Monday, 3rd April 2017 from 7.30pm until 9.00pm in Hazelwood House, Glasgow. The evening includes two short inputs, discussion, refreshments, open forum and Benediction. £3.00 to cover costs. Visit: www.nea.netherhall.org.uk for more information.

All Day Confessions: All day confessions will take place in the Diocese in the following parishes:

St. John the Baptist, Port Glasgow on Friday, 7th April 2017 from 10.15am until 7.00pm

St. Mary's, Greenock on Monday, 10th April 2017 from 9.00am until 7.00pm (Mass at 10.00am)

St. Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley on Monday, 10th April 2017 from 9.00am until 9.00pm (Mass at 10.00am and 1.00pm)

"Palm Sunday National World Youth Day Gathering" will take place Sunday, 9th April 2017 at St. Mary's Monastery, Perth. This event is open to all young people from across the Diocese: secondary and young adults. All under 18 participants must bring a signed consent form which is on the reverse side of the flyer. The event will run all day departing at 10.00am to arrive in Perth for 1.30pm leaving at 7.00pm with evening meal and transport provided (see times on consent form). The programme will include Fellowship, Catechesis, Social Time and Eucharist. If you would like to come along then please register your interest with Fr. Frank Hannigan, email: youth@rcdop.org.uk Facebook: DPYouth, Twitter @dpyouthoffice or tel. 01505 320198.

Schola Benedicti Singing Stainers Crucifixion: A choral meditation on the Passion of Our Lord in St. Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley on Palm Sunday (9th April 2017) at 7.00pm. Tickets are £5.00 and available at the door.

St. Conval's Cemetery: Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, 23rd April 2017 at 2.00pm.

Dementia - Giving Hope On A Difficult Journey By Dr Adrian Treloar: In Turnbull Hall, University of Glasgow on Saturday, 29th April 2017 at 10.30am. Dr. Treloar is on the Board of "Catholic Medical Quarterly" and writes extensively on Catholic Matters with authority. His talk will be of great interest particularly to those working in the field of Dementia. This is part of the Scottish Catholic Medical Association series.

#priesthood2018: Thinking about being a priest? Considering the Diocesan priesthood? Priests for Scotland are holding a day for enquirers on Saturday, 6th May 2017 at Glasgow University Catholic Chaplaincy. For more information or to book, please contact Fr. John Morrison, email: johnmorrison1976@gmail.com or tel. 01475 720223.

Marriage Preparation Days 2017: For engaged couples as they prepare to enter the Sacrament of Marriage. These will take place in the Diocesan Offices, Cathedral Precincts, Inle Street, Paisley PA1 1HR on 20th May and 30th September from 11.00am until 3.30pm. Cost £30.00 per couple (this includes information pack and lunch on the day). To book, please speak to your Parish Priest.

SPRED: You can help Cormack Smith raise money for this great cause by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/hbuo5ww> and donating directly to his fundraising page. JustGiving sends your donation straight to the Diocese of Paisley and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer so your donation is worth even more. Thank you for your support!

Could You Become A Knight Of St. Columba? The Knights of St. Columba are the leading men's lay apostolate organisation in the United Kingdom and continue to assist the Hierarchy and clergy in this great Year of the Centenary of Our Lady of Fatima. We would be delighted to welcome like-minded men to our Order, to assist us in Serving God by Serving others. Please visit our website: www.ksc.org.uk or contact Bertie M Grogan, email: membership@ksc.org.uk if you are interested.

Could You Be One Of Our Inverclyde Street Pastors? Working during the hours of 10.00pm and 4.00am, Inverclyde Street Pastors patrol the streets of Greenock and Gourock on Saturday evenings to care for, listen to and help those who are vulnerable. If you are over 18, Christian and willing to engage with the local community where they are at, please contact Alistair McAlees, tel. 07740201853 or email: inverclyde@streetpastors.org.uk to find out more.