

PARISH BULLETIN

St Kieran's, the Catholic Church

in Campbeltown and Islay

Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain

11th September 2022



24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

Sunday, 11th September, 24th Sunday, Holy Mass, 10.00am

Monday: 6.00pm Holy Mass; Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5.30-5.50pm (or on request)

Friday: 10am Holy Mass

Devotions: *Friday:* Adoration and Mid-morning Prayer, 9.30am.

Saturday, 17th September, Vigil Mass,,6.00pm

Sunday, 18th September, 25th Sunday, Holy Mass, 10.00am

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay

Sunday 18th September, Holy Mass, 4pm



Psalm response

I will leave this place and go to my father.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
and he has entrusted to us
the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon

*How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter
in the shadow of your wings.*

Take Five

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

Monday, Sep 12, 2022

MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

A name for the ages

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is known to us by many names and titles: The Mother of God, Virgin Mary, Blessed Mother, Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, Star of the Sea, Mystical Rose, Untier of Knots, Cause of Our Salvation — and the list goes on. Catholics venerate her actual name “Mary” because it belongs to the mother of God. In the Aramaic language that she and Jesus spoke, her name was pronounced “Mariam,” and by some accounts it meant “bitterness.” Mary knew terrible suffering as well as great joy. Whatever you are going through, you can bring it to Mary and call on her for help — by any and all of her names. Acknowledge her honour by saying a Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33; Luke 7:1-10. “I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed.”*

Tuesday, Sep 13, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Nearer my God to Thee — times three

Beauty, goodness, and truth — known in theology as the “three transcendentals” — naturally uplift humans toward the Divine. Saint John Chrysostom tapped into all three. His preaching was so beautiful that he earned the name Chrysostomos, meaning “golden mouth.” As archbishop of Constantinople, he exemplified goodness by using his household budget to take care of the poor and build hospitals. But it was John's tapping into the biblical truth — admonishing the wealthy and politicians for abuses of privilege and prestige — that got him into hot water with the powers-that-be, ultimately contributing to his death. Which of these transcendentals speaks most to your heart?

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a; Luke 7:11-17. “Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.”*

Wednesday, Sep 14, 2022

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Cross purposes

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrating three historic events in early church history: the finding of the True Cross in the Holy Land in the early fourth century by Saint Helena, the mother of Constantine (himself a saint in the calendars of the Eastern Catholic Churches); the dedication of what would become the Church of the Holy Sepulchre that same year; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem after it was taken by the Persians in 614. The feast is most obvious in the Eastern Churches (Catholic, Orthodox, and others) and features small processions and veneration of a large cross during and after the liturgy. Make sure to pay special attention to the Passion of Christ today, regardless of your tradition!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17. “He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him.”*

Thursday, Sep 15, 2022

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Mary understands your pain
In scripture, when Jesus is presented in the temple, Simeon notes that Mary's heart will be pierced. Later when Jesus recognizes her presence at the foot of the cross as He is dying, Simeon's prediction is fulfilled. Mary's steadfast faith during the ordeal of the Crucifixion serves as a beacon for anyone who suffers. Because today is the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, it's an appropriate moment to ask Mary — who understands pain so well — to pray for our suffering loved ones and all who are enduring great trials.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35. “Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.”*

Friday, Sep 16, 2022

MEMORIAL OF CORNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS

He goes everywhere to everyone

Are you eager to serve the Lord and to support the work of the Gospel with your personal resources? During His three years of public ministry Jesus travelled extensively. The Gospel records that a band of women

accompanied Jesus and the twelve apostles. This was a diverse group of women; some were public sinners, others from rich or prominent families. We know that Mary Magdalene had lived a very troubled and tortured life. The Gospel records that Jesus freed her from seven demons. Joanna, wife of the king's chief financial officer, held significant social and political standing. What brought them together and united them in a bond of friendship and common service? Certainly, Jesus and His message of the kingdom of God had transformed this group of diverse personalities and temperaments. Each brought their gifts and resources to Jesus.

Consider beginning with morning Mass, for as Saint Cyprian wrote to his friend Pope Cornelius: "It is not only the weak but the strong who need defence . . . strengthening them for combat with the Body and Blood of Christ!"

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3. "Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news."*

Saturday, Sep 17, 2022

**MEMORIAL OF HILDEGARD OF BINGEN,
ABBESS, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

Worth the wait

To be named a saint, one must complete the official Roman canonisation process, right? Well, not exactly. Today's saint, Hildegard of Bingen, was entered into the process four times. But all the lengthy examinations and documentations were never completed. So, she remained beatified but not canonized for almost a thousand years! Yet, many popes, including John Paul II, referred to her as Saint Hildegard. Finally, in 2012, Benedict XVI promoted her to sainthood in a process called "equivalent canonization" that cuts through all the red tape. And he named her a doctor of the church to boot. Your faithful witness will be recognized — even if it takes a thousand years!

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49; Luke 8:4-15. "Knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you."*

Readings for the 24th Sunday

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Israel fashions a golden calf to replace the leadership of Moses and his God.

Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19

The repentant heart will reap God's mercy.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Paul's arrogance once blinded him to the truth about Christ Jesus.

Luke 15:1-32

Lost sheep, lost coins, and lost children will all be recovered through God's mercy.

Words on the Word: Luke 15:1-32

A sort of warmth surrounds me and silence all around,

I'm dead beat and feel hands on my shoulders,

I bow down my head to someone's feet, as under an axe.

My wounded feet shine in the dark,

But the panic – I don't know how I know – is now over for me.

* * *

"The scribes and the Pharisees" both those of days gone by and those of the present accuse Jesus of inappropriate behaviour with regard to sinners. They consider them unsuitable and harmful. They are scandalised that Jesus stays with them and even visits them. In the three parables, Jesus explains His behaviour. In these parables He doesn't call God by name, He wants to tell His disciples – those of days gone by and those of the present – that He deals with

sinners as His heavenly Father does.

The image of God the Father in the parables is amazing. The Lord God is here compared to the shepherd, who possesses one hundred sheep, however He goes after that single lost one. God here is compared to a woman, who searches for one lost drachma, although she had ten. Finally, the Lord God is compared to a father, who loses first of all his youngest son, and then later his older son.

Jesus reveals to us the Father not only as the Essence of power, who successfully carries all His plans but also as Someone who experiences failure.

Failures and setbacks do not rouse His anger nor do they fire Him up to enforce His will by the use of violence and force. He doesn't lose love – on the contrary He goes searching for the one who was lost. He seeks the lost sheep and the lost drachma. He waits full of concern and hope for the return of His wasteful son. The image of God presented by Christ is extraordinary. He is endlessly pleased when the lost are found. After the return of the son who was indulgent, He ordered a feast to be prepared and everyone to join in, to have fun and be pleased.

This God as the good Father is the model that shapes the behaviour of Jesus toward those who are lost, that is, all sinners.

The parable of the good father is without doubt the Good News for everybody, who are in the wrong and seek the way to the Father's House or have already found it. God the Father loves people and His love is not extinguished when people wander into a sinful way of life. On the contrary, God strengthens what is lost and is prepared to accept their apology.

However, does this parable solve all the doubts of "the scribes and Pharisees", that is, those righteous believers?

The attitude of the older son in the parable about the good father expresses all the doubts the so-called righteous people have regarding the behaviours of Jesus.

You could say that the older son also left the Father. He lost the peace that used to reign in his heart before, no understanding the behaviour of his father. He lost the house of the father as he had until then understood it. He could not understand, how his father can allow himself to be humiliated by his younger son and how he can stand by and idly look on his behaviour. He doesn't react when his son squandered his achievements. The older son could also not understand why the Father abandons imposing a just punishment on the younger son; he feels cheated and unjustly treated. He too needs repentance; he has a lack of love.

In the parable, the father attempts to justify himself to the older son. Assuring him of his love: *"My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours"* (Luke 15:31). He calls for an understanding of his behaviour: *"But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found"* (Luke 15:32). The older son didn't like the father's behaviour. In his feelings for justice, he lost the feelings for love. We don't know if the father convinced him. In the mind and hearts of many people justice and love don't make for good bed fellows.

The accusations of the so-called righteous people made against Jesus remain unchanged. The cross appears on the horizon. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, will be condemned for blasphemy. Completing His earthly life on the wood of the cross, by sacrificing Himself for sinners.

The parable of the lost son and of the good Father leave many questions with answers. Both sons lost their homeland, that is being in the love of the Father. Both sons need to find the way

back to the Father's house. The question for them as well as for us is: how do we understand God's mercy? Is it the majesty of God, to which we go to encounter, awaking joy in us, or fear?

* * *

Mercy remains inextricably linked with the other attributes of God, especially with His holiness, justice, faithfulness and truth. It is surrounded by a crown of other Divine attributes, which acquire a special splendour against its background.

Scheeben (1835-1888) called this: a thirst for our goodness, grace, generosity, forgiveness, pardon, gentleness and patience. This inclines us to set God's mercy at the centre of God's attributes. Other Divine attributes group around God's mercy and take on their proper dimension (Card. Kasper, Barmherzigkeit).

A Testimony

The Lord is Merciful and Generous

Our whole world fell apart. I told my son that they had certainly made a mistake with the test results. I asked him to do the tests again. The results, however, were the same: malignant cancer.

I am the mother of three adult children. Despite various minor crises, my husband and I had a wonderful life together. Our children were now grown up and had established their own families. Then suddenly, disaster struck! Our son called us to say that he had to undergo an operation – he was found to have abdominal cancer. Our whole world fell apart. I told him that they had certainly made a mistake with the test results. I asked him to do the tests again. The results, however, were the same: a malignant cancer. In October our son had the operation. Immediately after that they did some blood tests. The results were very bad. He would have to undergo chemotherapy. Together with my husband and children we sought help with the Divine Heart of Jesus, praying every day at three o'clock the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. We requested Holy Masses and my husband and I offered our lives so our son could live. I appealed to Our Lady of Czestochowa: "Mother of Our Church, Our Queen, save him!" I cried and prayed the rosary of Our



Cracow-Lagiewniki

Every year more and more pilgrims come to Lagiewniki to pray and receive the sacraments. Besides the chapel of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, which is home to the world-famous painting of the Merciful Jesus, the Shrine provides a House of Prayer (with accommodation facilities and a catering service), as well as premises suitable for retreats, conferences and meetings. An information bureau service is also available.

Lady day and night. While reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy I said: “Jesus, You yourself said that whoever asks and prays to Your Divine Mercy every day at three o’clock, the hour of Your great agony, You will give him the grace which is being asked. You do not lie; You will certainly heal my son.”

A month after the operation my son repeated the tests. During the time he was waiting for results it was a time of pain and fear for me, but I also spent it in prayer. Others also prayed for him, including sisters in the monastery. But this period was also filled with doubts and tears. At a time when I still did not know the test results, I was at Holy Mass and I felt the Merciful Jesus filling my heart with immense comfort and hope. I was sure that everything will be okay. From that moment on I was convinced of it, and I told everyone that my son’s test results will be good. I was not mistaken. The Merciful Jesus and Our Lady, His Mother healed my son. The results were very important because they determined whether my son had to undergo chemotherapy. All the results were very good; there was not even the slightest sign that my son had cancer in his body. He did not have to undergo chemotherapy. The doctor said that after the next blood test he will decide if he needs chemotherapy. My son did the tests again after another month; then again after three months; then after six months; and now after a year. There is no sign of cancer. All the results are very good. Thanks be to God! I believe that the Merciful Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, healed our son.

A grateful mother

Prayer



Below, I have printed the text of the *Jesus, You Take Care of It!* prayer, which the Lord Jesus imparted to Fr. Dolindo Ruotolo.

What is the reason that you succumb all dishevelled to the turmoil? Give me your problems and everything will be calmed. I tell you in truth, every true act of complete, blind surrender to Me will yield the fruit that you desire, and will resolve the most tense situations.

To rely on Me completely doesn't mean to struggle, torment yourself and fall into a state of despair, while at the same time impatiently asking Me to act according to your thinking. This form of agitation cannot be regarded as prayer. To rely on Me completely means to peacefully close the eyes of the soul, push aside worrisome thoughts and perturbations, and surrender to Me in such a way that only I am acting, with you repeating: "You take care of it."

Worrying, upsetting yourself, and thinking of the consequences of an event is contrary, decidedly contrary, to surrendering to Me. Just like with children who insist that their mothers take care of their needs, while at the same time they start to interfere, obstructing their mothers' work by their ideas.

When you see that things are getting complicated, close your eyes and say: "Jesus, You take care of it"

Close your eyes and allow the current of My grace to carry you away. Close your eyes, and don't think about ongoing events, avert your eyes from the future like from temptation; rest in Me, trusting in My goodness, and I assure you of My love so that when you turn to me and tell Me: "You take care of it" I will devote myself to the problem completely, comfort you, free you, and direct you. And when I have to direct you along a way that you hadn't planned on going, I will be your guide, I will take you up on my back and carry you through to the other side like a mother taking her sleeping baby in her arms. It's your rationalism, your thought process, your worrying, and your desire to manage on your own whatever it is that is tormenting you, no matter what the cost, that causes your distress and is the reason for the pain that is so hard to bear. There is so much I can do, in both spiritual and material matters, when a soul turns to Me, and after looking at me and saying: "You take care of it", closes its eyes and rests.

A prayer for Ukraine

Подайте руку Україні (Podaj ruku Ukrajinі)

Podaj rękę Ukrainie

Give Ukraine a helping hand

God of hope,

we pray to You when hope is scarce

as our world convulses with the horror of war.

You alone know the extent of the crimes committed in Ukraine:

the people murdered, the homes and infrastructure destroyed,

the way violence comes as a calamity,

cutting a swath through the world.

Why is power concentrated in the hands of so few?

How can we make this war stop?

You alone know a way out of this quagmire of evil.

Help us find it.

Awaken those who dismiss this as someone else's problem.

Give world leaders wisdom as they impose sanctions,

looking for diplomatic and economic ways to end this aggression.

Raise up resistance to war in Russia itself.

Protect the people of Ukraine,

who are reeling from the trauma of invasion.

Open the arms of all countries

to take in refugees.
In times like these,
fill us with resolve rather than hatred.
Help us believe that justice will prevail,
that crimes will be prosecuted,
that peace can be found
even in the roar and rubble of war.
Amen.



Please pray for those who are sick, in need or have asked for our prayers:
Owain Williams, Catherine Walker, Ailsa Stewart, Meg Douglas (Mull),
Doleen Durnin, and Russell Carroll.

Please remember in your prayers Gordon Clark (1998), Margaret Brannigan (2002), Mary Mahon (2013), Oliver Jones (2016) **and all others whose anniversaries occur at this time. Eternal rest grant, O Lord, to HM Queen**

Elizabeth II and Rev'd Angus Morrison.

Prayer for the Monarch (deceased)

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,
and may the soul of Elizabeth your servant
be welcomed into eternal joy;
for as you were pleased
to create her in your own image
and adopt her as your own,
so command, we pray,
that she may have a share in your inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.

News and Events

Annual Collection for Sick and Retired Priests: still time to make donations for our Sick and Retired priests.

Delving into the Word of God: THIS FRIDAY at 10.30am after Mass.

Clergy Assembly: Father will be away at the Clergy Assembly in Oban on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week):

Finance Committee members: we need at least two members of the committee. This is not onerous, and possibly only requires formal two meetings a year. Do give your name to Fr Tony.

The Prayers for Ukraine: requested by BCOS for this Wed., Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, will have to be postponed to next Wednesday (21st) before Mass at 9.30am.

Live streaming:

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>)

Zoom [click here](#), 'Join a Meeting' with the Meeting ID **6593787274**, and the passcode **fxQ9F5**.



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