



PARISH BULLETIN

St Kieran's, the Catholic Church

in Campbeltown and Islay

Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain

16th October 2022

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

Sunday, 16th October, 29th Sunday, Holy Mass, 10.00am

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

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 10am Holy Mass

Devotions: *Wednesday:* Mid-morning Prayer, 9.50am.

Friday: The holy Rosary and Mid-morning Prayer, 9.30am.

Saturday, 22nd October, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm

Sunday, 23rd October, 30th Sunday, Holy Mass, 10.00am.

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay

Sunday 16th October, Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion, 4pm

Sunday 6th November, Holy Mass, 4pm



Psalm response

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The word of God is something alive and active:
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.*

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

*Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.*

Take Five

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

Monday, Oct 17, 2022

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, BISHOP, MARTYR

Follow the lead of those in need

The United Nations, which declared today Poverty Eradication Day, proposed that the world work to “build forward,” which “means not only that no one is left behind, but that people living in poverty are actively encouraged and supported to be in the front.” The Catholic Church has a very similar teaching called the “preferential option for the poor.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a preferential love on the part of the Church which, since her origin and in spite of the failings of many of her members, has not ceased to work for their relief, defence, and liberation through numerous works of charity which remain indispensable always and everywhere.” Do your part to create a society where the needs of the poor are always considered first.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 2:1-10; Luke 12:13-21. “Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God.”*

Tuesday, Oct 18, 2022

FEAST OF SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST

Paging Dr. Luke

Thanks to scripture scholarship, we know that Saint Luke authored not only the Gospel of Luke, but also the Acts of the Apostles. Thanks to Saint Paul, and later Saint Jerome, we likewise know that Luke was a physician. Little wonder, then, that Luke's description of Jesus' life contains more accounts of physical healing than the other New Testament books. Luke's writing is famous for honouring the full humanity of everyone Jesus encountered. How can you be a person who does the same?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Luke 10:1-9. “Say to them, ‘The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.’”*

Wednesday, Oct 19, 2022

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF PAUL OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, FOUNDER

We all struggle at times

Saint Paul of the Cross became the founder of the Passionists, a worldwide religious community. In his day (the 1700s) he was a famous preacher who drew large crowds. But as a young man still considering his path in life, he was beset with doubts: “The very sound of the

church bells became hateful to me,” he wrote about this period. His life reminds us that confusion and doubt have long affected the faithful. If you've experienced this kind of anguish, you are not alone. “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief,” (Mark 9:23) is a prayer many turn to.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 3:2-12; Luke 12:39-48. “God indeed is my saviour; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my saviour.”*

Thursday, Oct 20, 2022

We can all choose . . .

The love of God compels us to choose who will be first in our lives. To place any relationship (or anything else) above God is a form of idolatry. Jesus challenges His disciples to examine who they love first and foremost. A true disciple loves God above all else and is willing to forsake all for Jesus Christ. Jesus insists that His disciples give him the loyalty which is only due to God, a loyalty which is higher than spouse or kin. It is possible that family and friends can become our enemies, if the thought of them keeps us from doing what we know God wants us to do. Does the love of Jesus Christ compel you to put God first in all you do (2 Corinthians 5:14)?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 3:14-21; Luke 12:49-53. “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!”*

Friday, Oct 21, 2022

Right relationship

Following Jesus the Christ means living in right relationship — with others, with the Earth and all God's creatures, and perhaps most important, with your own self. The backbone of right relationships is love. Such love, Saint Thomas Aquinas says, is “willing the good of the other.” For Catholics, this idea of right relationship has two key components. First, it means upholding the dignity of all persons, especially when we encounter differences and conflict. Second, it means working for justice. Justice is something we can practice daily in our choices of how we live and how we treat others. It also means being aware of and active in transforming unjust structures and institutions. What helps you nurture right relationships?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 12:54-59. “Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?”*

Saturday, Oct 22, 2022

**OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF JOHN PAUL II,
POPE**

Loss leads to life

Pope Saint John Paul II, canonized in 2014, was revered for his many accomplishments during his long pontificate. What is less well known about the beloved pontiff is that he experienced tremendous loss early in life. The future pope lost his mother when he was only 9, his eldest brother when he was 12, and his father when he was just 21. Perhaps this is why Saint John Paul

II made the “culture of life” a focus of his pontificate: the “Church counters the culture of death with the culture of life,” he said as he advocated for all life issues, in statements such as this: “May the death penalty, an unworthy punishment still used in some countries, be abolished throughout the world.” It is possible that loss may lead to life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 4:7-16; Luke 13:1-9. “Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.”*

Readings for the 29th Sunday

Exodus 17:8-13

Three elderly men establish a powerful prayer circle to win the victory over Amalek.

Psalms 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

God does not sleep when the people of God are in danger.

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

Be persistent in proclaiming and teaching God's word in season and out of season.

Luke 18:1-8

Powerful judge opposes defenceless widow. Widow wins!

Words on the Word: Luke 18:1-8

The father of a family had a birthday and to celebrate it his wife and children decided to prepare something special for him. First the youngest performed the recitation of a poem which he had learned by heart. “Bravo!” – his dad said to him. “You recited it wonderfully!”

Then the older son, who was now embarrassed by childish rhymes, prepared a short speech for his dad. “I cannot believe that you are now so independent and hardworking, that you put this together yourself, bravo!” – his dad said.

The next in line was his daughter, a grownup young lady. She brought him a beautiful bouquet of flowers, but no words could she say, quite excited she just handed the bouquet to her father, blushing at the same time. “Thank you child, I see that you love me!” – her father told her tenderly.

Lastly, his wife came forward, the mother of his children, at his side for many years. She had no present, she simply looked at her husband, into his eyes, and he looked into hers, just this gazing! This gaze evoked the whole of their mutual past, the whole of life: good and bad times, joy, suffering, simply everything.

Hence, we have the four kinds of prayer. The first, the learned verses – the oral prayer. The second, the little speech – this meditation. The third kind, the bouquet of flowers – the prayer of emotion, when our feelings speak in prayer. The fourth kind of prayer, the gazing eyes of a wife – the prayer of simplicity. To simply stand before the Lord and say nothing, only looking at Him. It sometimes seems to us that it is a less valuable prayer (I don't do anything), but it surpasses the others. Prayer is presence, abiding.

(St. John Paul II)

In this Sunday's Gospel we hear a most beautiful parable of Jesus about a resourceful widow who fought for her rights. The judge should have helped her, but was unjust and probably expected a backhander, which the widow couldn't pay. Patience and perseverance brought her success, according to the saying: a constant drip wears away rock. However, here, it's not about either patience nor perseverance, but about patient and steadfast prayer.

"I don't like praying" – we sometimes hear from children these days. This is surprising because as a rule children are willing to pray. However, such words are surprising when nobody prays at home. Sadly, I've even heard children who *attend* lessons in religion say that a parent has told them they don't believe in God! The concept of prayer, indeed prayer itself, is becoming more and more alien. Just as everything else in life, prayer also has to be learned.

This Sunday's Gospel speaks about the prayer of petition. This kind of prayer is the most straightforward and most frequent, when we are presenting our concerns to Him. However, many imagine that God is like an automat, into which we throw money and a can of cola lands below – or some other drink we wanted. Our requests, and even our offerings, that we bring to God cannot be unlimited requests. Many lose faith if they don't receive what they asked for. It seems to them that God is obliged to listen to them. Meanwhile we receive so many gifts from God. It reminds me of the bill a little boy sent to his mother:

- *for going to the shop - £1*
- *helping the washing up - £1*
- *tidying my room - £1*
- *dusting - £1*

in total £4

The mother took this bill, gave him the money wrote for her son:

- *for 10 years of washing your things - £0*
- *for 10 years of feeding you - £0*
- *for 10 years of buying clothes - £0*

in total £0

Her son took the bill gave his mother the money.

We are never able to repay God for His gifts. For everything we have received in the natural order and the order of grace.

* * *

Prayer is not idle time spent by an old man. Understood in its value and properly used it is the most powerful thing that can be done (M. Gandhi).

Depaul Ukraine Winter Appeal

Internally Displaced People

At least 6.5 million people are estimated to have been internally displaced in Ukraine.

While the fiercest hostilities continue in eastern Ukraine, the conflict has expanded with attacks escalating in Kyiv and in the west, including only 25km away from Poland's border. Multiple airstrikes hit Lviv earlier this year as well again last



week, a city sheltering over 200,000 displaced people.

Most are sheltering with family, friends or in private rented accommodation in basements or underground car garages. Air raid shelters and metro stations are also a place of refuge. A growing number are moving to collective shelters - public buildings such as schools, churches, gyms and concert halls. While efforts are being made to improve conditions in these sites, more support is needed to resource them properly.

On top of the 6.5 million IDPs, more than 12 million people are thought to be trapped in affected areas, unable or unwilling to leave their homes due to ongoing clashes, the destruction of transport links or a lack of information on what options they have. These people are the most vulnerable, directly exposed to fighting all around them and almost completely cut off from water, food and medicine.

Families have made sheds and outbuildings their homes or are living in houses and apartments with blown-out windows and bomb-damaged roofs. In a typical Ukrainian winter, 105 days will be below freezing. Brutally cold temperatures as low as -20C are not unusual. The risk that thousands of people will die without help is immense.

Father Vitaliy Novak, who leads Ukraine operation of **Depaul International** shares just how dangerous winter can be:

“Last year our volunteers in Odesa found homeless people who had frozen to death, and Odesa is one of Ukraine’s warmer cities. Even if people don’t freeze to death, there will be a lot of amputations of fingers, toes and limbs, as you can lose your feet after only two or three hours in these temperatures. This is a very dangerous situation.”

Depaul are currently providing life-saving aid to more than 23,000 people a day – with our help, they can reach even more.

They recognise that times are tough, but any donation really could help save a life this winter so please give as generously as you can.

Who are Depaul International?

St Vincent de Paul

They owe their inspiration to St. Vincent de Paul, a major Catholic social reformer in 17th Century France. St. Vincent devoted his life to helping vast numbers of poor, sick and homeless people across Europe during his lifetime.

He is often referred to as the “Patron Saint of Charity” and today over 150 charitable organisations, comprising a membership of two million people, claim him as their founder.



In the beginning...

Three organisations came together to establish the Depaul Group in 1989 – the Daughters of Charity, the Passage Day Centre and the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Depaul began its work in the UK in 1989 as a direct response to the growth of youth homelessness on the streets of London.

It quickly grew into a national charity in the UK and, in 2002, began expanding internationally, starting in Ireland and then to the other countries of the Group.

SIMPLICITY AND DEPTH

About praying the Rosary

It is prayed by the Holy Father and the ordinary believer. Masses of pilgrims as well as a monk pacing around the cloisters of a monastery pray on it. They have been made of precious stones and rolled pieces of prison bread. Both the seasoned theologian and every other believer finds theological depth and simplicity in it. Sometimes it is worn with religious habits, others as a ring on the finger.

In one of his homilies, Cardinal Joachim Meissner gives the following testimony of his love for the rosary: "When I die one day, the canons of the cathedral in Cologne will take my bishop's ring off my finger, take my shepherd's crozier and remove the bishop's cross. They will put this all back in the cathedral treasury. But in my will it says: "I want to take my rosary to my coffin because it is a pledge of my faith, my hope and my love. I want to show it to Our Lady, so that, after the misery of this life, she will lead me to Jesus, the blessed fruit of her womb." Johann Tserclaes Tilly, a steadfast 17th-century Christian said: "With a rosary in hand, looking at the cross with a last look, I would like to end my life; Mother, help me to be so fortunate."

A rich history

The rosary is both a method of prayer and a "tool" used for prayer – a string of divided beads, on which the prayers expressed are counted. This form of the rosary that we know today was not suddenly invented, but was shaped over the centuries, going through various stages. From the beginning of Christianity, many believers took the words of St. Paul: "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess 5:17). The answer to this call, especially in the community of hermits and religious, were repetitive prayers, i.e., short, compact formulas repeated many times, which focused thoughts and lifted hearts to God. There are, for example, testimonies about the hermit Paul of Thebes (3rd century), who tried to recite the "Our Father" three hundred times every day. To count prayers, he used three hundred pebbles, which he placed on his lap and gradually dropped them off. From the 6th century on, a string with beads was already used for such counting. The oldest known testimony comes from the 9th century, indicating that one such repetitive formula was the angelic greeting, "Hail Mary", taken from the Gospel. This prayer greatly developed in the Middle Ages, which was marked by an extraordinary devotion to the Mother of God. It was then that the custom of saying the "Ave" 150 times appeared, which was inspired by the psalter, which consists of 150 psalms. That is why it was referred to as "the psalter of Mary".

From about the 12th century, the custom of interweaving the "Hail Mary" prayer with the "Our Father" is known. Also in the Middle Ages, during one of the great plague epidemics, a second part was added to the angel's greeting: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death." Giving this prayer the name "rosary" is not easy to explain, although it is known for sure that the rose has been a symbol of the Mother of God for a long time.



Perhaps it was influenced by the medieval flower wreath, which in some languages was called a "rosary". In the 15th century, the recitation of the rosary was combined with meditation on the lives of Jesus and Mary. Fifteen important moments from their lives have been identified and linked to decades of "Hail Marys". The Mysteries are divided into three parts: joyful, sorrowful and glorious. Thus, over the centuries, the form of the rosary as we know it was shaped. For a long time, the creation of the rosary was associated with the figure of St. Dominic, who was to "receive" it from the Mother of God herself during the apparition. It can be seen, however, that the rosary was created over centuries and it is impossible to attribute its creation to one man. Undoubtedly, St. Dominic and his brothers, who travelled the world as itinerant preachers, greatly contributed to the spread of this prayer. In 1569, Pope Pius V, a Dominican, gave the rosary its present form with a special document. For centuries, Dominicans had the exclusive right to found rosary confraternities and to this day they are very closely associated with the rosary.

A Two-Layer Prayer

The specific technique of prayer, which consists in repeating prayers, prepares the heart and mind to ponder the most important events in the life of Christ and His Mother, which are also the history of our salvation. The rhythm and melody of the words in the rosary constantly maintain the relationship with God, allowing us to meditate on the mysteries in a focussed way, arouse the desire for deeper faith and open the person to God's grace. There are fifteen of these events, called mysteries, which we consider in the rosary. Each of them corresponds to ten rosaries, that is, one "Our Father", 10 "Hail Mary" and one "Glory be to the Father". The three parts of the rosary are therefore a summary of the Christian message, as they speak of incarnation, redemption and glorification. The Joyful Mysteries: Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Visitation of St. Elizabeth, the Nativity of Jesus in Bethlehem, the Presentation of Jesus and the Finding of the 12-year-old Jesus teaching in the Temple in Jerusalem help to gradually fathom the truth that the Son of God became "God with us", that He lived in a human community, becoming the brother of every human being. The sorrowful mysteries reveal the fullness of God's love, which is stronger than all the power of evil, than fear, contempt and hatred. The Prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, The Scourging, The Crowning with Thorns, The Carrying of the Cross and His Death on the Cross – remembering these mysteries in prayer, a person may realize how much he has been redeemed from sin. God wants all people to be saved and to be able, together with Mary and all the saints, to enjoy eternal life in heaven. We contemplate this divine plan, already completed for Mary, in the Glorious Mysteries. The Resurrection of Jesus, the Ascension, Pentecost, the Assumption of the Mother of God, the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth are the announcements of our glory.

The Pope on the rosary

When I found myself in Krakow in Dębni, I entered the circle of the "Living Rosary" in a Salesian parish, which was associated with a special devotion to Mary, Help of Christians. In Dębni, during the time when my priestly vocation was crystallizing, and also under the influence of Jan Tyranowski, my understanding of devotion to the Mother of God underwent a development. While in the past I was convinced that Mary was leading us to Christ, it was during this time that I began to understand that Christ also leads us to His Mother. There was a moment when I even, to some extent, questioned my Marian devotion, believing that it had an exaggerated priority over devotion to Christ Himself. I must admit that the book of St. Louis Maria Grignion de Montfort came to my assistance, having the title: "Treatise on true devotion

to the Blessed Virgin Mary".

In this booklet I found a ready answer to my questions. Yes, Mary brings us closer to Christ, she leads us to Him, but on the condition that we undergo her mystery in Christ. St. Louis Maria Grignion de Montfort may offend with its exaggerated and baroque style, but the very core of theological truths contained in this treatise is priceless. The author is a great theologian. His Mariological thought is rooted in the Trinitarian mystery and in the truth about the Incarnation of the Word of God.

Then I understood why the Church says the "Angelus" three times a day, I also understood how crucial the words of this prayer are: "The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary and conceived by the Holy Spirit ... be it done according to thy word ... the Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...". Keywords indeed! They express the essential content of the greatest event in human history.

This explains the origin of that Totus Tuus. It originates from St. Louis Maria Grignion de Montfort.

Saint John Paul II, *Gift and Mystery*

Prayer

A prayer for Ukraine

Подайте руку Україні (Podaj ruku Ukrajinii)

Podaj rękę Ukrainie

Give Ukraine a helping hand

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,

we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.

Amen.

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

Please remember in your prayers all others whose anniversaries occur at this time.

News and Events

Welcome event: 4th Nov., 6.30 pm – lists are in the church porch for contributions on the night.

November Lists are available in the church porch.

Live streaming: Zoom [click here](#), 'Join a Meeting' with the Meeting ID **6593787274**, and the passcode **fXQ9F5**. (Facebook, see below).



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