

*'I tell you, then,
that the kingdom
of God will be
taken from you
and given to a
people who will
produce its fruit.'*



PARISH BULLETIN St Kieran's, the Catholic Church

in Campbeltown and Islay

Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain

8th October 2023

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

**Sunday, 8th October, 27th in
Ordinary Time** Holy Mass, **10.00am.**

Monday: Holy Mass, **6.00pm**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: Holy Mass, **10.00am**

Devotions

Wednesday: Mid-Morning Prayer, 9.50am

Friday: Adoration, Mid-Morning Prayer, 9.30am

Scripture discussion: Friday at 10.30am

Saturday, 14th October, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm

Sunday, 15th October, 27th in Ordinary Time, Holy Mass, **10.00am**

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay.

15th October, Holy Mass, 4.00pm

Hymns/Music

Processional (Sunday Mass only)

473 Seek ye first the kingdom of God (Keys)

Offertory

243 In bread we bring you Lord (Keys)

Communion

744 One bread, one body (Mayhew)

Final

82 Christ is made the sure foundation (Keys)



Psalm response

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I chose you from the world

to go out and bear fruit,

fruit that will last,

says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,

to the soul that seeks him.

Take Five

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

Monday, Oct 09, 2023

MEMORIAL OF SAINT DENIS, BISHOP, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Going the distance for faith

In the third century, Saint Denis evangelised the country that would come to be France (then called Gaul), and he is thought to have been the first bishop of Paris (then called Lutetia). He was so successful at making converts that the Roman governor beheaded him on the highest hill in the city, now known as Montmartre. It was said he picked up his head and kept preaching while walking many miles before reaching his burial site in a town later named after him. He is the patron saint of France and one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers. Call on him for a missionary zeal that just won't quit.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jonah 1:1—2:1-2, 11; Luke 10:25-37. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind."*

Tuesday, Oct 10, 2023

Don't shortchange charity

In 2021, Pope Francis used today, World Mental Health Day, to pray for those "affected by mental disorders and also the victims, often young, of suicide." This June, Francis mentioned teen suicide again, decrying a "culture that leads young people to think that they are 'losers.'" Francis also emphasized the basic human right to medical care and social services — so critical for mental health — but he also pointed to us individual Christians, who in our "haste" don't often stop long enough to care for each other. "It is easy to delegate charity to others, yet the calling of every Christian" — according to Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan — "is to become personally involved." His advice? Learn from Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, who said, "charity must not remain locked in the depths of one's heart."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42. "The Lord said to her in reply, 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.'"*

Wednesday, Oct 11, 2023

Our Father

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray he gave them the disciple's prayer, what we call the *Our Father* or *Lord's Prayer*. This prayer dares to call God "our Father" and boldly asks for the things we need to live as His sons and

daughters. We can worship and adore the Father because He has caused us to be reborn to His life by adopting us as His children in His only Son. We can approach God our Father with confidence and boldness because Jesus Christ has opened the way to heaven for us through His death and resurrection. When we ask God for help, He fortunately does not give us what we deserve. Instead, He responds with grace and mercy. He is kind and forgiving towards us and He expects us to treat our neighbour the same. We can pray with expectant faith because our heavenly Father loves us and treats us as His children. He delights to give us what is good. His love and grace transforms us and makes us like Himself.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4. "All the nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, and glorify your name."*

Thursday, Oct 12, 2023

MEMORIAL OF SAINT KENNETH, ABBOT, MISSIONARY

Come as you are

What can we expect from God, especially when we recognize that He doesn't owe us anything and that we don't deserve his grace and favour? Jesus used an illustration from the hospitality customs of His time to show how God is always ready to treat us with the best He has to offer. The rule of hospitality in biblical times required that every guest, whether stranger or friend, be warmly welcomed, refreshed (which often involved the washing of feet), and fed with the best food and drink available. It didn't matter what time of the day or night the guests might show up, it was your duty to stop what you were doing so you could give the guests the best care and shelter you could provide.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13. "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find."*

Friday, Oct 13, 2023

The devil doesn't have a prayer

In an interview in *Exorcists against Satan* by Italian journalist Fabio Marchese Ragona, Pope Francis was asked about the devil. "It is possible that I get on the Devil's nerves," he said, "because I try to follow the Lord and do what the Gospel says. And that annoys him. At

the same time, he is certainly happy when I commit some sin. He seeks man's failure, but he has no chance if there is prayer." It is a great mystery that God should permit diabolical activity, says the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "but we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him" (CCC 395). Take the simple steps of daily prayer and good works to keep the devil at bay.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26. "If Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?"*

Saturday, Oct 14, 2023

**OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF SAINT
CALLISTUS I, POPE, MARTYR**
Redeeming qualities

There was a profound division in the church

during the third-century pontificate of Callistus I. The pope believed and taught that even the most serious sins like murder and adultery could be absolved in a sincere confession. His position scandalized many church leaders in Rome who didn't agree. They believed that some sins were too serious to be forgiven, and they accused Callistus of laxity and sympathizing with heretics. Eventually Callistus prevailed and Confession became the healing sacrament for all sin, even the most serious. Thank our merciful God for guiding the church toward an ethic of redemption.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28. "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."*

Readings for the 27th Sunday

Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet's Vineyard Song is about divine love and human betrayal.

Psalm 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

The psalmist, too, has a song of the vineyard, which God will restore.

Philippians 4:6-9

Paul urges us to direct our thoughts to what is true, just, and gracious.

Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus' Vineyard Song ends more violently for his generation.

Words on the Word

Who's who in the vineyard

Who is who and what is what in this parable? It's probably clear, but just to clarify . . . The landlord is God, the farmers are the leaders of Israel, the landlord's servants are prophets, and his son is God's Son, Jesus Christ. The vineyard is, of course, Israel, and the harvest due to the landlord is, of course, the fruit of faith, trust, love and goodness that it owes to God, because God created Israel to bear good fruit. The problem is that He rarely received them from Israel. The prophets who pleaded for them on God's behalf were disregarded, rejected, and even persecuted by Israel's leaders. And the Son whom God had sent to them, they even decided to kill, because they wanted to rule Israel in their own way, against God's will. . . .

What awaits Israel's leaders? Just as with these farmers, death. In fact, many of them would die decades later during the great uprising against Rome when Jerusalem was destroyed. And a hundred years later, when another uprising will break out, after which the Holy City will be named and dedicated to pagan Jupiter. From a noteworthy point of view, however, the most painful thing will be something else: they will no longer lead the kingdom of God, God's chosen nation. Because "another nation", the Church, will become the kingdom of God. A Church to which anyone who turns to Jesus can enter. It is He, rejected by the alleged builders of the kingdom of Israel – i.e., its leaders, who is its (the Church's) cornerstone.

Everyone? Basically yes. Perhaps it's worth adding: immediately after this parable, Jesus tells another one: about those invited to the banquet who began to excuse themselves with other things they had to do. God must have had enough of His chosen nation. . .

Cool right? The Gospel that you can listen to while rubbing your hands with joy and saying "He told them so". Actually, there is a lot of truth in this. Because it was to the leaders of Israel that Jesus addressed these harsh words. For His disciples: they will then be justified in breaking with the synagogue. But a thought inevitably comes to mind: well, this vineyard was abandoned, and later robbed and destroyed. But what about this new vineyard of God? What about this kingdom taken from Israel and given to another nation, the Church?

We are in a slightly better situation than Israel. There, if someone was born a Jew, he remained a Jew even if he was completely indifferent to God. His unbelief and all other sins fell on the account of the entire community of Israel. It's a bit different with the Church. In many times and in many countries, only those who wanted to join it. But it's also easier to leave it. Anyone who stops caring about God, stops believing in His Son, is automatically excluded from the Church. He is gone, he is outside the Church. Or at least on its margins. However, this disturbing question remains: what fruit do we, as believers, bring to God? Sweet grapes or sour berries?



Prayer

Please pray for those who are sick, in need or have asked for our prayers: Connie Graham, Lilian Cox, Sarah Carmichael, Ailsa Stewart, Meg Douglas (Mull), Doleen Durnin, and Russell Carroll.

Please remember in your prayers James Carroll (Jimmy)(1965) and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: also prayer for the repose of the soul of Catherine Walker who left this world to meet the Lord yesterday.



News and Events

Tea and coffee in the hall after Sunday Mass. Our visitors are most welcome, please come along.

The Requiem Mass for Catherine Walker will be at 12pm on 16th October in St. Kieran's church.



campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk



www.stkieranscampbeltown.org



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Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood, St. Kieran's, Campbeltown; Tel. 01586 552160