

PARISH BULLETIN

**St. Kieran's, the
Catholic
Church** in Campbeltown
and Islay
*Ceann Loch Chille
Chiarain*



FEAST
OF THE
TRANSFIGURATION

6th August

2nd August 2026

The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

Week 18 of Ordinary Time

Tuesday: Holy Mass, 6pm

Wednesday: Adoration and Mid-morning Prayer, 9.30am; Holy Mass, 10am

Coffee and Discussion Group: 10.30am

Friday: Mid-morning Prayer, 9.50am; Holy Mass, 10am

Hymns/Music for Sunday

Processional

178 God is love, his the care

Offertory

243 In bread we bring you, Lord

Communion music

Възвеличай, о, душа моя – Magnify, oh my Soul

Post Communion

690 Eat this bread

Recessional

sheet To God be the glory

Next weekend:

Saturday, 8th of August, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm

**Sunday, 9th of August, 19th Sunday in
Ordinary Time, Holy Mass, 10.00am**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 17.30-17.50 or anytime on request.

St. Columba Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Isle of Islay

2nd August: Holy Mass, 4pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday 15.30-15.45

16th August: Holy Mass, 4pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday 15.30-15.45

Psalm response

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

*One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God
Alleluia.*

Communion Antiphon

*You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.*

Take Five

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

MONDAY OF WEEK 18

3 AUGUST 2026

A port for any storm

Jesus' mother Mary has many titles – one of them is Our Lady, Star of the Sea. Under this name, she is a protector of seafarers. But Mary is a guiding star for all of us as we seek her son through the storms of life. Saint Bernard of Clairvaux wrote: 'If the winds of temptation arise; if you are driven upon the rocks of tribulation look to the star, call on Mary. If you are tossed upon the waves of pride, of ambition, of envy, of rivalry, look to the star, call on Mary.' Don't lose sight of her, and you won't lose your way to Christ.

Today's readings: Jeremiah 28:1-17; Matthew 14:22-36. *'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.'*

TUESDAY OF WEEK 18

4 AUGUST 2026

Set sail for the unknown

It's tough at the end of a long day when you just want to go home and put your feet up and instead a friend asks you to go out and work on something – much as Jesus asked His disciples to do. Launching out without known goals is unsettling for most. Being confronted with unpredictable or even hostile environments on the way demands an internal trust in the leader. But as you go, some strange and unexplained events occur that create even greater zeal for the work. How often in your life are you willing to put faith in a leader whom you don't see yet whose footsteps you wholeheartedly profess a commitment to follow?

Today's readings: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14. *'Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side of the sea.'*

WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 18

5 AUGUST 2026

Everyone is worthy

When you pass a person begging on a street corner, what goes through your mind? Is there a quick calculation going on as to their worthiness? Some variation on: 'He looks like

he could be working'; 'Why is she smoking her money away if she is broke?'; 'If I give him something, he's only going to spend it on booze.' It's easy to slip into a 'worthiness calculation,' but what should give us pause is the awareness of the ways we also fall short of the ideal. There is wisdom in the cliché 'There but for the grace of God' Remember it the next time someone asks for assistance.

Today's readings: Jeremiah 31:1-7; Matthew 15:21-28. *'Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.'*

THURSDAY: FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

6 AUGUST 2026

Blinded by the light

On this day in 1945 the United States exploded one of the two nuclear weapons ever used in war. Whatever you think about the ethics of the bombing, the fact is the strike on Hiroshima, Japan killed an estimated 66,000 men, women, and children and injured 69,000 others. Three days later the bomb over Nagasaki left 39,000 dead and 25,000 injured. In the 53 years following the bombings, 2,053 nuclear test explosions occurred around the world. To see their locations in chronological order, visit Japanese multimedia artist Isao Hashimoto's animated map at <https://www.ctbto.org/specials/1945-1998-by-isao-hashimoto/>. The brightness of the transfigured Jesus' garments revealed His divinity; the blast of an atomic weapon reveals humanity's capacity for destruction. Which path shall we choose?

Today's readings: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9. *'His clothes became dazzling white.'*

FRIDAY: OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF MEMORIAL OF CAJETAN, PRIEST

7 AUGUST 2026

Find the sense in suffering

Studies suggest that human beings can tolerate a great deal of pain and suffering as long as they can find meaning in it. A young

Spanish warrior hit by a cannonball in 1521 and confronted by a long, painful convalescence was forced to search for that meaning. The result was the Society of Jesus, one of the largest and most influential religious orders in history. The meaning Saint Ignatius of Loyola found on his sickbed gives hope to those who face disabling injury or illness, as nearly all of us will at one time or another. All things can work for good, 'for the greater glory of God,' as the Jesuits say.

Today's readings: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Matthew 16:24-28. 'Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.'

SATURDAY: MEMORIAL OF SAINT DOMINIC, PRIEST

8 AUGUST 2026

Good things can come in small packages
Saint Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787) went looking to cultivate the faith in out-of-the-way places. In Naples he organised little 'chapels' of folks who met in places like the back rooms of barbershops or corners of public squares to pray, sing hymns, and receive basic religious education. These groups were the uneducated, street-sellers, dockers, ex-soldiers, and others. For them Alphonsus wrote a cheaply reproduced, pocket-sized book of devotions called *Maxims of Eternity* that they could carry with them and read throughout the day. Find some short moments every day for prayer and learning.

Today's readings: Habakkuk 1:12 – 2:4; Matthew 17:14-20. '*For the vision still has its time, . . . If it delays, wait for it.*'

Readings for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3

Those who look to God will not be in want for anything.

Psalms 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18

God will satisfy every desire under heaven.

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Nothing and no one can separate us from the love of Christ.

Matthew 14:13-21

The needs of the world are vast, but the heart of Jesus is relentless.

Words on the Word

The Treasure of Today: Embracing the Kingdom of God Here and Now

*

Two monks were growing roses. One would lose himself in the contemplation of the beauty and fragrance of his roses. The other would cut the most beautiful roses and give them to passersby.

'What are you doing?' the first one reproached him. 'How can you deprive yourself of the joy of your roses' scent?'

'Roses leave the most scent on the hands of the one who gives them to others,' the second replied simply.

* *

In mid-March of the 29th year, Herod, under pressure from his wicked wife, ordered the beheading of John the Baptist, who had been imprisoned for ten months. Upon receiving the news, Jesus went off to a deserted place. Many people followed Him. They were not casual

bystanders – they followed Him for three days. They did not think about what would happen, for He was with them. They were also likely able to read the signs. In the parable presented here it is not the extraordinariness of the event that matters, but the expressive symbolism of the numbers used. Numbers in the Bible often carry more symbolic than purely arithmetical meaning.

The Meaning of Numbers

The numbers presented in today's Gospel carry specific significance for the Bible person who understands their meaning.

Two fish, five loaves, twelve baskets of fragments, five thousand men – understanding the meaning of these numbers leads to understanding the parable.

The number one is like a source for the other numbers – indivisible, one might say absolute, like God, who calls all things into being.

After creating man, there is already man 'in the image of God' and the Lord God – thus there are two. Man and his Partner; a relationship has come into being. The number two thus sometimes signifies a dynamic relation: light-darkness, good-evil. Because the fish was a secret sign for the early Christians to indicate Christ, two fishes point to the Eucharist – God in man. But the play of numbers does not end there. The number five signifies a certain fullness: David took with him five smooth stones to fight Goliath. The five-pointed star led the magi to Christ. Jesus tells the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins. Five loaves of bread, yet there was enough to feed everyone, five times a thousand. There was enough and there will be enough for all.

Two and five together make seven – the holy number. In seven days God created the world, the temple lampstand had seven branches, we know the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven holy sacraments, but also the seven deadly sins, and the seven petitions in the 'Our Father.' The event described in today's Gospel can be presented thus: behold, the awaited fullness of times has come. The Kingdom of God has come. Bread and fish were not lacking for anyone. All will receive nourishment for eternal life; no one who believes and yearns will be excluded. All were satisfied, and yet others may come – those who, believing, will come and share in life in God's kingdom.

Behold, God the Father has given us His only-Begotten Son to reconcile us to Himself.

* * *

*O God, good God,
You give us not stones, but bread;
You are the God of life.*

*O our God, good God,
Look upon our worries and those carrying a cross;
You are the God of life.*

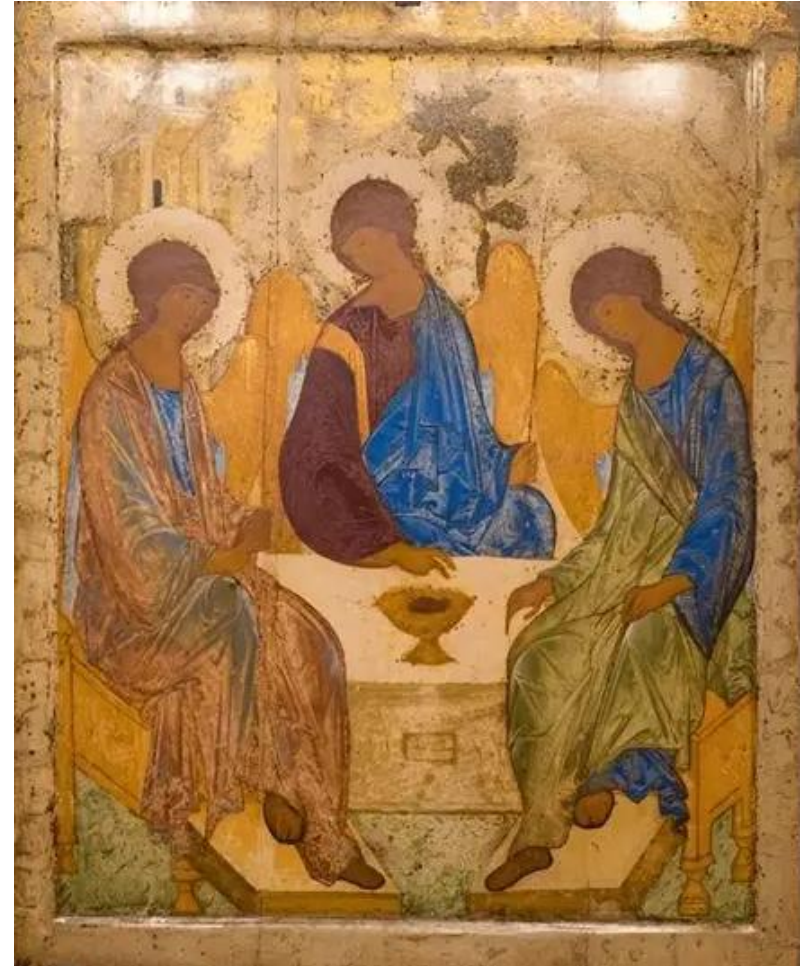
*Make us good as bread,
That we may become
Your response to those worn by the cross.
(R.B.)*

In Christ's love,
Fr Anthony

38 MASTERS OF THE GOLDEN AGE OF ICONS

The 15th century marks the most splendid period of icon-painting in Rus'. Political developments favour this: above all the process of Rus' unification and the idea of seeing Moscow as the 'Third Rome.' The role of the Orthodox Church increases, monastic centres are very active along with their spiritual guides. A personality who exerted a dominant influence on the spiritual life of Rus' at the time was Saint Sergius of Radonezh (1322–1392). He supported the unification of Rus', and in the mystery of the Holy Trinity, embodying 'multiplicity in unity,' people saw a symbolic and spiritual reflection of this process.

The revival in the Moscow school was initiated by numerous contacts with the Byzantine centre, resulting in many works in the Rus' lands. The most influential artist from the Constantinople circle turned out to be Theophan the Greek. The personality and achievements of his artistic successor, Andrei Rublev, dominated and oriented the development of icon-painting in Rus' for many centuries. Only in the 17th century did revitalizing processes appear, fostered by the advancing secularisation of culture, the strengthening power of the tsar, and contacts with Western European art. An expression of these processes is the work of Simon Ushakov.



Andrei Rublev: *The Holy Trinity*
c.1440. Cathedral of Christ the Saviour in Moscow

God's Guide

Relations with Angels: To Be Closer to Our Guardians

Chapter 4

THE INVISIBLE BATTLE: UNDERSTANDING THE HIERARCHIES OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

In our modern, material world, it is easy to forget that we are surrounded by a vast, invisible reality. As Catholics, we profess in the Nicene Creed our belief in "all things visible and invisible." God, who is pure Spirit, created a multitude of spiritual beings, gifting each with the profound and sometimes daunting power of free will.

While we humans are a unique composite of body and soul – created in God's image to grow in holiness through the trials of earthly life – other spirits exist purely in the celestial realm. Some chose the light, becoming the messengers we call angels. Others, led by the pride of Satan, rebelled against their Creator and were cast out, becoming the demons that shadow our world today.

The Celestial Court: The Nine Choirs of Angels

Tradition and Scripture suggest that the angelic host is not a uniform multitude but a beautifully ordered hierarchy. Drawing from the insights of St Isidore and the mystical visions of the Prophet Ezekiel, we can identify nine distinct "choirs" of angels.

Interestingly, when Ezekiel describes the glory of these creatures – and the subsequent fall of the "Guardian Cherub" (Satan) – he uses the language of precious stones. Perhaps, in our

limited human tongue, only the brilliance of gems can convey the radiant beauty of a spirit reflecting God’s light.

The Nine Choirs and their Symbolic Jewels

According to the tradition derived from Ezekiel 28:13, the beauty of the angelic nature is mirrored in these precious elements:

Rank	Angelic Choir	Symbolic Stone (Ez 28:13)
1	Seraphim	Ruby
2	Cherubim	Topaz
3	Thrones	Diamond
4	Dominions	Tarshish (Chrysolite)
5	Virtues	Onyx
6	Principalities	Beryl
7	Powers	Sapphire
8	Archangels	Carbuncle (Garnet)
9	Angels	Emerald

The Dark Mirror The Hierarchy of the Fallen

Just as there is order in heaven, there is a distorted hierarchy among the fallen. When the rebellious spirits were cast down, they did not lose their natural angelic powers, though they lost their supernatural grace.

While we should avoid unhealthy curiosity regarding the "ranks" of hell – as much of this is based on conjecture rather than Divine Revelation – it is a matter of tradition that demons belong to various levels based on the choir from which they fell.

In our world, we have structures of authority: warehouse workers, managers, and directors. Similarly, the spiritual realm operates through "powers" and "principalities." There are Guardian Angels of nations and individuals (as seen in Daniel 10, where the "Prince of Persia" is countered by the Archangel Michael), and conversely, there are "greater" and "lesser" spirits of wickedness.

The Battle for the Human Heart

We often encounter the influence of these spirits through particular temptations. Some demons, through centuries of experience, "specialise" in targeting specific human weaknesses:

- Demons of Impurity or Blasphemy: These often seek expression through our physical senses and speech.
- Demons of Pride: These seek to become "permanent residents," inflating the ego against God.
- Demons of Addiction: Spirits that tether the soul to anger, gluttony, or substance abuse.

The danger often arises after we have been cleansed. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus warns us that when an unclean spirit is driven out, it seeks to return. If it finds the "house" of the soul swept clean but empty – unoccupied by the Holy Spirit – it brings seven spirits more wicked than itself (Mt 12:43-45).

A Call to Lasting Holiness

It is a common deception of the enemy to suggest that we are destined to fall into the same sins forever. This is a lie. To claim we cannot change is to rely on our own failed strength rather than the transformative power of the Gospel.

Saint Peter encourages us with a different vision:

‘Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ... as He who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct’ (1 Pt 1:13-15).

We are not alone in this struggle. We have the intercession of the Nine Choirs, the protection of our Guardian Angels, and the supreme power of the Holy Spirit. By filling our "interior house" with prayer, the sacraments, and acts of charity, we leave no room for the shadows to return. Let us walk, then, not in fear of the fallen, but in the radiant light of the heavenly host.

THE UNCHANGING LOVE OF GOD

In the hustle of modern life, it is easy to measure our worth by success or failure. Yet Catholic teaching reminds us that divine love operates on an entirely different principle. God does not love you because you remain upright; nor does He withdraw affection when you stumble once, twice, or many times over. The depth of Christ’s love flows not from human effort but from His own unchanging nature, constant until the end of time and beyond into eternity.

Intentions of the Heart

When you stand before the Lord – perhaps sooner than you expect – you will meet eyes ablaze with love. You will hear not a tally of falls, but an affirmation of your will: the desire to serve His Kingdom, even when results fall short. What matters most is the intention of the heart, that persistent longing to do good. This is the tender gaze of a Saviour who knows our frailty yet prizes our striving.

The Ravioli Lesson

Picture a mother preparing traditional Italian ravioli. Beside her bowl of filling lies a sheet of dough, freshly rolled. Her small child, five or seven years old, begs to help. With earnest concentration the little one cuts circles and attempts to seal them. The shapes are uneven; filling escapes; one ravioli unravels in the boiling water.

Does the mother strike the child or raise her voice in rebuke? Certainly not. She gathers the child close and whispers, ‘My darling, how hard you are trying. I love you.’

The reflection concludes, SUCH, IS THE HEART OF GOD – AND YOU ARE THAT BELOVED CHILD. AMEN.

IT IS NOT THAT
ANGELS
ARE INVISIBLE
IT’S JUST THAT WE ARE
BLIND.



Around the World

The sometimes-missed news

THE END OF THE WORLD

DEATH, RUSSIAN STYLE

Russian authorities have pushed through parliament regulations referred to as "civil death," owing to their scope, which excludes an individual deemed a threat to state security – and residing abroad – from normal life. A person entered into a special register will not be able to use state electronic services or online banking. Their money, real estate, and other assets located in Russia may be frozen. Offices will not register transactions concerning apartments, houses, or land conducted by such a person. The regulations also provide for restrictions on the ability to drive a car. A Russian driver's licence may formally remain valid, but its use will be suspended. A Russian placed on this list will not receive a new foreign passport. The authorities will be able to leave a political opponent, or even merely a critic, without a valid travel document, and deprive him of the possibility of appointing a proxy to handle his property affairs in Russia.

SWEDEN

WATCH YOURSELVES!

The authorities are tightening migration policy, wanting to genuinely combat organised crime, which in recent years has become a serious problem in the country, as foreigners are implicated in this practice. The government has decided to change the regulations so that not only perpetrators of the most serious crimes, but also those of lesser offenses, can be deported. From now on, a residence permit can be revoked for unpaid debts, abuse of the social insurance system, or ignoring the orders of state authorities. "Whoever lives in Sweden should not harm our country," explains the Minister for Migration, Johan Forssell. From now on, Swedish migration regulations are the strictest in all of Scandinavia. The Swedish Migration Agency assures, however, that individual minor violations will not in themselves be grounds for the automatic deportation of a foreigner. However, the new regulations will not apply to persons residing in the country with refugee status, citizens of EU member states, and those who received a residence permit under the family reunification programme.

PORTUGAL

NO MORE BURQA AND NIQAB

Parliament passed a law banning the covering of one's face in public places. This effectively

means the end of wearing the burqa and niqab. Penalties for breaking the ban can reach up to 4,000 euros. The bill was prepared and pushed through by the right-wing party Chega, led by André Ventura. In response, a group of Muslims living in Portugal announced that if the law comes into force, they will leave the country. Some of them are planning to return to their countries of origin or move to another European state where similar restrictions do not apply. They believe that the new regulation violates their religious freedom. Supporters of the ban emphasise that its goal is to increase security and make it easier for law enforcement to identify individuals. Portugal's decision fits into a broader trend among European countries introducing restrictions on wearing religious symbols that cover the face. The law has been sent to the President of the Republic, who must now decide whether to sign it, veto it, or refer it to the Constitutional Tribunal.

IT CAN BE DONE? IT CAN BE DONE!

BRAVO, FRANCE

France's National Assembly passed a law banning the use of social media by children under the age of 15. The ban will take effect on September 1 for new accounts. A four-month transitional period applies to accounts already created, which will be gradually closed. Online encyclopaedias and digital projects intended for educational purposes will be exempt from the ban. As explained before the law's passage, platforms and messaging apps such as YouTube and WhatsApp will still be accessible, though services must introduce age verification wherever they function as social media platforms – for example, in content-sharing channels or comment sections. Social media platforms themselves will be required to implement age-verification systems for their users. France is the first country in the EU to introduce such restrictions. The law also provides for a ban on the use of mobile phones in high schools; they are already banned in lower-level schools (primary and middle schools). Schools, however, will be allowed to introduce exceptions to the ban in their internal regulations.

We Read Pope Leo



We must learn to recognize what truly matters: the treasure of our relationship with God, which helps us live our mutual relationships as fully as possible.

We live today in a world where beauty is so often lacking: there are so many problems, wars, conflicts, hatred, violence, lack of work, and many other difficulties. (...) There is something better (...) – when we want it, all of us together – we can jointly give the world a gift of beauty which,

flowing from the heart, helps us rise up towards God. (...) Music, art and beauty are truly tools that help us turn our gaze towards God, through this upward movement belonging to what is most beautiful in man.

Concert in honour of Pope Leo XIV organised by the Diocese of Albano, Castel Gandolfo, 18 July 2026.

Even today the Church is a communion of people differing in origin, culture, competencies, and

degree of responsibility, yet all are called to discover that in Jesus Christ they form "one": He is the hidden treasure, the precious pearl, the net that gathers the scattered. From the very beginning, Jesus called and gathered around Himself people who otherwise would never have met one another. It is precisely in this way that He showed that God shows no partiality towards persons, and that His choice is a special love – especially for those who are small and rejected. (...) There remains nothing for us to do but to ask for the gift – the very same gift for which the young King Solomon prayed. It is the gift of recognizing the precious pearl, the gift of perceiving the treasure for which it is worth selling everything. While the consumer industry shapes our tastes, awakening ever new needs in order then to sell us solutions that do not satisfy, and sometimes even poison the heart, we must learn to recognize what truly matters: the treasure of a relationship with God, which opens us to joy and helps us live our mutual relationships as fully as possible.

Angelus, 26 July 2026.

How good it is to be with young people. Your enthusiasm is contagious and awakens in all of us a new apostolic zeal. (...) each one of you carries within himself the missionary strength necessary to transform this world, which so greatly needs the Gospel. Never lose that missionary zeal! (...) Even today many people need to hear that it is Jesus who answers their deepest longings, revealing to man the truth about himself. Therefore boldly proclaim that a life without Christ is a life without grace! (...) It is He who gives meaning to existence and to all that exists. (...) An authentic bond with the Lord requires steadfastness, perseverance, and a firm conviction that the Heavenly Father never abandons us, but rather – comes to meet us in His Son. Therefore do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, but gives everything. (...) With Christ we always triumph! The saints bear witness to this. Let us draw inspiration from the example of St. Carlo Acutis: he shows how to always place Christ at the centre, even in the use of technology. Following his example, I encourage you to make proper use of social media and artificial intelligence, and to employ these tools with moderation and discipline. For they can draw us into an unreal world, in which what is fleeting, appearances, and falsehood take the place of true values and of what is really important.

Video message to participants of the "Halleluya" Festival, Fortaleza (Brazil), 22-26 July 2026.

In my opinion

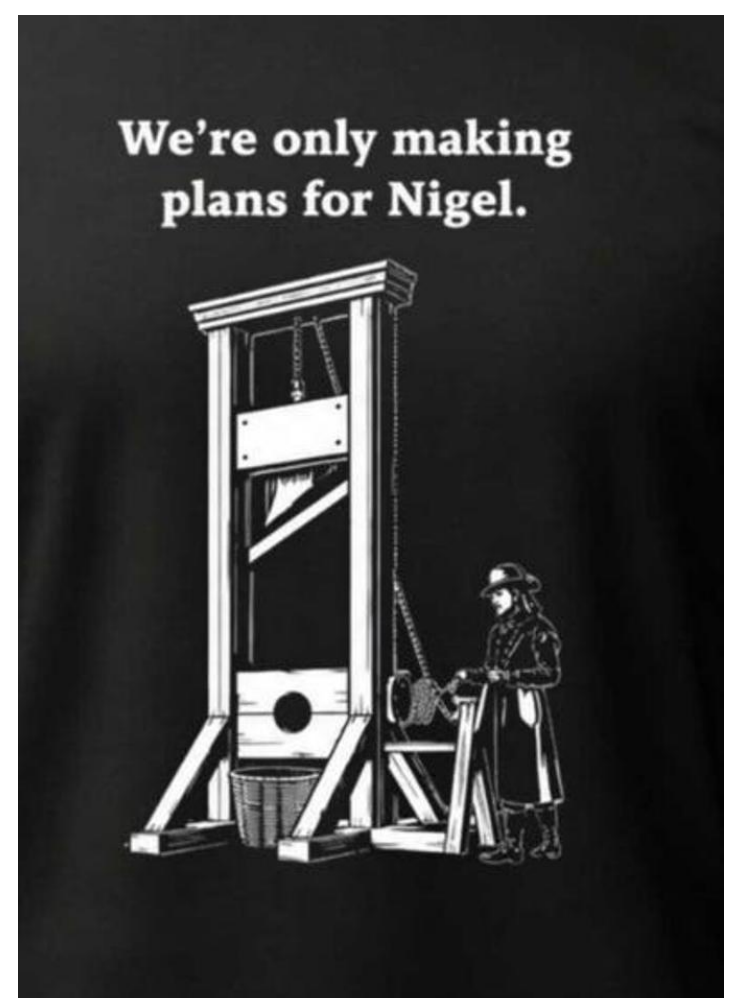
Free speech

Nigel Farage's outrage at a provocative T-shirt is understandable amid media intrusion and lawfare. Yet his response reveals a wider crisis: secular frameworks alone cannot resolve our cultural conflicts. The answer lies in the Catholic intellectual tradition.

Two Incidents, Flawed Responses

Recent events show how quickly moral bearings are lost:

- An Aberdeen University worker was charged after celebrating online the brutal murder of an elderly woman.
- At a Green Party event, a T-shirt depicted a guillotine with the words "We're only making plans for Nigel." Reform UK reported it to police as incitement.



The Error of Selective Free Speech

Critics of progressive excess have long argued that bad speech should be answered with better speech, not state power. Reporting a quickly disowned T-shirt abandons this principle. Defending free speech only when it suits us turns it into a tool of political convenience.

Incident

Grotesque online celebration of a brutal murder.

Public display of a T-shirt depicting a guillotine.

Political Response

Criminal prosecution for hate speech and abusive behaviour.

Reporting to the police for incitement to violence.

Why Compassion Is Rationed

Jonathan Haidt observes that the Left often stresses care and harm, while the Right balances this with loyalty, authority and sanctity. Arnold Kling points to a deeper progressive frame: oppressor versus oppressed. Compassion is then handed out by ideological group, not by the simple fact of human dignity. Opponents become symbols of “the enemy,” and charity is turned into a weapon of power.

Justice Alone Is Insufficient

An ethics of fair and impartial rules can correct bias, yet it can also grow cold. People risk being treated as mere administrative units – “taxpayers” or “legal subjects” – while the real person is overlooked.

The Catholic Path: Personalism and Charity

The remedy is not another secular theory but Catholic theology.

Intellectual Charity

Saint Thomas Aquinas, in the *Summa Theologiae*, always set out an opponent’s case in its strongest form before answering it. This respect stands in clear contrast to cancel culture.

Personalism

Championed by Saint John Paul II, Personalism teaches that every person holds inviolable dignity as made in the image and likeness of God (*Imago Dei*). No political label can cancel it.

The Trinity and the Incarnation

The Trinity shows God as a communion of Persons. We are made for relationship – neither isolated individuals nor disposable units of a collective.

The Incarnation reveals God becoming a particular man, Jesus of Nazareth. The universal is reached only through the unique, unrepeatable person.

Conclusion

Gaudium et Spes declares: ‘Mankind is the only creature on earth that God has willed for its own sake.’

Using the state as a weapon or reducing opponents to categories surrenders to a culture of division. The true antidote is Catholic Personalism: the courage to see every political opponent as a person made in God’s image, worthy of both justice and charity.

Tony Wood

Prayer



Please remember to pray for those who are unwell, in need, or have requested our prayers: Gerry Smith, Richard Fox, Cecil Finn, Andrew McLaughlin, Claire Wiggins, Russell Carroll, Lucy Cunningham, Tommy McGrory Senior, Lilian Cox, Sarah Carmichael, and Doleen Durnin.

Please keep in your prayers Please keep in your prayers Charlie McAuley (2026), and Jennifer McGrory (2024) **and all whose anniversaries fall around this time.**

News and Events

Join us for tea and coffee in the hall after Sunday Mass. We warmly welcome visitors and would be delighted to share our hospitality with you. We hope to see you there!

COFFEE MORNING: is being planned for SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST. Anyone able to help in any way contact Cathy or Fiona Fox, or Fr Tony. Two weeks to go!: promises of home baking, bottles, raffle prizes. Volunteers still needed for setting up (the Friday evening before); kitchen helpers(2), servers of tea/coffee(2), bottle stall(2).



campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk



www.stkieranscampbeltown.org



<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch/>

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

Rite of Commissioning Special Ministers of the Eucharist During Mass

After the homily, the celebrant presents to the people those chosen to serve as special ministers, using these or similar words:

Dear friends in Christ,
our brothers and sisters, N. and N.,
are to be entrusted with administering the eucharist,
with taking communion to the sick
and with giving it as viaticum to the dying.

The celebrant pauses and then addresses the candidates:

In this ministry, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct;
you must strive to grow in holiness through this sacrament of unity and love.
Remember that, though many, we are one body because we share the one bread and one cup.
As ministers of holy communion be, therefore, especially observant of the
Lord's command to love your neighbour. For when he gave his body as food to his disciples, he said to them, 'This is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you.'

After the address the candidates stand before the celebrant, who asks them these questions:

Are you resolved to undertake the office of giving the body and blood of the Lord to your brothers and sisters and so serve to build up the Church?

Response: I am.

Are you resolved to administer the holy eucharist with the utmost care and reverence?

Response: I am.

All stand. The candidates kneel and the celebrant invites the faithful to pray:

Dear friends in Christ,
let us pray with confidence to the Father; let us ask him to bestow his blessings on our brothers and sisters, chosen to be ministers of the eucharist.

Pause for silent prayer. The celebrant then continues:

Merciful Father,
creator and guide of your family,
bless ✠ our brothers and sisters N. and N.
May they faithfully give the bread of life to your people.
Strengthened by this sacrament,
may they come at last to the banquet of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

In the procession at the presentation of gifts, the newly-commissioned ministers carry the vessels with the bread and wine and at communion may receive the eucharist under both kinds.