

DIOCESE OF MOTHERWELL

FONTES

FREE

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MAGAZINE



Celebrating seventy five years of faith in our Diocese

Archbishop Nolan reflects on the gift of our past and the need to look to the future with renewed confidence and hope

+ 75th Anniversary of Motherwell Diocese

+ New Statue blessed for Saint Andrew's Airdrie + Benemerenti Medal Awarded

+ SCIAF announce new Bishop President + Fr McGachey reflects upon the Sacred Heart

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The next edition of
FONTES
will be available from
24/25 June

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Bishop's Diary: June 2023

1 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Peter's, Hamilton

4 June | 3.00pm: Confirmations for pupils in ASN schools in Motherwell Cathedral

5 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, Our Lady and St Anne's, Hamilton

6 June | 2.00pm: Caritas Award Ceremony

7 June: Bishops' Conference of Scotland Meeting

7 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Paul's, Hamilton

8 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St John Bosco, Easterhouse

11 June | 1.00pm: Corpus Christi Procession, Holy Cross Parish, Croy

12 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Bernadette's, Motherwell

13 June | 2.00pm: Trinity High School Festal Mass

13 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Brigid's, Newmains

14 June: National Prayer Breakfast

14 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Mary's, Hamilton

15 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Patrick's, Strathaven

16 June | 7.00pm: Silver Jubilee Mass for Fr Rooney, St Ignatius' Church, Wishaw

19 June | 1.00pm: PGDE Graduation Mass, Glasgow University

19 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Mary's, Cleland

20 June | 11.30am: Diocesan Fabric and Planning Committee

20 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Cadoc's, Halfway

21 June | 12.00pm: Mass in Scottish Parliament

21 June | 7.00pm: Confirmation, St Francis Xavier, Carfin

23 June | 7.00pm: Finance and General Purposes Meeting

25 June | 3.00pm: Lourdes Hospitality Mass, Carfin Grotto

27 June | 2.00pm: Meeting of Diocesan Trustees

28 June: Bishops' Conference Meeting

30 June | 7.00pm: Silver Jubilee Mass, Fr Garwolinski, St Patrick's Church, Shieldmuir



A word from Bishop Toal

May, along with October, is a month we dedicate as Catholics to Mary, the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. On the Monday after Pentecost we now celebrate the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, highlighting the place Mary had in the Church here on earth as the disciples prayed for the coming of the Holy Spirit. We continue to feel and acknowledge Mary's motherly presence as we have prayed both privately and communally through the month of May, seeking with her the continued outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church today.

Our prayer and meditation leads us to think of and rejoice with Mary in her heavenly glory as we recognise her sharing in the Lord's Resurrection. The Church has proclaimed the Dogma of Our Lady's Assumption into Heaven and we honour her as Queen of Heaven. It is a lovely title, often depicted in statues and works of art, and in our prayers of intercession, as we seek her consolation and protection during our earthly pilgrimage. On contemplating these images of Mary crowned as Queen we are filled with a sense of joy and a desire that we will share with her in the fullness of her Son's Resurrection in the glory of heaven. She encourages us to hope, and we ask her to keep this hope strong within us whatever happens.

On the last day of May, the Feast of Our Lady's Visitation, the General Secretariat for the forthcoming Synod invites us to spend a moment of prayer placing the Synod under Mary's protection. I encourage your participation, individually or as a parish, or at the Prayer Service being arranged at Carfin Grotto that day. As we look forward now to the Synod in Rome in October, we pray with Mary that the Holy Spirit will guide the preparations and the work of all who will participate at the Synod.

With my prayers and good wishes,

+ Joseph Toal



75 YEARS OF THE

On 21 April 1948, Monsignor Edward Douglas was consecrated first Bishop of Motherwell in the newly-designated Cathedral of Our Lady of Good Aid. Seventy-five years later to the day, the Diocesan Family gathered in the same place to celebrate a Solemn Mass to mark the anniversary.

Archbishop William Nolan was invited by Bishop Toal to be the principal celebrant and homilist, recognising several connections: Motherwell Diocese was formed from the Archdiocese of Glasgow; the new diocese became part of the Province of Glasgow which was established at the same time, a local “family” of dioceses comprising Glasgow, Motherwell and the other new diocese of Paisley, over which the archbishop presides with the title of Metropolitan; Archbishop Nolan is a son of the Diocese, becoming a student for the Priesthood in 1965 at the age of eleven, proceeding to ordination in 1977, and serving as a priest of the diocese for thirty-eight years before being ordained Bishop of Galloway in 2015; lastly, the archbishop lived in Motherwell itself, receiving some of his primary schooling in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, at that time next door to the Cathedral itself.

At the beginning of his homily, the archbishop posed the question: “Are we looking back or are we looking forward?” Looking back to begin with, Archbishop Nolan



Painted a picture of a country just emerging from the Second World War when the Diocese was founded. There was a determination among people and politicians to create a better world. The National Health Service was founded, slums were cleared, and thousands of new homes were built. The Church was caught up in this spirit: there was an upsurge in the number of vocations to the priesthood and the religious life; Catholic people in the new housing schemes wanted their own local church and parish. (Bishop Devine liked to tell the story of the busload of

disconsolate football supporters returning home after a resounding defeat and someone, seriously, attempted to raise their spirits by saying they would take a petition to Bishop Douglas to found a new parish in their housing scheme, and the idea was treated equally seriously by the busload. Different times, indeed!)

Those were confident times in the Church and community was strong there and in society generally, but “the times they were a-changing” and individualism became increasingly the god of many. An emphasis on



DIOCESE OF MOTHERWELL

by Fr Michael Briody



People need God today as much as any other time. They may not recognise it. It may be against the tide of public opinion, but we have a message which will bring hope and a Person into people's lives who will make a fundamental difference and improvement to their lives. We do not live Faith solely for ourselves but must be constantly on the lookout for ways in which we can share it with others. When we do that, we are doing the Will of God, and the archbishop observed that, in the Gospel reading we had heard, Our Lord calls such people "his mother and sister and brother". In other words, he considers us "family" and he wants us to bring many more into it.

After the Mass, Archbishop Nolan, Bishop Toal, and many present at the Mass repaired to Saint Bride's Hall for refreshments and an opportunity to meet and talk with the archbishop.

duty was replaced by a strong sense of personal rights; a respect for the Law of God was overtaken by a mistaken sense of freedom; religious observance, strong across all churches, began to slip as these ideas began to take root even in the minds of the faithful.

Referring to the Scriptures read at the Mass, Archbishop Nolan spoke of the image in the Book of Revelation where the woman was giving birth, bringing her child into a hostile world. Clearly, this was Our Blessed Lady, but the image continues since then with the Church bringing Christ Our

Lord into a world which has often been hostile to Him and religion over the centuries, but also each of us, as individual followers of The Lord, have the duty to bring Him to others. Just as our forebears passed on the Faith to their children and their times, so we must behave as people who have the firm belief that we have something important to offer, Someone to offer who can change lives for the better. He is Christ the Lord.



BISHOPS OF MOTHERWELL

Bishop Edward Douglas
1948 - 1954

Bishop James Scanlan
1955 - 1964

Bishop Francis Thomson
1965 - 1982

Bishop Joseph Devine
1983 - 2013

Bishop Joseph Toal
2014 - Present

SCIAF WELCOMES NEW BISHOP PRESIDENT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Bishop Brian McGee Appointed New President Bishop of SCIAF

SCIAF has a new Bishop President for the first time in nine years – with Bishop Brian McGee being welcomed to the role, heading up the Board of Trustees.

Bishop McGee is Bishop of Argyll and the Isles and has been on SCIAF's Board since 2016. Just a few weeks ago he travelled with our Chief Executive Alistair Dutton to Ethiopia to see our work with partners, something he described as "a privileged ministry". Bishop McGee takes over from Bishop Joseph Toal who has served as SCIAF's Bishop President for nine years.

SCIAF Chief Executive Alistair Dutton said:

"I am delighted to welcome Bishop Brian as our new President and would like to express my profound thanks to Bishop Joe for all his commitment and wise counsel throughout his tenure. I remember Bishop Joe's visits with me to our partners in Colombia and Ethiopia very fondly and was always struck by his gentle sensitivity in his encounters with the local organisations who are our partners and the people our programmes serve.

Bishop Brian has been eager to be involved with SCIAF's work since he joined our Board in 2016 and brings a new energy and passion for SCIAF's cause. Keen to see our work first hand, he has visited our work with Caritas India and Caritas Lebanon, and most recently, he and I visited Ethiopia in February to express our solidarity with our partners who are coping with the very acute food crisis in the south and the consequences of the civil war which had raged in Tigray for more than two years."

Of his new appointment, Bishop McGee said:

"When people hear of SCIAF they immediately think of responses to extreme poverty or sudden emergencies.

MONTHLY PRAYER



Give thanks for all that we use water for – to clean, cook, and drink. Give thanks for seas, lakes and rivers that give us food and water for crops



Pray for the River Guardians who continue to defend, protect and make sustainable use of natural resources



Pray that governments and multi-national companies that are fixated on profits may look to the interests of people and planet.



Image: SCIAF

This, of course, is true. But SCIAF is much more than that.

As our official Aid Agency, SCIAF implements Catholic Social Teaching which has, at its core, Integral Human Development. It's not sufficient to merely ensure people are fed, crucial as this is, but the whole human person must be allowed to develop. One example of this is the empowerment of women.

Since childhood I have been concerned about poverty and my passion for justice has developed over the years. I am delighted to take on the role of Bishop President with SCIAF and look forward to working with our partners, the Board,

SCIAF staff and of course our dedicated supporters and volunteers to ensure we continue to reach out to our sisters and brothers in need, wherever they may be."

SCIAF remains grateful to Bishop Toal for his time as Bishop President. The Board diversified under Bishop Toal's leadership, with more lay people and more women becoming involved. The charity also benefitted from Bishop Toal's strong leadership, as he skilfully guided SCIAF and staff through the pandemic.

He said:

"I will look back very fondly on my time as SCIAF's Bishop President – it's been such an honour.

I have travelled to Ethiopia and Colombia where I have witnessed the life-changing work of SCIAF and how it has and continues to help change people's lives for the better.

The most important thing is just how it does this. SCIAF works hand-in-hand with partners, gaining a deep understanding of the needs, hopes and desires of local people and communities and helps them realise these.

These are challenging times for charities and even more challenging for our sisters and brothers in the global south. My thoughts and prayers are with you all as I'm sure you will rise to these challenges with faith, love and enthusiasm."

UNLOCKING THE POWER WITHIN: HOW EMBRACING VULNERABILITY ALLOWS THE HOLY SPIRIT TO TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE

by Fr Thomas Magill



PENTECOST SUNDAY | 28TH MAY

Readings: Acts of the Apostles 2.1-11; Psalm 103; 1st Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 12.3-7, 12-13; John 20.19-23

In John's Gospel, the disciples receive the Holy Spirit when they have gone into "lockdown," covering in a room with doors and windows firmly closed, full of fear and anxiety. It is this Holy Spirit, St Paul tells us, who comes to us in our weakness. To experience and own our vulnerability is to move away from self-regard and self-delusion and to be opened up to the power, and strength, and wisdom of God himself.



Image: David Gibson

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18TH JUNE

Readings Exodus 19.2-6; Psalm 99; Paul's Letter to the Romans 5.6-11; Matthew 9.36-10.8

God has accepted us and reconciled us to himself through Christ. Our salvation comes as a complete free gift from God (2nd reading). All the baptised now have a share in the priesthood of Christ (1st reading). It is because of what God has done for us in Christ that we are empowered to respond with joyful trust to his call to be labourers in the harvest. Like the 12 Apostles, we are commissioned to proclaim to our world the presence of the Kingdom of God.

TRINITY SUNDAY | 4TH JUNE

Readings: Exodus 34.4-6, 8-9; Daniel 3.52-56; 2nd Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 13.11-13; John 3.16-18

The mutual love of the Father and the Son spills over into the creation and sustenance of the entire cosmos. Our world is the handiwork and manifestation of the Trinity itself. St Paul urges us to be united and to live in peace and love. When we do this we are at one and at peace not only among ourselves, but with God and his good earth.

CORPUS CHRISTI | 11TH JUNE

Readings: Deuteronomy 8.2-3, 14-16; Psalm 147; 1st Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10.16-17; John 6.51-58

From the very begin, humanity has sought more than material nourishment in order not just to exist but to thrive and have the fullest of lives. We do not live on bread alone (1st reading). Christ is our Bread of Life whose real presence deep within us and among us brings us an abundance of life. In him heaven and earth come together, the Trinity of God, Father and Son dwells in us and we in them. We are truly "in communion" (2nd reading).

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25TH JUNE

Readings: Jeremiah 20.10-13; Psalm 68; Paul's Letter to the Romans 5.12-15; Matthew 10.26-33

People of faith will always encounter misunderstanding, opposition, and even persecution and death. That is the message of Christ's Cross. His Resurrection assures us that God is always at our side (1st reading), filling us through Christ with the abundant free gift of his presence and love (2nd reading). This gives us the courage to witness to our faith openly and with conviction, and to know how precious we are in the eyes of our heavenly Father. There is no need to be afraid!

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

by Fr Francis McGachey

The human heart beats on average 40 million times a year and over 2.6 billion times in the course of an average life. In the Bible, the heart is a powerful metaphor: the prophet Ezekiel, for instance, records God's promise to change Israel's 'heart of stone' into a 'heart of flesh'; while John's Gospel gives the heart its most profound expression: Jesus' heart is the source of living water - the source of the sacraments, flowing from his body on the cross, and of doubting Thomas' faith when he exclaimed "My Lord and my God."



Devotion to the Sacred Heart began to flourish in the Middle Ages through a renewed appraisal of Jesus' Passion. Its golden age, however, was in the seventeenth century, when Saint Francis de Sales and Saint John Eudes offered a tender spirituality that helped renew the Church. From 1673 to 1675 at the Visitation convent of Paray-le-Monial, France, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque received a series of revelations from Christ about his Heart.

During these revelations Christ explained to her the way he wanted people to honour his Heart: He asked for it to be revered through the symbol of a heart of flesh; He asked for reparation for the offences committed against his Heart; for frequent Holy Communion, especially on the first Friday of each month, and that a Holy Hour should be kept in memory of the time he spent in Gethsemane. Jesus also made twelve promises for those who honour his Heart:

1. I will give them the graces they need.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will console them in their troubles.
4. They shall find in my Heart a refuge during life and especially in death.
5. I will bless all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in my Heart an ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise to perfection.
9. I will bless the homes where an image of my Heart is honoured.
10. I will give to priests the power of touching hardened hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart.
12. My Heart will give to all those who receive Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die without receiving the Sacraments; my heart shall be their refuge at the last hour.

FEASTS OF JUNE

1 June
Saint Justin

3 June
Saints Charles Lwanga and Companions

4 June
The Most Holy Trinity

5 June
Saint Boniface

9 June
Saint Columba

11 June
Corpus Christi

13 June
Saint Anthony of Padua

16 June
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

21 June
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

24 June
The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

28 June
Saint Irenaeus

29 June
Saints Peter and Paul



Image: St Peter Claver Sisters

Sisters of St Peter Claver

The feast day of Our Lady of Good Counsel was celebrated today with a lovely celebration at the convent of the Sisters of St Peter Claver. Bishop Toal celebrated Holy Mass at the convent for all the associates, benefactors, and friends of St. Peter Claver Sisters. The occasion was made even more special by the prayerful support that everyone had provided for the mission. The ceremony was a beautiful way to honour Our Lady of Good Counsel, and to thank those who have contributed to the mission of the St. Peter Claver Sisters. As the celebration came to an end, everyone present was filled with gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to come together in worship and thanksgiving. The joyous occasion was a testament to the strong community of faith that the St. Peter Claver Sisters have built with their supporters.



Image: St Peter Claver Sisters



Image: Rita Clark

Retirement of Deacon Joe Dowds

Deacon Joe Dowds and his wife Susan were given a warm welcome back to St. Mary's Hamilton.

Fr. O'Brien and the parishioners were delighted to have the opportunity to express their gratitude to the couple for their years of service and dedication to the parish community. During the Mass, Fr. O'Brien took a moment to acknowledge the invaluable contributions that Deacon Joe and Susan had made to the community over the years. The parishioners joined in expressing their appreciation, recognising the countless ways in which the couple had impacted the lives of those around them. As Mass came to an end, the community wished Deacon Joe and Susan a happy retirement and assured them that they will continue to pray for them.

DIocese of Motherwell



Image: Mary Mullholland

SSVP Parish Day

A recent event organized by SSVP at St. Margaret's Church in Airdrie involved taking some of their parishioners to Carfin Grotto to express gratitude for their ongoing generosity. The group enjoyed a pleasant day with sunshine and a refreshing breeze, keeping their focus on God and the Blessed Mother. After leaving the serene atmosphere of the Grotto, they returned to St. Margaret's where they were treated to a spread of sandwiches, sausage rolls, and cakes provided by John and Maureen. The event was enjoyed by all in attendance, and SSVP expressed their thanks to everyone who joined them.

Classrooms for Malawi

Classrooms for Malawi give thanks to the Pupil Partnership at St Anthony's Primary School in Rutherglen for organising the school's fundraising activities during Lent for Classrooms for Malawi. The funds raised will be used to support children in Malawi to receive an education in a classroom that is fit for purpose.

They thank everyone for making them welcome during their visit and enjoyed witnessing the "odd socks" fundraiser.



Image: James Kelly



Image: Catherine Boyle

Legion of Mary

The legion of Mary in St Dominic's parish Craigend. visited St Rose of Lima Primary to present all the children who made their First Holy Communion with a lovely bag each containing rosary beads, prayer cards, and miraculous medals. The bags are gifted from the legionaries and the Dominican group in their parish.



Image: St Andrew's Parish

NEW STATUE IN AIRDRIE

Bishop Toal recently celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation in St Andrew's Airdrie.

After the Confirmation, Bishop Toal, along with Fr Bruce McPhail, the parish priest, and other members of the parish, gathered in the Church grounds to bless the newly installed statue of the patron saint of the parish, St Andrew. The statue is a symbol of the parish's devotion to St Andrew and serves as a reminder of the saint's teachings and life. The act of blessing the statue is a way to ask for God's protection and blessings on the parish and its members.



DRAFT WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY APPROVED

On 10-11 May, the 15th Ordinary Council* of the General Secretariat of the Synod met in Rome to discuss the Instrumentum laboris: the working document for participants in the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (4-29 October 2023).

In plenary session and in language working groups, the Council members accompanied by some consultants reviewed, amended and approved the Instrumentum laboris, which is scheduled to be published in early June.

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Images: Ian Robertson

St. Mark's Parish Honours Len Logan with Benemerenti Medal

The St. Mark's parish community came together on Saturday, April 29th, for a special Mass celebration. Holy Mass was celebrated by Bishop Toal.

During the Mass, Bishop Toal presented Len Logan with the prestigious Benemerenti Medal in recognition of his 38 years of selfless work in the parish. Len had served as a member and president of the SVDP conference, and his dedication to the community had made a significant impact on the lives of many.



The Benemerenti Medal is a special recognition awarded by the Catholic Church to those who have shown outstanding service to the church and community. It is a high honour, and Len was truly deserving of the recognition for his decades of selfless service.

The presentation of the medal was a touching moment, as Len was surrounded by his friends, family, and fellow parishioners. The atmosphere was one of gratitude and celebration, as the community came together to honour Len's dedication and contributions.

The evening was a testament to the power of community and faith, and the impact that one person can have on the lives of many. The St. Mark's parish community will always be grateful for Len's selfless service, and the Benemerenti Medal serves as a reminder of his legacy of love and service.



JUSTICE AND PEACE SCOTLAND

Join In A Weekend Of Action with Justice & Peace Scotland



Image: Justice and Peace

We have something for everyone over the last weekend in June 2023 and we'd love you to come along to 1, 2 or all 3 events and put your faith into action alongside us at Justice & Peace Scotland.

Friday 23rd June

Talk on Climate Change by renowned speaker Prof Stan Chu Ilo. Prof Stan was ordained a Catholic Priest in his home country of Nigeria.

Now living in Canada he is the founder of the Canadian Samaritans for Africa, a non profit organisation that works directly with African women to help alleviate poverty. He is a commentator on Africa, religion and politics for Canada television (CTV) and contributes to various worldwide publications. As part of the Duff Lectures Series, in conjunction with Trinity College, The Church of Scotland and The Catholic Care of Creation Office we will be hosting Prof Stan in Eyre Hall at the Glasgow Archdiocese Office in Glasgow.

Tickets are limited and you must register to attend on Eventbrite. The easiest way to do it is to click the link on the homepage of the Justice & Peace Scotland website. Book your place today to avoid disappointment!

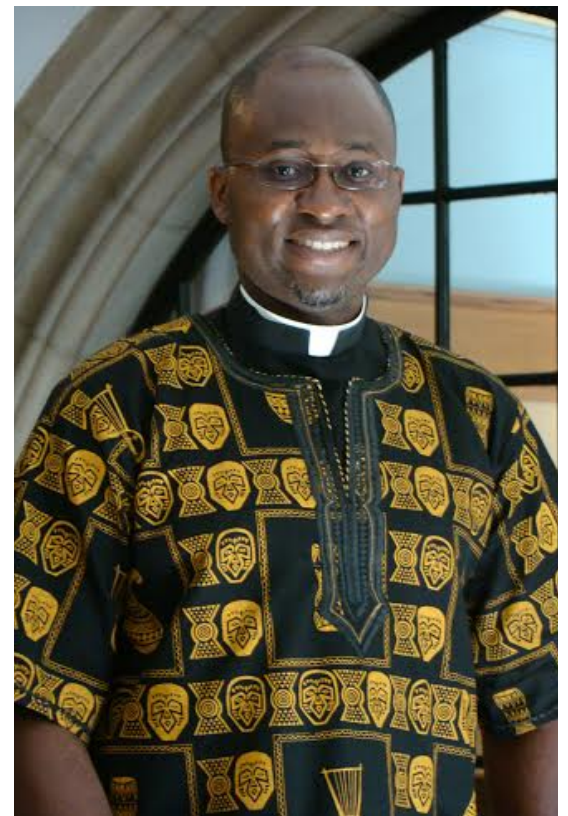




Image: Justice and Peace

Saturday 24th June

Join us at Faslane Nuclear Base (South Gate) at 12 noon for a Witness of Peace Service at the home of the UK's nuclear weapons. The Archbishop Of Glasgow and the Moderator of the Church of Scotland will lead us in this ecumenical service at the gates of Faslane and we will be joined by our friends from Scottish Christians Against Nuclear Weapons (SCANA), Pax Christi Scotland and the Iona Community. Our witness will last approximately 1 hour and some new faces would be most welcome to join our ongoing and ever more urgent public witness against weapons of mass destruction worldwide and right here in Scotland at Faslane.



Image: Justice and Peace

Sunday 25th June

Dungavel Solidarity Gathering. 1pm. As our action for Refugee Week 2023 (19th – 25th June) we will once again be heading to Scotland's only immigration detention centre to peacefully protest outside and show our support and solidarity to those inside Dungavel who are imprisoned there, without limit of time, for seeking sanctuary here. We are once again so grateful that we will be joined by Archbishop Nolan – President of Justice & Peace Scotland. Our gathering will last approx. 1 hour and we welcome anyone wishing to join us in protest against the UK's hostile environment for refugees and asylum seekers.

Keep up with what's happening at Justice & Peace Scotland by registering for our email updates on our website – [Contact Us](#) – [Join our mailing list](#) – and by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH

by Sr. Editta Kuttikkattil

I had great privilege to join the pilgrimage from Coatbridge to Holy Land in 2012.

When I visited the Basilica of Annunciation Church in Nazareth, one of our friends spotted the statue of our Lady of Good Health among other statues of our Lady from all over the world. I was overwhelmed with joy to see it.

Known as “the Lourdes of the East,” the devotion to Our Lady of Good Health (Vailankanni) comes from India. This devotion dates back to the 16th century, when Mary manifested herself three times to the faithful in Vailankanni, India , providing healing and protection. On the first occasion, Mary appeared with the Christ Child to a young shepherd boy.

On the second, she came to a young buttermilk vendor and asked him if he would give her buttermilk for her child. When he kindly assented, she asked him to deliver a message to a man in the next town, requesting the construction of a shrine to the Blessed Mother on the site of her appearance. Though the boy had been lame all his life, he was suddenly healed and was able to run and deliver the message.

The third occurrence was the miraculous rescue of a ship of Portuguese sailors who were caught in a violent storm off the coast of India. When they were brought safely to shore at Vailankanni on the Nativity of Our Lady, the faithful of the city saw it as further proof of her presence there. Grateful for their rescue, the sailors turned the small thatched chapel at Vailankanni into a stone church to honour the Blessed Mother.

A small prayer to our Lady of Good Health :
Relying on your power and goodness, we fly to you and implore you to heal our infirmities and to obtain for us perfect health of body and soul, that we may better be able to serve you and your Divine Son. At all times you have been the help and consolation of the sick. Amen



| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Location | Velankanni, Tamil Nadu, India |
| Date | 16th and 17th century |
| Witness | Young Boy |
| Type | Marian Apparition |
| Approval | Implicitly approved by the Holy See under Pope John XXIII in 1962 |
| Shrine | Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, Velankanni, Tamil Nadu, India |
| Feast | 8 September |

SAY 'NO' TO ASSISTED SUICIDE

by Anthony Horan

Liam McArthur MSP is expected to introduce a bill later this year to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland. The bill will be debated and scrutinised by the Scottish Parliament and will eventually be voted on by MSPs. In the meantime, there is an opportunity for the general public to make a big impact on this issue, through engagement with family, friends and parish communities.

Some people mistakenly think that "assisted dying", which is the term used by proponents of assisted suicide, is part of end-of-life care and is the same as the care provided by hospices. Popular TV portrays "assisted dying" as a merciful act, which supporters say will be strictly applied and only affect a small group of people.

On her visit to Scotland this year, Professor Leonie Herx described the effect of legalised assisted suicide and euthanasia in her homeland, Canada, as follows: "Administering death is cheaper and easier than providing care, and it will quickly become the solution for any forms of human suffering, as we have seen in Canada."

She also repeated many times "Do not be deceived".

Despite the lack of a bill, we need to act now if we are to successfully resist efforts to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland. The campaign group Against Assisted Suicide has developed and trialed a Networking Pack for parishes. This pack can be used to help form networks to inform friends, family, neighbours, work colleagues and others about this important issue. It provides practical support for those who wish to share their concerns with the 8 MSPs who represent them and who will ultimately vote on whether assisted suicide becomes legal.

In its response to Liam McArthur's proposal for a bill on assisted suicide, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland stated: "Assisted suicide attacks human dignity and results in human life being increasingly valued on the basis of its efficiency and utility, to the point of considering as 'unworthy lives' those who do not meet this criterion. Implicit in legal assisted suicide is that an individual can lose their value and worth."

The bishops also pointed out that the state "ought to support the provision of care, not deliberate killing, for those at the end of life."

The Catholic Parliamentary Office is delighted to support the work of this important initiative and would encourage people to contact the Against Assisted Suicide group with a view to establishing a network in your parish.

Please do everything you can to oppose the legalisation of assisted suicide in our country.

If you wish to receive a pack, please email assisthelp04@gmail.com. If you wish more detail phone Brian on 07947497797.

You can also find more information, including key arguments against assisted suicide, on our own Catholic Parliamentary Office website and by visiting Care Not Killing Scotland – promoting palliative care – opposing euthanasia and assisted suicide.



**EVERY LIFE HAS
VALUE**

**say 'no' to
assisted
suicide**

Pope Francis urges speaking with the heart as theme for Communications Sunday 2023



This year Pope Francis has chosen, as the theme for Communications Sunday: Speaking with the heart. “The truth in love” (Eph 4:15) The theme, which connects with that of 2022 – “Listen with the ear of the heart” is intended to form part of the path that will lead the entire Church to the celebration of the Synod in October 2023. Speaking with the heart, means giving “a reason for your hope” and by doing so gently, “using the gift of communication as a bridge and not as a wall.” It is an invitation to “go against the

grain” at a time characterized by polarization and heated debates that exacerbate tempers – even in ecclesial life. In the dramatic context of conflicts in different regions of the globe, the theme affirms the importance of non-hostile communication and promotes, “a communication open to dialogue with the other, that fosters “integral disarmament”. In his message, the Pope calls on everyone, and in particular those who work in the field of communications to exercise their profession “as a mission for building a more just, more

fraternal and more human future.” Through our websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops’ Conference works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC
media office



Pontifical Scots College Relocates Seminary Formation to Beda College Amid Search for New Home

The Scots College in Rome was founded in 1600 by Pope Clement VIII as a seminary for the education of young men for the priesthood. The college played a significant role in maintaining the Catholic faith in Scotland over the centuries. In 1964, the college moved to a purpose-built campus on the Via Cassia, outside the city centre.

As it moves towards a new future in the city centre of Rome, the Pontifical Scots College is getting ready to conclude seminary formation on the Via Cassia, outside of the city centre, where it has been since 1964. The Pontifical Beda College, situated near the Basilica of St Paul’s Outside the Walls and with much better transport links to the

centre of Rome, has kindly offered to house the Scots seminarians while the search for a new College is ongoing since no suitable building has yet been found for the College. For the forthcoming academic year, seminary formation will take place there. Please pray for the Scottish seminarians as they look for a new place to call home.



New approach to the religious formation of children

by Deacon Michael Ross

At St. Columbkille's Parish, Rutherglen, they have recently established the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. In developing this programme, they have had two one-week long episodes of training, offered by Sr. Theresa Anne Knuth, O.P. of the 'Nashville Dominicans'. Our most recent episode of training was completed in late-April, 2023. The training has been opened to other catechists outside our Diocese and has included participants from Ireland, Austria and England.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a catechetical programme for children aged 3-12 yrs, is a reflective-based programme of religious formation aimed at assisting a child in developing his/her own relationship with God in a developmentally appropriate way. The programme is rooted both in Sacred Scripture and in the education philosophy of Maria Montessori.

The programme began in Rome in 1954. Sofia Cavalletti, a Scripture Scholar, and Gianna Gobbi, a Montessorian, collaborated on a religious education programme suitable for children. Over time, they developed materials and a curriculum that spoke clearly to the religious potential of children and which began to offer children an age-appropriate opportunity for prayer, meditation and religious development. The Catechesis is an on-going work striving to reveal the religious potential of the child and to respond to the spiritual needs and qualities of the child. The purpose of the programme is to help children grow and mature in their faith and in



their relationship with Christ. Currently, the programme is offered in over 37 countries around the world.

The programme is composed of three levels: Level 1 (age 3yrs. To 6 yrs.), Level 2 (age 6 yrs. To 9 yrs.), and Level 3 (age 9yrs. To 12yrs.). The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd programme invites the adult leader to serve as a co-listener and co-learner with the child before the Word of God. The adult attends carefully to the child and seeks to match the individual child with the resources from the faith tradition that will best serve that child's spiritual journey.

The programme has now been running for just under six months at Saint Columbkille's, Rutherglen and the potential for this programme in our Parishes is exciting. If you would like further information about this programme at St. Columbkille's, contact Deacon Michael Ross, at deaconross@rcdom.org.uk

ORGANIST *on Tour*

by Aidan Kelly



Image: Aidan Kelly

The Basilica of *Santa Maria sopra Minerva* is the only Gothic church in Rome and situated just round the corner from the Pantheon in the ancient district of Campus Martius. Its colourful rose windows shine on infamous Medici Popes entombed in imposing marble reliefs, the body of St Catherine of Siena lying enclosed in the altar and impressive renaissance chapels. Michelangelo's Christ the Redeemer finished in 1521 is located to the left of the main altar. It is a cultural feast for the eye with its endless art and architecture.

Look upwards and then, tucked away in the heights of the north transept is something else utterly magnificent. Below the arched vaulting painted blue as the night sky with golden stars sits the pipe organ. Actually, there are two. Two separate instruments are positioned directly across from one another in elaborate gilded baroque cases, however only one is still in use.

Constructed in the early 17th century, these two organs once engaged in an epic battle of antiphonal dialogue across the church, filling the Dominican Basilica with celestial harmonies.

Not so long ago, I ended up there. It was to my surprise that I found myself seated at the controls of

this powerful instrument only several weeks after I arrived in Rome. To get up to the loft I climbed winding stairs, opened time-worn doors, and trekked through a mini maze of medieval libraries. When I finally arrived, the height from ground level was dizzying and the size of the railings even more unsettling. I could hear the murmuring of the air rushing through the ancient pipes above me and the clicking sound of the mechanical trackers as I pushed down on the keys.

It was an unforgettable experience.

The organ of the Pontifical Scots College is more of a humble sort of pipe organ – complete with thirteen stops, two manuals and pedal – is nonetheless a formidable instrument. Assembled almost sixty years ago the actual pipes are not visible at first glance, but can be seen by

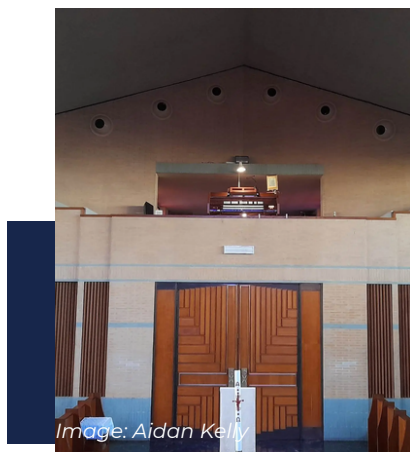


Image: Aidan Kelly

peering through slits on the wall on both sides of the main doors of the chapel.

It is a special privilege to have such an instrument in the place where you live, with more opportunity for practice, and it certainly provides for me an oasis of calm and refreshment from the busyness of daily life in Rome. It also serves as a peaceful reminder of home and the wonder of Scottish parish life where I grew up.

Among my duties as organist at the College are to accompany Sunday Mass and Solemn Vespers, and also the midweek evening Mass. Some of the highlights for me this year as the organist have been St Andrew's Day where I was able to accompany the magnificent choir of the Scots College, and then at the end of Mass the feeling of goosebumps as a packed church belted out the famous hymn to St Andrew When Christ our Lord to Andrew cried. Another high point was the Easter Vigil, which although involving much preparation and practice, was a great joy to accompany.

However, it occurred to me recently, these magnificent pipes have their own phenomenal stories to tell. They are the swirling psalms of thousands of celebrations of the Divine Office to the triumphal hymns of greatfestal Masses ever since the college was opened in 1964.

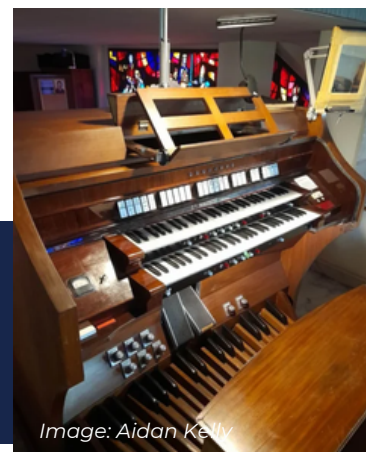


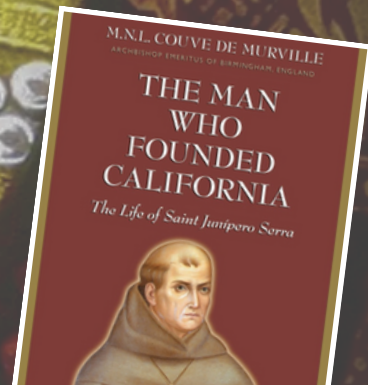
Image: Aidan Kelly

They tell story of endless visitors: from those who came to the canonization of St John Ogilvie in 1976 to sainted Popes Paul VI in 1964 and John Paul II in 1984. And countless students gone home to become priests for Scotland.

Mozart once titled the organ "King of the Instruments", yet it is so much more.

THE MAN WHO FOUNDED CALIFORNIA: THE LIFE OF SAINT JUNIPERO SERRA

Maurice Couve de Murville
Ignatius Press, 2015



by Fr Liam O'Connor

The Spanish Missions of Southern California form part of a continuing legacy, most obvious in the names of some of the most famous cities and towns: Santa Maria de Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego, were all settled by the Spanish and named in honour of the Virgin or the saints.

This book by the late Archbishop of Birmingham, Maurice Couve de Murville, explores the life of the most famous missionary to California, Saint Junipero Serra. Born in Mallorca in 1713, he became a Franciscan novice at seventeen and responded to a call to leave the academic world and embark on a mission across the globe to what was then, New Spain. He arrived first in what is now Mexico and then laboured in 'Baja' or Lower California.

To this day, we are aware of the importance of these missions, many of which still exist as parishes or shrines with their enchanting architecture. A mixture of Spanish and Mexican, often built in the Baroque style, following the example of the Jesuits and the precepts of the Council of Trent.

Impressive missions like San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo, San Luis Obispo, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Monica, and Santa Barbara are all worth visiting.

de Murville writes, "In 1749 Junipero Serra's life took an unexpected turn; he volunteered to go as a missionary to Mexico, because of the appeals being made to the Franciscans for help with this work."

Serra comments: "I have had no other motive but to revive in my soul those intense longings which I have had since my novitiate when I read the lives of the saints."

Announcing the faith to the indigenous peoples brought a myriad of challenges, yet in many respects great success and benefits to those people.

The specific context of the Spanish Mission system; where natives were invited to live and work in the mission; to receive baptism; and adapt to a new way of life; employing for the first-time agricultural methods is one that has been greatly criticised by modern day detractors. No doubt this would have dismayed Serra whose sole desire was to win souls for Christ.

Serra is recognised as the founder of California as the title of the book acknowledges, he was beatified in 1988 by Saint John Paul II and canonised by Pope Francis in 2015 in the National Basilica, Washington DC.

SCHOOLS



TWEETS



Masses and some Sunday Masses. In addition, news of the Motherwell NSSP has spread further afield and choirs have been invited to perform at the National Caritas Awards Ceremony in the Armadillo on 6th June and at PGDE Graduations at the University of Glasgow in Bute Hall on 19th June. Plans are also in place to include the choirs from all four schools at a special Mass in Our Lady of Good aid Cathedral on Thursday 15th June at 7pm and all are very welcome to attend.

The NSSP is generously funded by the Hamish Ogden Foundation and the diocese hope to expand this innovative project to include further schools during the next school year. If you would like to find out more about this project or would like to support this work, please email primaryre@rcdom.org.uk

The National School Singing Programme, a diocesan project which aims to promote evangelisation through music (especially choral singing), continues to go from strength to strength in four pilot schools. As well as weekly class-based singing lessons for hundreds of pupils from St Benedict's Primary, St Rose of Lima Primary, St Bridget's Primary and St Francis of Assisi Primary, Diocesan Choral director, James Greechan has now formed choirs from each of these schools who are now singing in their own parishes for First Communion, Confirmations, First Friday



@HTfernhill1953: Honouring our colleagues and alumni. Thank you to the @FernhillSchool families who supported the 'Family of Faith' project. A beautiful memorial garden in honour of Our Blessed Lady. #Values #Faith



@ChoralDoM: Congratulations to our newly appointed Head and Assistant-Head Choristers at @stfrancisoa!! Wonderful and committed young people who are a joy to make music with! Watch this space!

NEW MINI VINNIES

Saint Mary's Primary in Airdrie have some New Mini Vinnies who are keen to get to work in helping others!

Mini Vinnies are SSVP groups based in primary schools and are the youngest branch of our Vincentian family tree. They range from P4-P7 and meet together with a teacher who supports them.

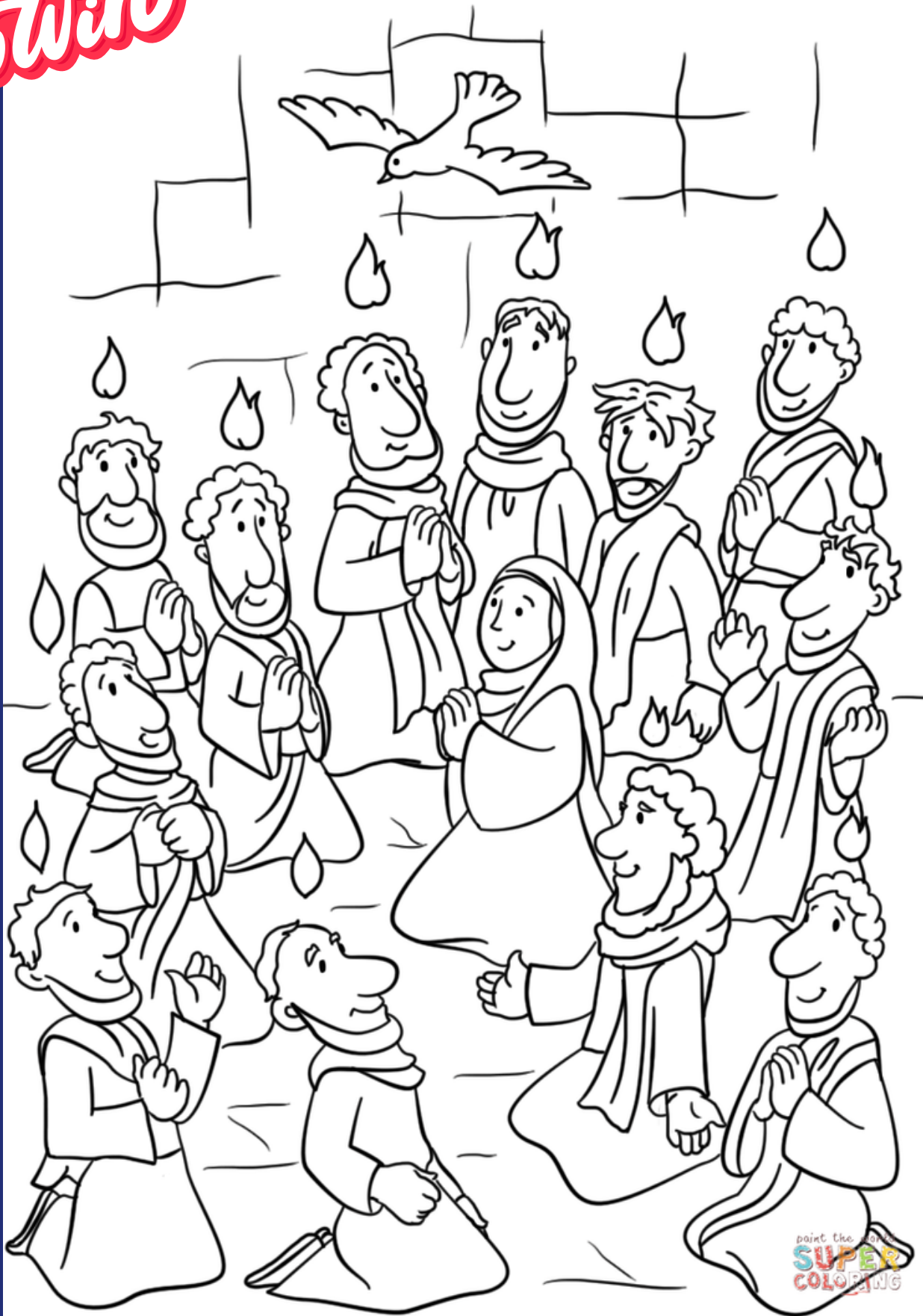
Mini Vinnies offer help through food bank drives, singing in care homes and raising money to support those in need in our community.



@SCambuslang: Today we celebrated the month of Our Lady with a Rosary outside @rcmotherwell.

Follow us: @rcmotherwell
@motherwellre

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ENTER OUR MONTHLY COMPETITION BY SIMPLY EMAILING
YOUR COLOURING IN TO [MEDIA@RCDOM.ORG.UK](mailto:media@rcdom.org.uk)
REMEMBER TO ASK AN ADULT TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY.

TRIBUTES POUR IN FOR WELL-RESPECTED PRIEST FR GEORGE DONALDSON



Since the news of the death of Fr George Donaldson on April 29, 2023, tributes have continued to pour in for this well-respected priest. Many priests have expressed their gratitude for his teaching and guidance, which they credit with inspiring them in their vocations. Others have spoken of his kindness, generosity, and unwavering commitment to the priesthood.

Fr George Donaldson was born on August 19th, 1937, and was ordained on April 9th, 1961, in Rome. He started his pastoral ministry as an Assistant Priest at Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral in Motherwell, where he served from 1961 to 1968.

Later, Fr George studied a Catechetics Course at Corpus Christi College in London from 1968 to 1969.

He then served as an Assistant Priest at St Mary's in Coatbridge from 1969 to 1972. Fr George was a professor of Moral Theology and taught in various Scottish seminaries, including St Peter's College in Cardross, Newlands, Chesters College in Bearsden, and Scotus College until 2000.

Fr George then became assistant Priest of St Bartholomew's in Coatbridge until his retirement on January 1st, 2011.

Fr George passed away on April 29th, 2023.

His Requiem Mass took place in Saint Augustine's, Coatbridge on Friday, 12 May 2023.

JUNE CLERGY ANNIVERSARIES

26.06.1953
11.06.1956
12.06.1967
27.06.1972
09.06.1974
28.06.1990
26.06.1991

Rev. Eugene Murray
Rev. Michael O'Brien
Rt. Rev. Bishop Edward Douglas
Rev. John Vincent Murray
Rt. Rev. Mgr. John Canon Rooney
Very Rev. George Canon Mullen
Rev. James McGlinchey

25.06.1992
03.06.2001
17.06.2001
20.06.2001
09.06.2004
03.06.2016

Very Rev. John Canon Moss
Rev. John McMurray
His Eminence Cardinal Thomas J Winning
Rev. John Joseph Delaney
Very Rev. Alphonsus Canon Woods
Very Rev. Michael Canon Ryan

May the Lord who chose them to serve Him as priests, number them among his chosen in heaven. Requiescant in Pace.



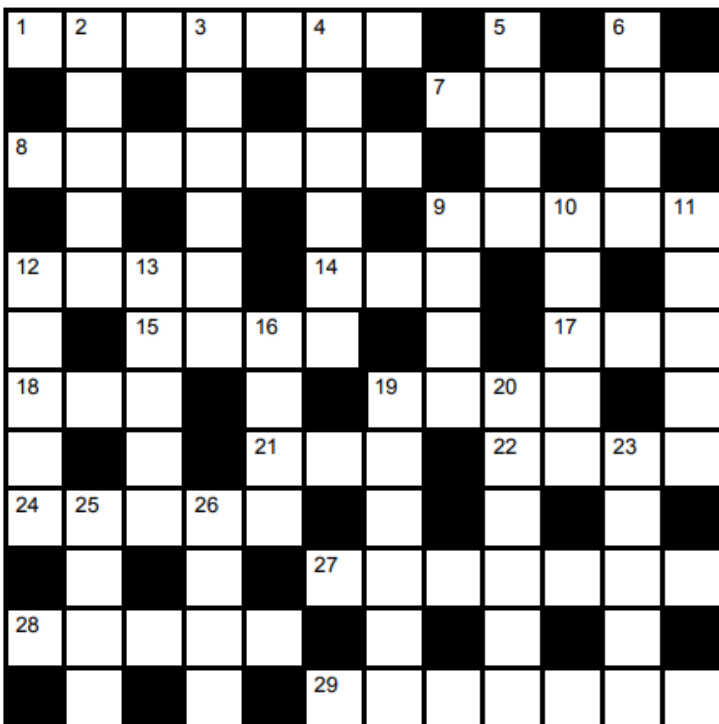
CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Story of Jesus (7)
- 7 Roman Procurator (5)
- 8 Early Christian city (7)
- 9 Propose (5)
- 12 Appeal (4)
- 14 Greater light (3)
- 15 Secret plan (4)
- 17 Pot (3)
- 18 Fire remnant (3)
- 19 Yoked pair (4)
- 21 Thief (3)
- 22 Lazy (4)
- 24 Walls (5)
- 27 Bathsheba, when David saw her (7)
- 28 Flat (5)
- 29 Loosening (7)

Down

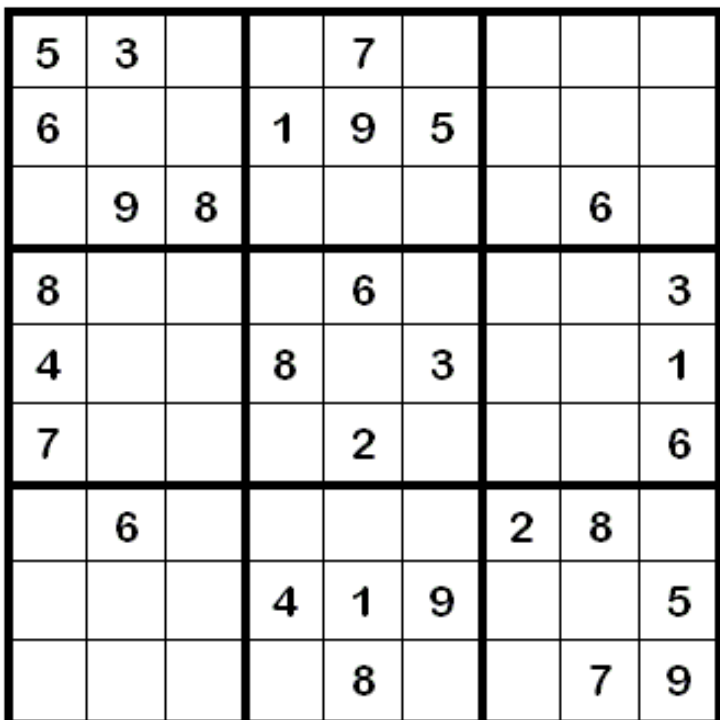
- 2 Bring to naught (5)
- 3 Ark passenger (6)
- 4 Pest (6)
- 5 Not hearing (4)
- 6 Last supper drink (4)
- 9 Precious stone (4)
- 10 Lost no more (5)
- 11 Run under water (5)
- 12 Talks to God (5)
- 13 Sacred vestment (5)
- 16 Belonging to us (4)
- 19 Acquire (6)
- 20 Moses' age when he spoke to Pharaoh (6)
- 23 Sheets (5)
- 25 Land in the water (4)
- 26 Wicked (4)



by Philologus

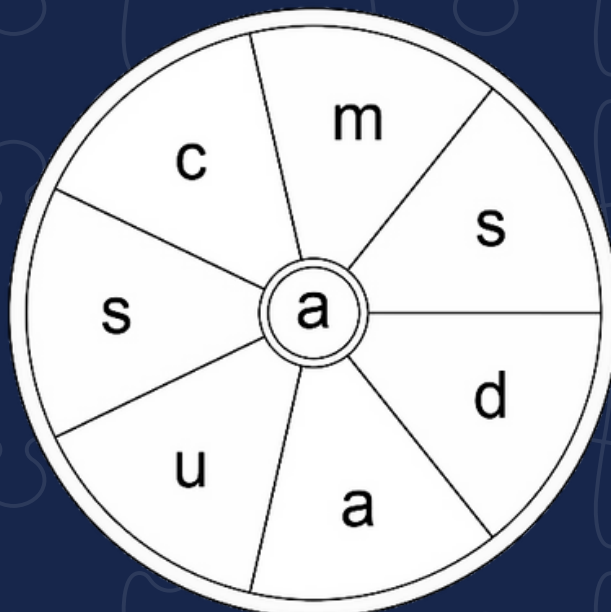
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SUDOKU



WORD WHEEL

Create as many words possible with the letters in the wordwheel. You can only use each letter once and every word must contain the letter in the centre of the wheel. Can you find the 8-letter word?





Marriage Preparation COURSES

Online booking is now open for couples preparing for marriage within the Catholic Church. Courses take place on Saturday from 10.30am - 3.00pm.

All courses take place at: Saint Augustine's Parish Centre, Coatbridge, ML5 1DQ

The dates for 2023/24 are as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| JUNE 10 2023 | SEPTEMBER 16 2023 | OCTOBER 28 2023 | JANUARY 20 2024 | FEBRUARY 17 2024 | MARCH 16 2024 | APRIL 20 2024 | JUNE 8 2024 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|

The course is £50 per couple and includes all course materials.

Book your course today at: www.marriagefamilylife.org

Please book only **ONE** day course. For more information, contact Fr Michael Kane from the Marriage and Family Life Agency: info@marriagefamilylife.org



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www.fertilitycare.org.uk
www.woombinternational.org



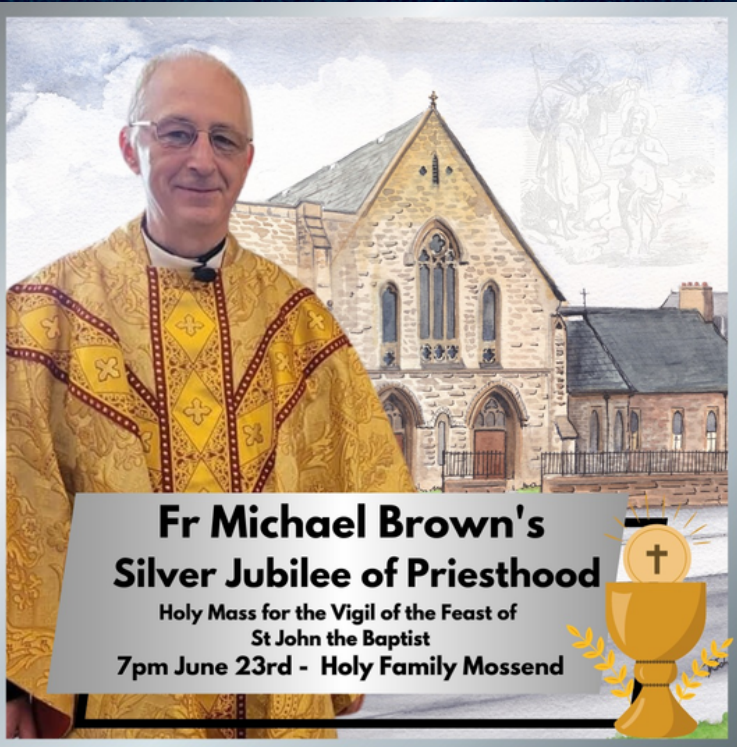
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MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.MARRIAGEFAMILYLIFE.ORG

AROUND THE DIOCESE



**Fr Michael Brown's
Silver Jubilee of Priesthood**

Holy Mass for the Vigil of the Feast of
St John the Baptist
7pm June 23rd - Holy Family Mossend



SOLEMN NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS

*with Rosary and Benediction
of the Blessed Sacrament*

**EACH WEDNESDAY
3rd MAY - 28th JUNE AT 7pm**

**ST. BRIDE'S PARISH CHURCH
EAST KILBRIDE**

*"in this Novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our lives."
-Pope Francis*



COATBRIDGE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

11 JUNE 2023 | 2.00PM

from St. Mary's Church, Whifflet to St. Augustine's Church, Dundyyan



ON SUNDAY, 11TH JUNE, WE WILL PROCESS WITH THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT FROM ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
WHIFFLET TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, DUNDYYAN.
EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME.
ALL FIRST COMMUNICANTS AND ALTAR SERVERS ARE
INVITED TO LEAD THE PROCESSION.

DIOCESE OF MOTHERWELL



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Carfin Lourdes Grotto

Scotland's National Marian Shrine

Pilgrimage Season 2023

MAY

Holy Rosary in the Grotto every night at 8pm - led by primary schoolchildren from the Diocese

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Saturday 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |
| Monday 29th | Feast of Mary Mother of the Church Holy Mass at 8.45pm in the Grotto (after Holy Rosary) |
| Wed 31st | Celebration in preparation of the Synod with Bishop Brian McGee |

JUNE

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday 4th | Legion of Mary Annual Thanksgiving Mass 3.00pm followed by Rosary Procession and Benediction |
| Sunday 11th | HCPT Annual Thanksgiving Mass |
| Tuesday 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |
| Friday 16th | Pioneers - Sacred Heart Mass at 7.30pm |
| Sunday 18th | Ukrainian Pilgrimage |
| Sunday 25th | Motherwell Lourdes Hospitalite Pilgrimage Mass at 3.00pm |

JULY

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Thursdsy 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |
|---------------|---|

AUGUST

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |
| Tuesday 15th | Feast of the Assumption Holy Mass at 1.00pm with Anointing of the Sick (Parish Church) |
| Sunday 27th | Polish Pilgrimage |

SEPTEMBER

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Sunday 3rd | National Pilgrimage (Prayer for peace in Ukraine) Holy Mass at 3.00pm |
| Wednesday 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |
| Saturday 23rd | SVDP Family Day |

OCTOBER

Holy Rosary in the Grotto every night at 8pm - led by secondary schoolchildren from the Diocese

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Sunday 1st | Little Flower Sunday Torchlight Procession at 8.00pm |
| Sunday 8th | Rosary Sunday Torchlight Procession at 8.00pm |
| Friday 13th | Legion of Mary Monthly Pilgrimage Rosary Procession at 7.30pm, Holy Mass at 8.00pm followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament |



For more information please visit

www.carfingrotto.org

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