



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL & ST ANDREW'S, RAVELSTON

Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – YEAR A
Sunday 7th June 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Holy Day	Fr. Patrick	Fr. Jamie
Sunday 7 th		Mr. John F. Miller (RIP)	Joseph Gilhooley (RIP)
Monday 8 th		People of the Parish	Adela & Stanislaw Michta (RIP)
Tuesday 9 th	St Columba	Clare Carroll	Andrew & Rosemary Milligan
Wednesday 10 th		Donald Macdonald (RIP)	Dordie Shanahan (RIP)
Thursday 11 th	St Barnabas	Special Intention	Msgr. Reilly
Friday 12 th		Paul Grant (RIP)	John & Malcolm Reville (RIP)
Saturday 13 th	St Anthony of Padua	Mrs. J. Krzyzanawska (RIP)	Roderick Gillespie (RIP)

“May the angels lead them to Paradise...” Please pray for the repose of the soul of Alice Casey, who died recently. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Alessandra Torelli, a former parishioner of the Cathedral, who recently died in Milan, Italy.

Please keep in your prayers the following people and those who care for them: David Aitken, Vittoria Alongi, Margaret Brennan, Barbara Carmichael, Gloria Crolla, Monica Davidson, Mary Foster, Thomas Kerr, Colette Loir, Francesca Maccagnano, Rose Maughan, Patsy McArthur, William McNair, James McManus, Janette Myles, Mary Nicholson, Theresa Nihill, Kevin Riley, Dolores Storrar, James Robertson, Pat Robson, Bridget Sweeney and Mary Turnbull.

Baptisms & Marriages Following the guidelines from the civil authorities, all baptism and weddings are suspended. To book a baptism or a wedding later in the year, please contact the Parish Office.

Hospital Chaplains To contact the hospital chaplains, please phone 07970 537 432 for Western General and 0131 536 1000 for the Royal Infirmary and ask for the priest on call.

Collections After the cancellation of all public Masses, the Parish has no longer any income from collections. Thank you to those of you who have moved to standing orders to help support the running costs of the Parish during this time! To set up a standing order, please contact Caroline Reid at finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk.

PARISH OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL & ST ANDREW'S, RAVELSTON

The Parish Office can be contacted on 0131 556 1798 or cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk
In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please do not visit the office in person at the moment.

Postal Address: Cathedral House, 61 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD
Website: www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk

Parish Clergy: Monsignor Patrick Burke (Administrator)
Father Jamie McMorris (Assistant Priest)
Father Tadeusz Puton (Polish Chaplain)
Father Ephraim Ezulike, Father Jinse Thomas, Father John Peter Sippai Siluvappan (In Residence)
Deacon Peter Traynor (Permanent Deacon)

Parish Secretary: Sister Mary Simone, RSM cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk Tel: 0131 556 1798
Finance Officer: Caroline Reid finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk Tel: 0131 523 0101
Complex Manager: Andy Hilton complexmanager@stmaryscathedral.co.uk
Director of Music: Michael Ferguson directorofmusic@stmaryscathedral.co.uk
Safeguarding: Chris McCabe chris.mccabe@staned.org.uk

SOME THOUGHTS FOR TRINITY SUNDAY

No matter what you have heard, it is not so hard to understand the Trinity. Simply think back to the great story we have been celebrating for many weeks.

God the Father invited people on earth to a lasting and loving relationship with him and with each other. “I want to be your God and I want you to be my people. My love for you is tender and precious. Won’t you love me in return?”

Some understood and entered into the agreement. Abraham, Isaac, Moses, Elijah, Elisha, just to begin the list. But they and the rest of us humans kept choosing things easier to grab, like money and honours—barns full of them.

Our refusal of God’s love became widespread. How did God react to such rejection?

“My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. For your sake I scourged your captors and their first-born sons, but you brought your scourges down on me! My people, answer me.”

God tried a new and quite brilliant way. “Since I am all love and nothing but love, I will go out to them totally. As love does, I will become one of them. I will live humanity to its depths, and they will see love spelled out.”

So, God was born as a human called Jesus. He was the heart of God, now made flesh. One with the Father but different as well. And so, the world knew about two persons in one God.

Jesus told people to love God above all things and their neighbours as themselves. But many human beings had been hurt and betrayed, living with their own selfishness and greed, as well as their mixed-up motives, co-existing motives with those of others too. Love can get lost in such a world.

It was into this ocean of cruelty and loss that God the Son plunged. He plunged all the way down to death. It was a display of the most profound nature of God’s love.

To that point the disciples knew only two parts of God, Jesus and his Father. So, before he left, Christ said this to them (paraphrase):

“Philip, and the rest of you, if you know me you know the Father. He is in me fully, and after I go back I will make a home in you by sending the Holy Spirit. This Comforter will be the very love that I and the Father have for each other and for you. That way I will be with you until the end of time!”

He was talking about the third person of the Trinity, which nestles close to our souls if we let it. Only if we let it. The Holy Spirit is graceful and deep and comforting, like a blanket in cold winter. It is the love between the Father and Son.

So how can God interact with us in these three very different ways?

By being “plural,” that is, by being three “persons.” How can three be one? By not letting the number three be a divider but a plus sign. All three, in a great dynamic of love, are so close to one another that they are One God.

John Foley, SJ

Preparing for Reopening our Churches –

Volunteers Needed

As you know, the First Minister has announced that in Phase II of the Relaxation of Lockdown Churches will reopen for private prayer, as well as for Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals. Although we are not yet certain when Phase II of the Relaxation will begin – the First Minister has indicated that (all things going well) it will be on or around 18th June.

In order to prepare for the re-opening of the Churches we have purchased supplies of Hand Sanitiser, disinfectant wipes and face masks. We will also mark up the Churches and organise a deep clean. All this we can organise from Cathedral House.

The one thing that we really do need is volunteers to act as Church Attendants when the Churches are open. This is mandated by the guidelines. The role of these attendants will just be to ensure that people are wearing a face mask before entering the Churches, that they maintain physical distancing while in the Cathedral and that they observe the “one way system” in and out of the Cathedral.

We are planning, at least initially, to open the Cathedral from 12-6pm daily and Ravelston from 10-12noon Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. But obviously we can only do this if we get enough volunteers – who need to be between 18 and 70 years old and in good health.

Would you be able to help?

If so – please contact Sr. Mary Simone at the Parish Office either by phone (Mon-Fri 11am-4pm) or by email cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk

We will then put you in touch with the volunteer co-ordinator who will draw up the rotas and guidelines. You need to let us know which days and at what times you would be available to volunteer.

Thank you so much – Fr. Patrick

Lockdown Reading List – works for Phase 1 as well!

At Sunday Mass recently I promised to make recommendations for lockdown reading. The Pastoral Team have now put together a list of the books that we have been reading recently and those that have made an impact on us to help you through these strange days. We have made some difficult choices to narrow the number down to five each and they are in no particular order – but we hope you will enjoy them! The reading list can be found at: www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk/reading

Scotland’s Catholic Bishops finalise plans to reopen churches

The Bishops’ Conference of Scotland has finalised its proposed infection control standards which will govern the reopening of parishes and confirmed that they have sent their guidelines to the Scottish Government. Commenting on the progress being made towards parish reopening, the President of the Bishops’ Conference, Bishop Hugh Gilbert, said:

“A great deal of work has been done to provide guidance and support to clergy as they prepare for the phased reopening of our parishes. The guidelines have been prepared to reflect advice given in the Scottish Government’s Route Map on the gradual removal of restrictions. The Bishops’ Conference continue to engage with the Scottish Government and have today (Wednesday 3 June) sent a copy of the guidance document to them.”

“We would hope to be able to issue our infection control and liturgical guidelines within the coming week. They will highlight the fact that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains dispensed until further notice and everyone is asked to consider carefully whether or not they should return in the early phases. We are mindful of our duty of care to elderly clergy and lay people, which together with social distancing reductions in capacity will mean that the availability of Mass may reduce in some areas.”

“We are asked, in the words of Pope Francis to show “wisdom, foresight, and common commitment, so that all the efforts and sacrifices made so far will not be in vain”. In the hope that this pandemic will “stimulate our creativity, our ingenuity, and our ability to respond”, in a way that helps us “on the path of praise of the Lord and service to our brothers and sisters”.”

Daily Mass livestreamed from Cathedral House

Each day, we publish one of the private Masses in Cathedral House, where we pray for our parishioners, mass intentions and an end to the spread of coronavirus. To please visit our Facebook page, or watch a recording of the Mass at www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk/filming.

Be a voice for the unborn by supporting the Archdiocese's Pro-Life team

This weekend, we are being asked to choose life and help the unborn by supporting the work of the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, which continues during the coronavirus crisis. The Office is still receiving calls from expectant mothers and your donations will enable our team of volunteers to support these women during and after their pregnancy. The Day for Life collection is the main source of funds for the office, and the funds are very much needed, so thank you for your support during this time!

You can donate online at [https://donor.secure-](https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2&hidden_amount=&amount=&reference=LIFE)

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or send a cheque to: "Pro-Life Office, Archdiocesan Offices, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB" (please make cheques payable to 'Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh').

Fabric Works in the Cathedral

Thanks to the donations from very generous parishioners, we have been able to utilise this time when the churches are closed to complete the essential work of installing a fire detection system in the Cathedral – which it has never previously had! This work included installing high level smoke detection in the Cathedral upper roof spaces, for which we had to rent a Mobile Elevated Working Platform. This meant that we were also able to clean the upper nave circular window surrounds, which were very dirty from years of dust and candle smoke. The difference is quite remarkable – we look forward to showing it to you once the Cathedral opens again! Once again, thank you so much to some of our parishioners whose generous donations enables us to continue to care for our beloved Cathedral!

Why Faith and Science Belong Together - Faraday Institute Summer Course June 2020

Faith and science are often seen as uncomfortable bed-fellows. However, this has not always been so. In this series of webinars we examine the ways in which Faith and Science speak to each other in contemporary society and explore the theological and ethical issues which this dialogue raises. We aim to show that there is a better story to be told about faith and science than the prevalent one of conflict and mutual distrust. Each day, from Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July we shall be hosting two or three webinars each day given by an array of international speakers highly qualified in their individual fields. There will also be some opportunity for on-line discussion.

It is completely free to attend and open to anyone, anywhere, who is interested. You are free to join us for as much or as little of our programme as you wish. For more information, see

www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/event/telling-a-better-story-why-faith-and-science-belong-together/.

Alcoholics Anonymous Goes Online During COVID-19 Pandemic

Alcoholics Anonymous members are coping with the Covid-19 pandemic by taking their meetings online. The majority of groups have turned to Zoom, Skype and other online platforms to hold their weekly meetings. In Edinburgh and Midlothian there are currently 45 online AA meetings. These can be accessed via our local website at: <https://aa-edinburgh.org.uk/online-meetings/>. Where any meeting is shown as CLOSED only AA members and newcomers with a desire to stop drinking can join. Where a meeting is shown as OPEN anyone with a genuine interest in AA and how it works can join. These would typically be health professionals, those supporting problem drinkers in the community and family members affected by someone's drinking. Alcoholics Anonymous runs a national telephone helpline as well as an online 'chat now'service for the suffering alcoholic to receive help and an email response service. Since the outbreak calls to the help line have gone up by 22 per cent and calls to the 'chat now' service have risen by 31 per cent. For help contact www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk or call our 24 hour helpline on 0800 9177 650.

Are You Applying for Jobs? - LINKnet Can Help

LINKnet Mentoring is the only mentoring organisation in Edinburgh and the Lothians that helps minority ethnic individuals to get jobs, go into further education or to personally develop. When you apply for a job, we can help you develop a good application and CV, prepare you for interviews, give you advice and raise your awareness on other essential areas of the job seeking process. Due to the COVID 19 crisis all LINKnet services are now provided using online methods. If you are looking for help please contact R. Dissanayaka through email: volunteers@linknetmentoring.com or phone 0131 225 7970. This project is funded by the PEC Fund and the ALEC fund of the Scottish Government

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