

KINDLY REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the Sick especially: Fernando M. A. Menoscal, Orla Rose McMullen; Mary Francis Chance; Isa Keatings; Enrique Menoscal Valarezo; Nazia McNulty; Dora Menoscal.

Deaths: John Heffernan – Mosshall Street; Margaret Allen (Orr); Fr Des Broderick; Nan Fagan; Rita McKay; Brian McCardie.

Months Minds: .

Anniversaries: Peter Molloy; Hugh McGlynn; Mary Cassells; James Cassells; Joe Irvine.



POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION – May:

For the Formation of Religious, Monks, Nuns, and Seminarians

The Pontiff urges prayers “so that religious, monks, nuns, and seminarians may grow in their vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual, and communal formation, leading them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.”



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Takes place at the 10.00am Mass on Sunday

'Offertory' collection(s)

The Box at the entrance of the Church: last weekend – 27th/28th April - £787.27. Thank you once again to everyone who contributes to the Offertory Collections using the Box at the Entrance to the Church and to all those who make payments direct to the Parish Bank Account.

Hire of Parish Hall

To hire the Parish Hall please contact Joe Mullen on 01698 860015.

Our Lady of Fatima – 1st Saturday Devotion

The next Devotion will take place on Saturday 1st June 2024 at 9.00am.

Parish Stall

A selection of gifts and cards in Celebration of First Holy Communion are available from the Parish Stall located in the Entrance/Porch of the Church. Also, a selection of other items for children and adults including rosary beads, prayer books, devotional candles, mass and other types of cards and many other items to help us all on our journey of faith and our life of prayer.



St. Teresa's R.C. Church

Address: Benford Avenue, Newarthill, ML1 5BE
 Telephone: 01698 832920
 Email: stteresa@rcdom.org.uk
 Parish website: www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk
 Facebook: St Teresa's Church, Newarthill
 Parish Priest: Rev. Kevin Lawrie
A Scottish Registered Charity No. 011041

**6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
 5th May 2024**

Day and Date	Times	Mass and/or other
Sunday 5 th May	10:00am 12.00noon 5.00pm	Mass Mass (Live-streamed on Facebook) May Devotions – Rosary and Benediction
Monday 6 th May	9.00am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary Mass
Tuesday 7 th May	9.00am 9.30am	Rosary Mass
Wednesday 8 th May	9.00am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary Mass
Thursday 9 th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	9:00am 9.30am 6.00pm 7.00pm	Rosary Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass
Friday 10 th May <i>St John of Avila</i>	9.00am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary Mass
Saturday 11 th May	9:30am 11.00am 4.30pm	Mass Celebration of 1 st Holy Communion Vigil Mass

Confessions

Confessions this week will be available on Thursday between 6.30pm and 6.50pm.



Thank you to all those who attended the meeting as part of Project Wellspring on Wednesday 17th April at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall.

At the meeting as well as reviewing the matters that had been discussed at the two previous meetings those present discussed both a Parish Vision and a Parish Priest's Vision for the Parish.

Subsequently, the following one Vision was expressed:

“To sustain and grow our parish into the future through the continued practice of our faith while encouraging more people to join us. At all times to utilise the skills and abilities of all members of the Parish community. Also, to ensure the Church and all buildings are maintained and kept in a state suitable for use including prayer and the spreading of the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

Work is ongoing to prepare a questionnaire to ascertain the views of as many parishioners as possible with regard to the 5 Missions. Subsequently, the information obtained would be used to build upon the statements contained in the Wellspring documentation from the Diocese of Motherwell. Other analysis of current activities in the Parish including numbers attending Masses, number of Baptisms, as well as, financial information to help with future planning and provision of activities within the Parish will be undertaken.

The next meeting for Project Wellspring will take place this Wednesday 8th May at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall.

Missionary Appeal

It was nice to welcome The Sisters of St Peter Claver last weekend who made a Missionary Appeal as part of the missionary work they do. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2nd Collection which totalled - £1002.73.

Parish Social Events

The following further social events that are planned to take place in the Parish over the rest of the year:

a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 1st Holy Communicants on Sunday 2nd June at 10.00am Mass followed by a 'celebration' in the Parish Hall;

a social event on Saturday 8th June, including live music, to raise funds for Mary's Meals;

a Parish fun day on Saturday 22nd June in and at the side of the Parish Hall 11.00am – 1.00pm;

60's night on Saturday 21st September;

Race night – date to be confirmed: and

'Tea with Santa' – 5th December. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

May Devotions

Starting this Sunday – 5th May, Devotions - The Rosary and Benediction, will take place on the Sundays in May at 5.00pm as we ask the intercession of Our Blessed Lady for all our intentions and those of the world, including the dignity of human life, for world peace and the work of Mary's Meals.

The Ascension of the Lord

Thursday of this week – 9th May is the Solemnity of The Ascension of the Lord. This is a Holyday of Obligation, Masses will be celebrated at the normal times for a Thursday, 9.30am and 7.00pm.

Celebration of First Holy Communion

This Saturday, 11th May at 11.00am, children of the Parish will receive their First Holy Communion. We continue to keep all the children and their families in our prayers as they continue to prepare for this very special day in their lives.

Diocesan Prolife Mass

Thank you to all those parishioners who came along last Tuesday 30th April at 7.00pm at St Teresa's to pray for all activities associated with Prolife. It was great to see so many people come along to the Mass. Further dates for a monthly Mass for Life will be published in due course. A reminder that the Mass for Life is part of the activities being organised by the Diocese of Motherwell Beating Heart Group. This Group has been established to provide activities, including practical support where needed, to ensure all aspects of Prolife are helped and supported.

World Communications Day

Next Sunday – 12th May is World Communications Day. This is day when we are asked to pray for all those involved in communicating the Good News of Jesus Christ including the teachings of the Church. A second collection will also take place to assist with this work.

Coffee and Tea after Sunday 10.00am Mass

Teas, coffees and all will take place this Sunday 5th May after the 10.00am Mass. Thank you once again to all those who volunteer to provide home baking and provide the teas, coffees and all.

A tombola for children and adults will take place during the teas, coffees and all, with monies raised going to Mary's Meals. Thank you to all those who donated prizes for the tombola.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic and/or learning more about the Catholic Faith

Do you know someone, or perhaps you are interested in becoming a Catholic. Or perhaps you are, or you may know of someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. If this applies to you or you know of someone, please speak with or ask the person to speak with Fr Kevin.

THE 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

5th May 2024

Pentecost Celebration

A Pentecost Celebration supporting the work of the Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers) in Carfin is taking place on Friday 24th May 7.30pm till late in The Little Flower Hall, Carfin. Entertainment and Bar. Tickets £5.

St Vincent De Paul Society – St Francis Xavier’s Conference Carfin

The St Francis Xavier’s Conference Carfin of the St Vincent De Paul Society have contacted Fr Kevin to advise that they’re willing to offer assistance to anyone from St Teresa’s Parish or anyone we may know of who may require assistance. The contact details are: Denis - 07484 100632 or Hugh - 07801 495448 or by contacting Fr Kevin.

Job Vacancy: Parish Director of Evangelisation

St John the Baptist Parish, Uddingston is looking to employ a director of evangelisation with a particular focus on youth and young people on a full-time basis. Further details can be found on the Parish website: www.saintjohnbaptist.org

Open House Conference 2024 – SCOTLAND’S SYNODAL JOURNEY

A Conference is being held in Eyre Hall, 196 Clyde Street, Glasgow, on Saturday 8 June 2024. The purpose of the Conference is “A conversation about becoming a synodal church.” See poster at the entrance of the Chapel.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage Oct’24.

Fr Ivan Boyle, Parish Priest at St John the Baptist Parish, Uddingston will be leading pilgrims through a week-long visit to Medjugorje. 13th-20th Oct. If you would like to know more information, please contact Maureen Dynes 07737 673930.

Assisted Suicide – Called to Care, Not to Kill - Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill

As we know, the Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill was published during Holy Week by Liam McArthur MSP and put before the Scottish Parliament. We continue to pray that this Bill will not become law in Scotland and we are all encouraged to make our MSPs aware that this Bill is not required and is not supported in Scotland.

The Catholic Parliamentary Office in Scotland have now made available an online resource to support public engagement with the process of parliamentary scrutiny. This resource can be used to allow you to contact your MSPs today to stop assisted suicide becoming legal in Scotland. Use the QR code to access an online resource, including guidance on contacting your MSPs. You can also visit rcpolitics.org/assistedsuicide or email them at office@rcpolitics.org for more information.

Further copies of the letter included in last weekend’s Bulletin are available at the entrance to the Church just in case anyone didn’t manage to get one.



Diocese of Motherwell
Beating Heart Group Presents
**EUTHANASIA,
ASSISTED SUICIDE**
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
TUESDAY, 7TH MAY 2024 | 7PM
ST. BRIDE'S HALL, MOTHERWELL
COURSINGTON ROAD, MOTHERWELL, ML1 1PP
register now
Guest Speaker
Dr. Gordon MacDonald
Care Not Killing
Chief Executive
care NOT KILLING

Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide: What You Need to Know

A talk is taking place this Tuesday, 7th May, at 7pm. The talk is titled Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide: What You Need to Know. The talk is being held at St. Bride's Hall in Motherwell at 7.00pm. Everyone is very welcome. Tea/coffee will be served afterward. The talk is being given by Dr. Gordon MacDonald, CEO of Care Not Killing. See poster at the entrance to the Chapel.



Cut Off from Me, You Can Do Nothing

Called to Care, Not to Kill – a Pastoral Letter on Assisted Suicide

In the parable of the Vine and the Branches, Jesus teaches us that we are one community, one family and one society. We live in a world where any one of our decisions affects all of us. We are all brothers and sisters with responsibility to each other.

Living out our responsibilities for each other in our families, many of us will have had first-hand experience of being with loved ones as they passed from this world. It can be a harrowing and difficult experience, but it can also be a precious time of shared love and memories.

In the context of our responsibilities as a wider society, we are grateful to the medical, nursing and care staff who support our loved ones in their last weeks, days and hours. Sadly, however, palliative care is underfunded and limited in Scotland, and our Parliament should focus its energies on improving palliative care rather than on contemplating assisted suicide or euthanasia.

The private member's bill to introduce assisted suicide for those aged sixteen and over, recently published in the Scottish Parliament, amounts to a rejection of the common responsibility we owe to each other and to those who are ill and dying.

Campaigners call it 'assisted dying' when what is really meant is assisted suicide. Palliative care and the process by which families and communities accompany and support those in the final moments of their lives is what we all usually mean by assisted dying. What is now being proposed is that doctors hand a lethal concoction of drugs to a patient to kill themselves. It is a direct, intentional action to end the patient's life and truly crosses a Rubicon in Scotland.

In countries where assisted suicide has been legalised, palliative care provision has stalled and hospices which refuse to offer assisted suicide have had their funding cut or stopped altogether, including Catholic hospices. This is perhaps why three quarters of our palliative care doctors in Scotland said they would refuse to participate in assisted suicide, and just under half said they would resign if they were required to administer it. These are the very specialists who deal with our brothers and sisters at the end of their lives and who assure us that their care can cope with the suffering their patients experience.

We trust our doctors to be concerned for our life, health and wellbeing and we do not want to think of them being put into the position of raising the question with our loved ones of whether they would be better off dead. Killing is not medical treatment.

Countries where assisted suicide or euthanasia has been legalised have seen safeguards eroded, and many have expanded eligibility criteria to now include people with arthritis, anorexia, autism and dementia. Even little children are being euthanised in these countries that are not so different from our own. The experience of these countries shows that assisted suicide is almost immediately uncontrollable.

At a time when suicide is on the rise in Scotland and we are doing our best to reduce it, what message are we sending to those who are vulnerable when we say that suicide is okay provided it is overseen by a doctor? Laws like this normalise suicide and send a message that some people are beyond hope.

Assisted suicide, which allows us to kill our brothers and sisters, takes us down a dangerous spiral that always puts at risk the most vulnerable members of our society, including the elderly, the disabled, and those who struggle with mental health. All those in fact who cannot stand up for themselves. It is little wonder the Glasgow Disability Alliance has said the assisted suicide proposal sends a message to disabled people that they are a burden and puts pressure on them to make a choice to die.

That is why it is no surprise that in Oregon, consistently around half of those who choose assisted suicide do so because they feel that they are a burden on their families or on their communities and healthcare system. When vulnerable people, including the elderly and disabled, express concerns about being a burden, the appropriate response is not to suggest that they have a duty to die; rather, it is to commit to meeting their needs and providing the care and compassion they need to help them live.

When our society is already marked by so many inequalities, we do not need assisted suicide to put intolerable pressure on our most disadvantaged who do not have a voice in this debate.

Implicit in assisted suicide is the suggestion that an individual, in certain circumstances, can lose their value and worth. However, as stated in the Church's recent declaration on Human Dignity, *Dignitas Infinita*, "even in its sorrowful state, human life carries a dignity that must always be upheld" and there are "no circumstances" under which human life could lose its dignity and "be put to an end".

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland urges the Catholic community to contact MSPs, urging them to work collaboratively to improve palliative care, and to reject the dangerous proposal to legalise assisted suicide, which would devalue life and put immense pressure on the most vulnerable to end their lives prematurely.

We are called to care, not to kill.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

- + Hugh Gilbert, President, Bishop of Aberdeen
- + John Keenan, Vice President, Bishop of Paisley
- + Brian McGee, Episcopal Secretary, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles
- + Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh
- + William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow
- + Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell
- + Frank Dougan, Bishop of Galloway