

The Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Next **Thursday** is August 15th and is the celebration of **The Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady**, her most important feast day in the calendar of the Catholic Church. The parish has been praying a Novena (nine days of prayer) in preparation for this great Feast Day. Masses will be celebrated at **09.30** and then at **7.00** in the evening. At **11.00 a.m.** Fr Bergin will represent the Diocese at the Council buildings in Motherwell remembering the former prisoners of war of the Japanese. **August 15th** marks the surrender of the Japanese Imperial Forces following the dropping of two atomic bombs.

On **Friday 16th August** all the Church windows will be cleaned both inside and out in preparation for the visit of the relics of our patron Saint on the evening of Thursday the 29th August.

We have spoken so much about the visit of the **Relics of St Teresa to Scotland**. Although the Grotto at Carfin is the major venue for the devotions that weekend we will be doing our **best to celebrate with St Therese** and make her presence real and personal. Fr Bergin is very aware that the people are continually being asked to give and give and give. However, would it be possible to hold a collection next weekend (**17 and 18th August**) to raise a substantial amount for flowers and for candles to be burnt during the time of her visit to our Diocese? Could families have a chat and make a family gift remembering especially our dear departed family members as well.

From **this weekend** parishioners will be able to bring **sealed Petitions to St Therese** and place them in front of the sanctuary. These will rest there while the relics are in church. The petitions will be removed after the Relics leave Carfin. They will be read by no one and finally burnt with Holy Oils as an offering to St Therese and Almighty God. **Please do not place any money in the sealed envelopes.**

While the relics of **St Therese** are with us there be the opportunity to keep **Vigil throughout the night**. For very obvious reasons we cannot simply leave the Relics unattended. A list is going to be available from next weekend. Parishioners who wish to '**Keep watch with St Therese**' will be able to add their names. There will also be liturgy throughout the night. This will include specially composed **Rosary Meditations, Prayers** and **texts** compiled for the occasion.

FIFTH CATECHESIS ON SAINT THERESE.

There can be a tendency for **Catholics** to imagine that their saints were freed from all the annoyances and irritations that pepper our daily lives. Such portrayals of the saints are often completely inaccurate. Freud once said that **therapy ends when when we start dealing with our problems and they stop dealing with us!** There is a lesson here. We may never overcome the battles of life but staying in and **facing up to them** is what matters. At her beatification process, Pauline, Therese's sister, said that Therese was just as sensitive as anyone else in the Convent to the things that were **simply annoying**. She never got beyond these but she found the strength to deal with them and that is a message of hope for us as well. It would seem that our growth in Holiness does not mean we will always change our feelings. Therese found her fellow nuns just as irritating as anyone else! She talks about a **Sister Therese of St Augustine** whom she had 'a natural antipathy towards'. She called her 'a potted lily' because she found her so so rigid and stiff in personality. These words were spoken during the final months of her life, so it would seem she never managed to change her feelings about this nun. Instead she did something else. **She chose to love her** and that was not always easy. Sometimes we may feel these people do not deserve or even want our love. Therese said, 'I told myself that charity was not consistent in feelings but in works. Therefore, I set about doing for this sister everything I would do for anyone I loved the most'. Have you ever considered that the person you feel the greatest anger towards may be the person through whom **God wants you to grow in charity and kindness?** That person may be the most important one in your spiritual life. There were times Therese actually removed herself from this woman's presence by leaving the room! **She knew her limitations**. That nun enabled Therese to grow in goodness. Don't imagine that Convents and Monasteries are havens of blissful co-existence. It is not always the case. And isn't family life often like that? The perfect family has not been invented yet nor, as Therese Martin discovered, has the perfect Convent. It seems that is the way that God makes it yet incredible things manage to happen and wonderful people manage to blossom. **Thank God for that.**

A Prayer For The Week

Welcome, Therese, to Scotland's soil today,
Come to remind us of your 'Little Way'.
Teach us the secrets of Christ's love and grace
Learned though His Childhood and His Holy Face.

Love and faith were the driving force:
God's Merciful Love - poured on your soul -
Drew your childlike heart on course:
Surrender so pure and whole.

Called to a life of dedicated prayer,
Daily you offered all you had and were:
Nothing too small to give Him, joy or pain,
Wandering hearts to Jesus' love to gain.

When the clouds gathered heavily,
All joy and light...disappeared.
Holding fast with fidelity,
You steadily persevered.

Response to the Psalm:

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as His own

Month's Mind: Catherine Keatings, Annie McVoy,
Anniversary of: Romain Cullion, Liam Forrester, Lachie MacNeil,
Elizabeth Gallagher, Elizabeth Boyle, Tommy McGarry, Lawrence
McGarry, Thomas McGarry, Nellie Warrington, Jimmy Kelly
Birthday Remembrance: Sadie Gallagher,

Attendances: 183, Collection: £640
Thank you to the parish for their generosity.



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Revd W. G. Bergin

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A Scottish Registered Charity No. 11041

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Weekly Schedule	Time	Intention
Sunday 11th Aug	10:00am 4:00pm	Elizabeth Boyle Novena in Preparation for the Assumption
Monday 12th Aug <i>St Blane</i>	9:05am 9:30am 1:30pm	Novena in Preparation for the Assumption Elizabeth Gallagher and Liam Forrester Mass in the State Hospital - Jack Meehan
Tues 13th Aug <i>St Pontian & St Hippolytus</i>	9:05am 9:30am	Novena in Preparation for the Assumption Romain Cullion
Wed 14th Aug <i>St Maximilian Kolbe</i>	9:05am 9:30am	Novena in Preparation for the Assumption Lachie MacNeil
Thurs 15th August <i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9:30am 11:00am 1:55pm 7:00pm	Margaret McAnaw and Nellie Warrington Civic Service in Motherwell School Mass at John Ogilvie - Thomas McGarry Lachie MacNeil
Friday 16th August <i>St Stephen of Hungary</i>	9:05am 9:30am	Devotions in Honour of St Therese Jimmy Kelly
Saturday 17th Aug	4:00pm 4:30pm	Holy Rosary Tommy McGarry and Lawrence McGarry

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 17th August	C Scullion	Holiday Time !
Sunday 18th August	E Smith	Holiday Time !