

## *The Second Sunday of Lent*

The **second Sunday in Lent** is with us. How has your first week gone? Keep in mind the three traditional Lenten practices: **prayer, fasting and almsgiving**. Remember that the word Lent is derived from the old English word 'lenten' meaning 'springtime'. Lent is just as much about positive growth through practical action than just giving up things or doing without. Our parish liturgies both before and during Mass have displayed great prayer fulness and our morning Masses in school have been a delight. Young scholars will continue to present the Word of God during our Sunday Masses. This Sunday we welcome those children who are preparing for **First Holy Communion**. We continue to give every encouragement to families to bring the children to Mass in preparation for this Sacrament and cultivate the involvement of children with the Lord and our parish here at St Teresa's.

**Last Sunday** we suggested three simple Lenten practices to be carried out this weekend. Here are another three. **Firstly**, continue to pray the I confess and sing the Kyrie eleison with fervour during our Lenten Mass. **Secondly**, collect a Wee Box from the back of Church for the family Lenten Alms. **Thirdly**, visit the altar of our Lady after Mass and say a prayer for First Confession candidates.

Best wishes to everyone on the **Feast of Saint Patrick** this Sunday. Many of the people of this area have Irish ancestry. Cultural, religious and social ties linked people with Ireland and the Irish people so many of whom came here to escape poverty and seek better opportunities for themselves and their families. It was the Irish together with their priests who helped restore Catholicism to Scotland. It was they who built so many of the very beautiful Churches which can be found in the former industrial towns and cities of these islands. For that we are all very grateful. Although a St Patrick's Day dance was planned this has now been cancelled.

**Tuesday** of this week is the feast day of **St Joseph**. This saint has two feast days: March 19th is the feast of St Joseph husband of Mary and May 01st is the feast day of St Joseph the Worker. St Joseph is patron saint of the Universal Church and the patron saint of a Happy Death. A wonderful saint to befriend in our prayers. On **Tuesday evening** we shall celebrate **First Confessions**. There will also be Confessions at St Francis Xavier Church in Carfin on Tuesday evening.

Our thanks to our **Ministers of the Eucharist** and **parish Lectors** who attended the meeting on Monday evening. We are very grateful for the wonderful contribution they make to our parish both in the celebration of Liturgy and their ministry of service to the sick and housebound.

A fine article on the front page of the **Catholic Observer** relating to the ordinations about to take place in Scotland this summer. Let us keep these young men in our prayers especially those being ordained for this Diocese.

Here is the next of our **catechesis** for the season of Lent. The fourth Sunday in Lent is given a particular name: **Laetare Sunday**, rejoicing Sunday. Like **Gaudete Sunday** in Advent this Sunday sees the use of Rose Coloured vestments and reminds us of the approaching celebration of the Lord's Paschal (Easter) saving events, his **Passion, Death** and **Glorious Resurrection**. This fourth Sunday in Lent is celebrated in many countries as **Mother's Day**. From the 1600s apprentices were often given the day off in order to visit their **Mother Church** and their mothers. To whom they would bring the gift of a simnel cake (fruit cake with marzipan). The ancient Greeks had celebrations at this time of honour of **Rhea**, the mother of the Gods. While the Romans had a celebration on the Ides of March (March 15th) in honour of the Goddess **Hilaria**.

Thank you all to all members of the **Gift Aid** scheme, which assists the parish so much. The returns have been completed and sent to the Diocese in order for funds to be obtained from the Chancellor.

Today there will be a retiring collection for the sick and retired clergy of the Diocese.

*Attendance: 232, Collection: £688*  
**Thank you to the parish for this generosity.**

*Response to the Psalm:*  
*Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

**Months Mind:** Nicola Cairns,  
**Anniversary of:** James Cullen, Ellen Skivington, James Collins, Margaret O'Neill, William O'Neill, Joe and Mary Myles, Agnes Morrissey, Mary McKenna

# Stations of the Cross

*For a moment let us focus our attentions on the journey of Jesus to the hill of Calvary. Remember that he has been interrogated, scourged and crowned with thorns. He is dehydrated, bruised, suffering from loss of blood and probably quite terrified as he struggles through the streets.*

**The Third Station:** Jesus falls the first time beneath the weight of the Cross. Since he has been tortured it is hardly surprising that this takes place. The exhaustion must have been incredible.

**The Fourth Station:** Jesus meets his Mother. The pain experienced by Jesus and Mary must have been indescribable. He must have been horrified to let his Mother see him like this. She must have been absolutely broken hearted. There was nothing she could do to help him. This special type of pain. A mother's pain.

**The Fifth Station:** Simon helps Jesus to carry the Cross. A passer by is forced to help Jesus. I suppose the soldiers were afraid that he would die on the journey. It is a blessing to help anyone in any type of need.

**The Sixth Station:** Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. This is one of the very few acts of kindness that Jesus receives during the desperate journey. This woman was quite courageous. The easiest thing is not to get involved. Keep your head down. That way nobody can pick on you. I don't suppose Veronica thought she was brave. She acted like this because she thought it was the right thing to do. Maybe that demands a special type of courage.

On a hill far away stood an old rugged Cross, the emblem of suffering and shame and I loved that old Cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.



**Administrator:**  
Revd W. G. Bergin

## ST. TERESA'S R.C. CHURCH

Address: Benford Avenue, Newarthill,  
Motherwell, ML1 5BE

Telephone: 01698 832920

Email: fatherbillthepadre@gmail.com

Parish website: [www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk](http://www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk)  
A Scottish Registered Charity No. 11041

### *The Second Sunday of Lent*

Weekly Schedule	Time	Intention
Sunday 17th March <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	10:00am 4:00pm	Joe and Mary Myles Stations of the Cross
Monday 18th March <i>Lenten Week Day St Cyril of Jerusalem</i>	9:05am 9:30am 1:00p	Prayers Before The Cross James Collins and Margaret O'Neill Mass at Carstairs
Tues 19th March <i>Lenten Week Day St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	8:15am 9:00am 9:30am 6:30pm	Mass in School Stations of the Cross William O'Neill First Confessions
Wed 20th March <i>Lenten Week Day</i>	8:15am 9:05am 9:30am	Mass in School Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Priests Intention
Thurs 21st March <i>Lenten Week Day</i>	8:15am 9:05am 9:30am 7:00pm	Mass in School Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mary McKenna Lenten Quiet Time with the Blessed Sacrament
Friday 22nd March <i>Lenten Week Day</i>	9:00am 9:30am	Stations of the Cross James Cullen
Saturday 23rd March	4:00pm 4:30pm	Holy Rosary Agnes Morrissey

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 23rd Mar.	F McQuade	C Dabernig, C Morrissey, A M Lynn
Sunday 24th Mar.	Children's Liturgy	P Mackle, M Nugent, P Cullion

