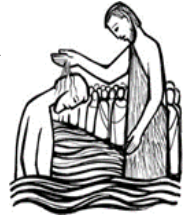




# 7 APRIL 2024 - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

23 Shore Street, Port Glasgow PA14 5HD, Tel: 01475 741139  
Email: [stjohnthebaptist@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stjohnthebaptist@rcdop.org.uk) [www.stjohnthebaptist.rcpaisley.org.uk](http://www.stjohnthebaptist.rcpaisley.org.uk)  
Scottish Charity No. SCO13514

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH

2 Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow PA14 6BT, Tel: 01475 705585  
Email: [holyfamily@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:holyfamily@rcdop.org.uk) Facebook: @holyfamilyportglasgow Twitter:  
@holy\_pg  
Scottish Charity No. SCO13514

## ST COLM'S PARISH

Smithy Brae, Kilmacoll, Inverclyde PA13 4EN, Tel: 01475 705585  
Email: [stcolm@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stcolm@rcdop.org.uk) (Fr Dan resident at St John the Baptist –see above)  
Scottish Charity No. SCO13514

## CLERGY

Father Daniel Fitzpatrick; Father Laurent Bahati; Deacon Don Keane

### ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

#### MASS TIMES

Sunday: Vigil 4.00pm, 9.30am, 11.00am  
Weekday: Mon-Sat 9.30am  
(except Wed 11.00am)

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 10.00am - 10.30am  
Thursday: 6.30pm - 7.00pm

#### EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursday: 6.30pm - 7.00pm  
Saturday: 10.00am -10.30am

### ST COLM'S PARISH

#### MASS TIMES

Sunday: 9.30am  
Thursday: 11.00am

### HOLY FAMILY PARISH

#### MASS TIMES

Sunday: Vigil 5.30pm, 11.00am  
Weekday: Mon-Sat 10.00am  
(no Mass on Thursdays)

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 10.30am-11.00am  
Saturday: 4.45pm - 5.15pm

#### EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: 9.30am - 9.55am

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK** - John Gilmartin, Kathleen McIlkenny, Korbin Gabb, Nancy Touzeau, Mary Patrick, Kelly Devenney, Sandra Harrison, Joe Sweeney, James Drummond, Gill O'Brien, Isobel Cullen, Lauren Jenkins, Denis Morgan, Sandra Stuart, Robert McWhinnie, Ellen McConnechie, Anne McAlonan, Robert Temporal, Stewart McCullagh, Susan Davidson,

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Bridie McAlinden, Betty Gemmell, Michael McEwan, Mary Klimasiefski, Margaret Taylor, Allan Morrison, John Paul,, Jack Roach, Betty Gault, Agnes Logan

**ANNIVERSARIES** - Margaret, Bobby & Junior Kincaid, Jim McKay, John & Mary Fisher, Joseph & Jane Clenaghan, Mary O'Donnell, Patrick & Hugh Coyle, Margaret Forster, Neil McAuley, Hugh Gemmell, John McFadden snr & Jnr , Joseph McCulloch Snr & Jnr

### DIVINE MERCY

Divine Mercy devotions at St Francis of Assisi, Port Glasgow, on Sun 7th April. Holy Hour at 2pm; Confessions from 3pm; Benediction at 3.45pm. Those preparing for the Feast of Divine Mercy should begin a personal Novena of Chaplets to the Divine Mercy on Good Friday.

## **ON DIVINE MERCY FROM POPE FRANCIS**

The greeting of the Risen Christ to his disciples on the evening of Easter, "Peace be with you!" (*Jn 20:19*), continues to resound in us all. Peace, especially during this Easter season, remains the desire of so many people who suffer unprecedented violence of discrimination and death simply because they bear the name "Christian". Our prayer is all the more intense and becomes a cry for help to the Father, who is rich in mercy, that he may sustain the faith of our many brothers and sisters who are in pain. At the same time, we ask for the grace of the conversion of our own hearts so as to move from indifference to compassion.

Saint Paul reminds us that we have been saved through the mystery of the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. He is the Reconciler, who is alive in our midst offering the way to reconciliation with God and with each other. The Apostle recalls that, notwithstanding the difficulties and the sufferings of life, the hope of salvation which Christ has sown in our hearts nonetheless continues to grow. The mercy of God is poured out upon us, making us just and giving us peace.

Many question in their hearts: why a Jubilee of Mercy today? Simply because the Church, in this time of great historical change, is called to offer more evident signs of God's presence and closeness. This is not the time to be distracted; on the contrary, we need to be vigilant and to reawaken in ourselves the capacity to see what is essential. This is a time for the Church to rediscover the meaning of the mission entrusted to her by the Lord on the day of Easter: to be a sign and an instrument of the Father's mercy (cf. *Jn 20:21-23*). For this reason, the Holy Year must keep alive the desire to know how to welcome the numerous signs of the tenderness which God offers to the whole world and, above all, to those who suffer, who are alone and abandoned, without hope of being pardoned or feeling the Father's love. A Holy Year to experience strongly within ourselves the joy of having been found by Jesus, the Good Shepherd who has come in search of us because we were lost. A Jubilee to receive the warmth of his love when he bears us upon his shoulders and brings us back to the Father's house. A year in which to be touched by the Lord Jesus and to be transformed by his mercy, so that we may become witnesses to mercy. Here, then, is the reason for the Jubilee: because this is the time for mercy. It is the favourable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and to touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone, everyone, the way of forgiveness and reconciliation.

## **WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPE BOXES**

For those who use the envelopes for their collections, the new boxes are now available at the back of the Church. Those of you who are signed up for the Gift Aid scheme can collect your boxes from the Sacristy and confirm that they are still paying tax so that a claim for Gift aid can continue. If you would like to make use of the Gift Aid scheme, could you please come to the sacristy collect a Gift Aid form and we will then issue a numbered box. This scheme allows us to collect an extra 25% from all tax payers.

Many of you will have read that the local branch of the Bank of Scotland will close in September. This will mean that we have to go to Greenock to bank the money from the plate, so it might be a good opportunity for you to switch to support the parish by Standing Order instead of the envelopes. If you would like to use a Standing Order then please come to the sacristy after Mass where forms are available.

## **THANK YOU**

Fr Dan and Fr Laurent would like to thank everyone who helped make our Holy Week Liturgies and Easter Celebrations such a powerful expression of our faith. It was great to see so many attend the services and Masses. All of it was possible thanks to those who volunteer in so many different ways from the sacristans, musicians, servers, readers, children's liturgy, the cleaners, arrangers of flowers, decorations and displays, and anyone else we might not have mentioned. We would also like to thank everyone who gave us cards and gifts, we have a lot of chocolate to get through. We hope everyone has a great week before the schools start back.

## **SCIAF WEE BOXES**

If you have been using these during Lent, then they can be handed in now so that the money can be counted and passed on to SCIAF.

## **AOH DIV. 210 MEETING**

There will be a meeting in the hall on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm

## **HOLY FAMILY - SVDP ANNUAL DINNER**

The annual SVDP senior parishioners dinner will be on Monday 8 April, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. This is for senior parishioners of Holy Family only. Those who wish to receive an invitation should put their name and address on the sheet at the back of the church. Closing date is Sunday 31 March at 12 noon. No names can be accepted after this date.

## **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

Safeguarding induction training has been reorganised into one course only. If you are a new volunteer, or one who completed the Part 1 training course more than a year ago, you are invited to sign up for one of the next training sessions taking place on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Apr at 10.30am in St Mirin's Cathedral Hall; Wed 1<sup>st</sup> May at 7pm in St Mary's parish hall, Greenock; Sat 8<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am in St John's parish hall, Barrhead. Contact Sarah Jane Colhoun at [safeguardingadmin@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingadmin@rcdop.org.uk) or call her on 0141 847 6138 to book a place.

## **SPONSORED WALK**

Fr Ryan Black will walk from St Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley to Celtic Park in May 2024 to raise funds for the Diocese of Paisley Young Adults' Pilgrimage to Poland. All contributions will be gratefully received, and all benefactors will be remembered in prayer during the pilgrimage. To donate, visit [www.justgiving.com/page/dopya-poland](http://www.justgiving.com/page/dopya-poland).

## **THINK VOCATION**

"The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue." Jesus gave everything out of love for us. Are you being called to reflect the Master's sacrifice by offering yourself as a priest? Please speak to our local Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison tel: 01418895056or email [vocations@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdop.org.uk)