

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT [C], 10th March 2019

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL,
ESPECIALLY TO OUR VISITORS!**

PREPARATION FOR MASS

Be silent.
Be still.
Alone.
Empty
Before your God.
Say nothing.
Ask nothing.
Be silent.
Be still.
Let your God look upon you.
That is all.
God knows.
God understands.
God loves you
With an enormous love,
And only wants
To look upon you
With that love.
Quiet.
Still.
Be.

Let your God—
Love you.

Edwina Gateley

Opening Hymn (Largs): 79

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

This text contains what is known as the “creed of the Chosen People.” Its core is that God, out of his pity and at his own initiative, saved Israel from Egypt by performing mighty deeds out of love for them.

Moses said to the people: ‘The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

“My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and

wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me.”

‘You must then lay them before the Lord your God and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.’

Psalm 90 (91): Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Romans 10: 8-13

The Christian creed also homes in on what God has done for his people, by his own will and deeds in Jesus Christ. We are saved not just from an earthly power by from the power of death itself by the death and Resurrection of Jesus. St. Paul here emphasizes that faith is not in the first place an act of the mind, but of the heart. Faith can give rise to intellectual discussions, but it is misunderstood if it is not first grasped with the heart. Faith is not an ideology: it is a life, eternal life.

Scripture says: *The word* (that is the faith we proclaim) *is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart.* If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: *those who believe in him will have no cause for shame,* it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, *for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Gospel

Luke 4: 1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.’ But Jesus replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.’

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, ‘I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Scripture says: *You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.*’ Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said to him ‘throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: *He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you,* and again: *They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.*’ But Jesus answered him, ‘*It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.*’ Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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SAINT MARY STAR OF THE SEA

28 Greenock Road, Largs, KA30 8NE

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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LITURGY

Mass

Largs: Saturday Vigil, 6pm; Sunday, 10am; Mon-Wed, 10am; Fri, 7pm; Sat. 10am.

Millport: Sunday, 12.15pm; Thursday, 10am.

Confessions

Largs: Friday, after 7pm Mass; Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm. During Lent, confessions will be heard after all weekday Masses unless there is a funeral or other eventuality.

Millport: Thursday after Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

One hour before weekday Mass (unless a funeral, a holiday of obligation or otherwise notified), with Rosary & Litany on the half-hour.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

COMMEMORATION	READINGS
Monday, 11/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>
Tuesday, 12/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>
Wednesday, 13/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>
Thursday, 14/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>
Friday 15/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>
Saturday 16/3	1 st week of Lent <i>Liturgical Colour: Purple</i>

MASS INTENTIONS

DATE & TIME	INTENTION
Sat 9 th March, 6pm	All Parishioners
Sun 10 th March, 10am	William Brannan
Sun 10 th March, 12.15pm	Intentions of K. Haveron
Mon 11 th March, 10am	Cathy & Peter Flynn
Tues 12 th March, 10am	Ronald Harvey
Wed 13 th March, 10am	Annie & John Henry
Thurs 14 th March, 10am	Special Intention
Fri 15 th Mar, 7pm	Dora & Maurice Henry
Sat 16 th Mar, 10am	Special Intention

Sick: Margaret Ryding, James McGinty, Jane Sewell, Margaret Anderson, Margaret Gallagher, Kenneth McComish, Anne Gaffney, Eileen Bradley, Maria Kelly (Millport), Anne Kane, Liam Nagle. **Recently**

Deceased: Gina Bianchi, Danny O'Donnell, Liz Reid, Anne Buchanan, Mary Jaconelli, Ian Liddle.

Anniversaries: William Clark, Sally Goodwin, Joseph Colvin, Patrick Gallagher, Hugh Guy.

NOTICES

DEVOTIONS & BENEDICTION (Largs): This Sunday at 6pm, to mark the beginning of Lent.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION: Throughout Lent, unless circumstances forbid, I will also be available after weekday Masses to hear confessions.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT, LARGS

PARISH GROUP	DATE & TIME
Legion of Mary	March 13 th , 7pm
	March 20 th , 7pm
The Choir	March 27 th , 7pm
The Lourdes Group	April 3 rd , 7pm
	April 10 th , 7pm

Please advise Mgr. Magee if your group wishes to lead the Stations of the Cross on the remaining dates.

PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION:

Prayer leaflets are available in the church porch. The Association is also promoting a Lenten Evening Retreat led by Fr. Eamonn Sweeney in St. Patrick's Church, Coatbridge on Tuesday 9th April at 7pm.

PRO-LIFE GROUP (Largs): The Pro-Life meeting will be held on Monday 11th March at 7.30pm in the small meeting room. New members will be very welcome

ST. MARY'S PRAYER LINE: Phone 07803 748251.

TAIZÉ FOR LENT: A 'Taizé for Lent' service will take place this Sunday evening in the hall of St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church, Aubery Crescent.

SCIAF WEE BOX: The legacy of war and a high rate of HIV and AIDS, has left many orphans in Uganda and a generation of young people without hope, trapped in extreme poverty. Please remember to pick up your WEE BOX this Lent. Together, we can end poverty.

INDUCTION OF REV DR GRAHAM

McWILLIAMS: Dr. McWilliams will be inducted as the new Minister of St. Columba's Parish Church, Largs, this coming Wednesday evening at 7pm. On behalf of Largs Churches Together, I have accepted to give a welcoming speech for the occasion.

FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP is a freshly cooked hot meal that is offered by volunteers at 12.30pm in the hall of St Columba's Episcopal Church, Aubery Crescent, on the

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third Sunday of the month. There is no charge for the meal, but a donation is welcome. The next Food and Friendship lunch will take place at 12.30pm on Sunday, 17 March. All are most welcome!

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: Largs Churches Together sponsors this group which consists of a six-week programme looking at bereavement support and exploring various aspects of loss. The group meets on the Sunday evenings of Lent up to and including 7th April at Toc H Hall, Bath Street Largs, from 7-8.30pm. There is no charge. For more information, call Rev. Mandy Ralph on 01294 471514.

BEREAVEMENT AND PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOP: Saturday 23rd March from 10am-12pm at St. Columba's Episcopal Church. The workshop is for Elders, Pastoral Care Visitors, Befrienders and anyone interested in supporting someone who has been bereaved. To register, please contact Clark Memorial Church Office, tel. 675186 or email cmc.largs@gmail.com

GOING TO HOSPITAL? Please let Mgr. Magee know if you are being admitted to hospital. Before going I can administer to you the Sacrament of the Sick. If you are going to Inverclyde, I will try to visit you. If going further afield, I can alert the chaplain that you are there.

NOTICES FOR BULLETIN: Please submit notices by 12 Noon on Thursdays.

INCOME

	LARGS	MILLPORT
Main collection	£542.79	£129.44
Other	£63.70	---
Building Fund	---	£60.30

PARISH DIARY DATES

Thursday 14 th March, Parish Hall, Largs, 7.30pm	Parish Finance Council
Monday 18 th March, Largs	First Reconciliation for children of St. Mary's Primary, Largs
Saturday 23 rd March, St. Peter's, Ardrossan, 12 Noon- 4pm	Oasis Day for Readers from all parishes in our Deanery
Sunday 24 th March, 10am, Largs.	Second Preparatory Mass for children receiving First Holy Communion
Tuesday 26 th March, 2pm, Largs, St. Mary's Primary School	Meeting with Parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion
Thursday 28 th March, Parish Hall, Largs, 7.30pm	In-Service for all Eucharistic Ministers, both those who assist at Mass and those who bring Communion to the Sick

Thursday 11 th April, St. Mary's, Largs, 2pm	Lenten Penance Service
Holy Thursday, 18 th April: 1) <i>Millport</i> , 4.30pm; 2) <i>Largs</i> , 7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper & Washing of the Feet
Good Friday, 3pm, Largs & Millport	The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
Good Friday, 7pm, Largs	Stations of the Cross & Adoration of the Cross
Holy Saturday, 8pm, Largs	Easter Vigil, with the reception of two adults into full communion with the Church
Easter Sunday: 1) <i>Largs</i> , 10am; 2) <i>Millport</i> , 12.15pm	Mass of the Resurrection

Lent can be looked at in various ways. Here are a few of them.

It can be seen as a time to refresh our Christian memory. What made us Christian? The answer is the death and resurrection of Jesus. We were "submerged" into these when we were baptised. In Lent we remember our core identity and make any changes needed for our lives to reveal that more clearly. Lent revives who we are and are to be.

The Catechism describes baptism as the fundamental religious and moral conversion of man to God. But it also teaches that there is a second conversion, the ongoing conversion required because of sins committed after baptism. Lent is a more intense living out of this second conversion, in freedom and in grace, to turn the soul away from sin and to the love of God. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the classic tools.

Lent is to Easter what Advent is to Christmas. Just as Advent is the expectation of the return of Christ and a commemoration of his first coming, so Lent is a time to prepare spiritually for a renewed experience of the death and resurrection of the Lord - not merely as a past event, but as one with a permanent historic presence.

Some people today go to remote islands or parts of the countryside to detach themselves from social media and from the relentless onslaught of words and images which can poison our living space. Lent, too, is an opportunity to "detox" from habits, preferences, indeed anything at all which pushes the awareness of God out of our living space. To cultivate silence, presence to God and the sense of the presence of God, to be vulnerable to his Word and his Spirit: these are ways of nourishing in us the desire to know and love the Lord who loved us literally to (his) death and again back into life. In Lent, we are called to restore Jesus to his rightful place as the alpha and omega of our day.

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The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**
*At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary',
all bow.*
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Hymn for Procession of Gifts (Largs): 600

In the second reading, St. Paul says that those who believe in Jesus will have no cause for shame. Shame is a feeling we associate with sin. Indeed, sometimes even without sin we can feel ashamed that certain temptations even appear on our radar. If Paul relates and opposes faith and shame, it means that when we are ashamed then in some way we have failed in faith. Think of Peter's three denials and the shame which almost consumed him.

If and when we feel shame, though, we should not just think of it as "bad." It is in fact salutary, because it makes us aware of our need for Christ, of our need for greater, deeper and radical faith in him. We should more concerned if we never feel shame: it may mean that our faith is very strong, but it may also mean our faith is absent. We need the light of the Spirit to show us which it is.

Eucharistic Prayer II

The Temptation of the Lord

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

By abstaining forty long days from earthly food, he consecrated through his fast the pattern of our Lenten observance and, by overturning all the snares of the ancient serpent, taught us to cast out the leaven of malice, so that, celebrating worthily the Paschal Mystery, we might pass over at last to the eternal paschal feast.

And so, with the company of Angels and Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we acclaim: **Holy, holy ...**

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Vatican II echoes traditional Church teaching that the entire spiritual wealth of the Church is contained in the Eucharist. That only makes sense. The Eucharist is the Risen Christ. In Him all things were made. St. Paul tells us that the whole of reality, created and uncreated, "hangs together" in Christ.

In the Eucharist is creation (bread and wine), redemption (the crucified and risen Lord), the work of man (not just wheat but bread; not just grapes but wine) and the work of God (Aquinas calls the Eucharist the greatest miracle of Jesus), man who is God and God who is man (the Lord), the past (Calvary), the present (where we are) and the future (the banquet of the Lamb). If you want to live a fruitful Lent, you can do little better than receive the Eucharist frequently and all spiritual wealth with it.

Hymn for Communion (Largs): 620

MARIAN ANTIPHON

We will sing it in Latin from the hymn book, Number 38b (10am Mass only). *English translation:*

**Hail, Queen of heaven, beyond compare,
To whom the angels homage pay;
Hail, Root of Jesse, Gate of Light,
That opened for the world's new Day.**

**Rejoice, O Virgin unsurpassed,
In whom our ransom was begun,
For all your loving children pray
To Christ, our Saviour and your Son.**

Recessional Hymn (Largs): 338

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Church Bulletin Announcements