

SOLEMNITY OF SS. PETER & PAUL, 30th JUNE 2019

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

PREPARATION FOR MASS

It can be hard when you come to Mass, or even when you just sit down to pray, to be as attentive to the Lord as you would want. The reasons for that can be so many: feeling tired, feeling “flat”, worried, being ill, anxiety, depression ... and so many other things. At times, it seems impossible to “get beyond” your concerns or what is going on inside your head, heart or soul.

Always remember that the Lord knows and cherishes you deeply, not as an outsider, but as the One who knows you better than you do yourself. Remember, too, that he knows the effort you have made to be here, especially when you might wish to be anywhere else. In these circumstances, all He asks of you is to make an act of presence: “Lord, I am here before you. I trust in you. I believe in you. Help me.” Even if you take in nothing of what is said during the Mass, that act of presence opens you up to the power of His grace. As you go through the Mass, even if you feel like a robot, let the rhythm of the prayers, the readings, the standing, kneeling, sitting, carry you along. Quietly, without being detected, He will visit your deepest heart and make His act of presence to you. Be open to Him as He is to you.

Opening Hymn (Largs): 876

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Acts 12:1-11

The miraculous deliverance of Peter from prison, while certainly a personal grace from the Lord, was mainly in view of furthering Peter's mission as the Rock of the Church. Jesus still had plans for Peter and no earthly authority would frustrate them.

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. ‘Get up!’ he said ‘Hurry!’ – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said,

‘Put on your belt and sandals.’ After he had done this, the angel next said, ‘Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.’ Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. ‘Now I know it is all true’ he said. ‘The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.’

Ps. 33: From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Just as Peter was rescued from the mortal threat against him, so Paul was repeatedly saved from death throughout the course of his life. Again, Jesus still had work for Paul to complete before his time to die would come. When we live our lives as a mission and commission from the Lord, He will ensure that we will not leave this life until what He wants done through us has been done.

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was *rescued from the lion's mouth*. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said ‘who do you say I am?’ Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’

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

College Street, Millport, KA28 0BG

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Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee

PP's email: peter.magee@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

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, after 10am Mass and from 5.00-5.45pm.

Millport: After 10am Mass on Thursday.

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 1/7: Votive Mass of the Precious Blood	13 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: red
Tuesday 2/7: Mass for Anniversary of Ordination	13 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
Wednesday 3/7: St. Thomas, Apostle	Proper Readings Liturgical colour: red
Thursday 4/7	13 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: green
Friday 5/7: Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart	13 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
Saturday 6/7: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin Martyr (d. 1902)	13 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: red
Sunday 7/7: 14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	14 th Week, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: green

MASS INTENTIONS

DATE & TIME	INTENTION
Sat 29 th June, 6pm	Kris MacMillan
Sun 30 th June, 10am	All Parishioners
Sun 30 th June, 12.15pm	Kathleen Shovelin
Mon 1 st July, 10am	Isabel McHugh
Tues 2 nd July, 10am	Mgr. Magee, Anniversary
Wed 3 rd July, 10am	Special Intention
Thurs 4 th July, 10am	Jessie Clements
Fri 5 th July, 7pm	Andrew Dunne
Sat 6 th July, 10am	Gerald O'Hara
Sat 6 th July, 6pm	All Parishioners
Sun 7 th July, 10am	Suzanne White
Sun 7 th July, 12.15pm	Hugh Maxwell

Sick: Margaret Ryding, Jane Sewell, Margaret Gallagher, Kenneth McComish, Anne Gaffney, Maria Kelly (Millport), Liam Nagle, Alane Harvey, Fr. Gerard Hamill, Lidia Tracey, Helen McShane, Peter Leitch, Marie McDermott, Colette McCafferty, Alex Gregg, Sarah McDougall, Bruce McDougall, Jessie Clements. **Recently Deceased:** Kris MacMillan, Rev. Brian Reilly, Gerald O'Hara, Bobby Bennet, John Connelly, John Dunne. **Anniversary:** Theresa Beattie, Eileen Skelly.

NOTICES

DEVOTION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD: The month of July is traditionally one of devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ. In the bible, blood is the symbol of life. The life of Christ which we receive in any of the sacraments is only possible because He shed His blood for us. The next time you drink from the chalice, try to be more aware that, if well disposed, you are literally drinking in the life of God.

PARISH FEAST DAY, OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR, MILLPORT: Today, in Millport, we commemorate Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Patroness of our parish. Her proper feast day is 27th June. Since today is the Solemnity of SS. Peter & Paul, we are not allowed to substitute that with a full liturgical celebration of Our Lady. But we will honour Her with a few special prayers during the Mass. After Mass at 12.15, all are invited to wait behind for some light refreshments to mark the occasion.

FIRST FRIDAY: Please note that this coming Friday, 5th July, is First Friday, for those of you following this devotion.

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

ST. MARY'S PARISH FESTIVAL - IN FAITH AND IN FUN: 22-29 September. If you have ideas for the festival or are willing to help, please contact Celia Lewis or Ann McQueeney.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, 1-8 JULY: Prayer petitions for Lourdes should be placed in a sealed envelope without money and marked "Petition." If you want a votive candle to be lit at the Grotto, place money in an envelope and mark it "Candles." All envelopes should be left in the stall in the church porch in Largs by Sunday 30th June.

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX TO ST. MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL, AYR: Would you like to be a volunteer to help with stewarding, welcoming, hospitality, etc. during the visit of the Relics from September 1st - 3rd? If you can then please come to a meeting in St. Margaret's Hall, Ayr, on Wednesday July 31st at 7 p.m. Would you like to sing in the choir? Then there will be three practices in the Cathedral for all who are interested at 7.15 p.m. on Thursdays August 1st, 8th and 29th. Everyone is welcome.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO ST ANDREWS: On Saturday 31st August young people from all over Scotland will gather in St Andrews, Fife, on pilgrimage to the medieval Cathedral of St Andrew. Mass will take place in the ruined Cathedral at 3.00 pm after activities from 12 noon in the town. All young people aged P7 upwards welcome. Activities for P7-S3 and

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then for S4 upwards. Transport from Galloway diocese provided. Cost £5 and bring a packed lunch. Contact Fr Stephen McGrattan on stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydioces.e.org.uk to reserve a place or for more details.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: The second collection today at all Masses will be for Peter's Pence, the Holy Father's own charity fund.

SVDP PHONE NUMBER: Largs SVDP have a new phone number which has been active since 13th June: 07950 586214. Please direct all enquiries and requests directly to this number.

BULLETIN NOTICES: Please submit any notices for the bulletin by 12 Noon on Thursday.

INCOME, 22-23 JUNE

	LARGS	MILLPORT
Main collection	£638.48	£179.92
Other	£53.98	£442.98
Building Fund	---	£87.21

From "Missio Scotland"

I received last week the following email from Fr. Vincent Lockhart, the Director of "Missio Scotland", in response to the recent special collections in both our parishes for Missio's appeal for Sri Lanka:

"Dear Peter,

Many thanks for responding to the Sri Lanka Appeal with £124.65 from Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Millport and £1,808.78 from St. Mary, Star of the Sea parish in Largs. Your donations are a very generous sign of solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the faith in Sri Lanka.

The funds you have donated will go to:

1. the building of the 'Monumental Chapel of Martyrs' in the new burial ground at Katuwapitiya, Ngombo in Sri Lanka where more than 60 of those Catholics who died in the recent bombings on Easter Sunday are buried in a mass grave. His Eminence, Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith, Archbishop of Colombo, appealed to Missio Scotland and Missio England and Wales to assist with the cost of the chapel.
2. A number of children lost their parents in the bombings and so an education fund is being set up for them.
3. A large number of people who attended Mass that Easter Sunday have been left injured, disabled and traumatised so a programme to help them has been started.

Those who died were participating in the Eucharist and can be considered as martyrs for the faith. The chapel will be a testimony to that faith but also of the hope of the whole Church in the power of Our Lord's resurrection. Please find attached a photograph of

Cardinal Filoni, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, who visited Sri Lanka immediately after the bombings and is seen blessing the graves of some of those killed.

Thank you for your generosity and please continue to keep the Catholics of Sri Lanka in your prayers."

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On 22 June, Pope Francis announced the themes of the World Youth Day for the next three years. He was talking to a group of young people when he did so. Here is an excerpt from his talk:

"Dear young people, let me say to you once again: you are the today of God, the today of the Church! Not just the future, but the today. Either you start playing today, or you have lost the match. Today. The Church needs you, so that she can be fully herself. As Church, you are the body of the risen Lord present in the world. I would like you always to remember that you are members of one body, of this community. You are part of one another; by yourselves, you would not survive. You need one another, if you are to make a difference in a world increasingly tempted to divisiveness. Think about it. Our world is more and more divided, and divisions bring wars and conflict in their wake. You have to be a message of unity. It is worth setting out on this path. Only if we journey together, will we be truly strong. With Christ, the Bread of Life who gives us strength for the journey, let us bring his fire to light up the darkness of this world!

I would like to take this occasion to make an important announcement. As you know, the journey of preparation for the 2018 Synod mostly coincided with the journey of World Youth Day in Panama, which took place just three months later. In my 2017 Message to Young People, I expressed my hope for a harmonious coordination between those two journeys (cf. Preparatory Document, III, 5). Well then! The next international edition of World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon in 2022. (I can hear a fan of Portugal out there!) The theme I chose for this stage of the intercontinental pilgrimage of young people (2022) is: "*Mary arose and went with haste*" (cf. *Lk 1:39*). In the two coming years, I would ask you to meditate on these two verses: "*Young man, I say to you, arise!*" (2020 - cf. *Lk 7:14; Christus Vivit, 20*) and "*Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen*" (2021 - cf. *Acts 26:16*). In this way, I hope that this time too, will see a harmonious coordination between our journey towards the Lisbon World Youth Day and our post-synodal journey. Do not tune out the voice of God, who urges you to arise and follow the paths that he has prepared for you. Like Mary, and in union with her, may you daily bring to others his joy and his love. The theme says that Mary arose and went with haste to see her cousin. Always ready, always hastening, but not anxious or troubled. I ask you to pray for me, and now I will give you my blessing. All together, each in his or her own language, but all together, let us recite the Hail Mary."

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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): 964

What did Peter offer Jesus? At first, he let go of his fishing business and his family life. We know he was married; we can presume he had children. Normally, the Lord would not call a married man to leave his vocation to become an apostle. But the beginnings of our salvation were not normal times. Peter at first went willingly because he probably saw something promising in it all for himself, and maybe for his family: position, fame and possibly even wealth and glory, when Jesus would rid Israel of the Romans....

But it soon became clear that the destiny of Jesus was very different from that. At first, Peter balks at the idea of Jesus' suffering and tries to dissuade him. Then at the testing hour, Peter is at first violent (cutting off Malchus' ear) and then cowardly (denying Jesus). The only way it was possible for Peter eventually to offer what Jesus wanted of him, i.e. his whole self, was his being forgiven by Jesus and being reinstated as head of the apostles. Only then, was Peter able to give everything, including his life, for Jesus. Compare your story with Peter's. What does Jesus ask of you concretely, here and now?

Eucharistic Prayer II

The twofold mission of Peter and Paul in the Church

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.

For by your providence
the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul bring us joy:
Peter, foremost in confessing the faith,

Paul, its outstanding preacher,
Peter, who established the early Church from the
remnant of Israel,
Paul, master and teacher of the Gentiles that you call.

And so, each in a different way
gathered together the one family of Christ;
and revered together throughout the world,
they share one Martyr's crown.
And therefore, with all the Angels and Saints,
we praise you, as without end we acclaim: **Holy, holy ...**

Communion Antiphon

**Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of
the living God. And Jesus replied: You are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my Church.**

St. Paul speaks in the second reading of how his life is being "poured out like a libation." A libation was a drink poured out in offering to a god, in Paul's case, to the Lord Jesus. When you read the story of Paul's life in the New Testament, you certainly get the impression that he spared nothing of himself in the service of Christ.

It was Christ himself, of course, who poured out the real libation. Not a drink, but his own blood. While Paul's life-blood was poured out in his beheading, it is not Paul's blood that redeems us, but only Christ's. All the martyrs shed their blood as a response to Christ's precious blood. As we drink from the chalice today, the question arises spontaneously on this feast of the two great Apostle Martyrs: would I shed my blood for Christ if it came to it?

One of the psalms says of God: "your love is better than life." Few could say that they prefer the love of God to their own lives, but in a time of persecution that very grace is often given.

Hymn for Communion (Largs): 938

MARIAN ANTIPHON

**MARIAN ANTIPHON: Hail, holy Queen, Mother
of Mercy (recited at 6pm Vigil). Sung as the
Salve Regina (n. 367) at the 10am Mass.**

Recessional Hymn (Largs): 837

God and Adam were walking through the Garden of Eden, discussing various things. At one point, Adam says, "Wow, God, you sure made Eve awfully beautiful, just amazingly beautiful!" Spoke the Lord: "Yes, my son, that is so you would love her very, very deeply."

After a brief moment, Adam hesitatingly commented, "But Lord, you made Eve not too smart." "Ah, yes," said God, "that is so *she* would love *you* very, very deeply."