

EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SUNDAY, 2nd AUGUST 2020

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 Email: largs@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
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Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee

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

Holy Mass

Largs: Saturday Vigil, 6pm; Sunday, 10am; Mon-Sat, 10am. All Masses live-streamed.

Millport: Sunday, 12.15pm (not live-streamed)

Weekly Masses are all without a congregation and live-streamed.

WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

COMMEMORATION	READINGS
3/8: St. Germanus of Auxerre, Bishop (d. 448)	Week 18, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
4/8: St. Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, Priest (d. 1859)	Week 18, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
5/8: Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major	Week 18, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
6/8: Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord	Proper Liturgical colour: white
7/8: Pope St. Sixtus II & Companions, Martyrs (d.258)	Week 18, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: red
8/8: St. Dominic, Priest (d. 1221)	Week 18, Ordinary Time Liturgical colour: white
9/8: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Proper Liturgical colour: green

MASS INTENTIONS

DATE & TIME	INTENTION
Sat 1 August, 6pm	All Parishioners
Sun 2 August, 10am	Margaret Yates, S
Sun 2 August, 12.15pm	Canon Bernard Devine, D
Mon 3 August, 10am	Brian Watkins, RD
Tues 4 August, 10am	Patricia Dyson, RD
Wed 5 August, 10am	Frank Coyle, RD
Thurs 6 August 10am	Special Intention
Fri 7 August, 10am	Patrick McGinty, D
Sat 8 August, 10am	Anne Walsh, D
Sat 8 August, 6pm	All Parishioners
Sun 9 August, 10am	Tom Rutherford, D
Sun 9 August, 12.15pm	Fr. Richard Rodgers, RD

RD = Recently Deceased; D = Deceased; S = Sick; SI = Special Intention

Sick: Margaret Gallagher, Maria Kelly (Millport), Lidia Tracey, Helen McShane, Peter Leitch, Colette McCafferty, Alex Greig, Sarah McDougall, Bruce McDougall, Jessie Clements, Baby Ava May Cleary, Teresa Black, Peter McConville, Claire McConville, Lizzie Park, Ness Cranston, Francis Livingstone, Lorraine McBride, Tommy Monaghan, Marie Gómez Fernández, Margaret Rutherford, Martin Doherty, Ben Brownlie, Sheena Lane, William Percy, Roddy Galbraith, Donal Hughes, Jonny Bilchak, James Reddoch, May Holland, Richard Dorman, Jessie Barr, Eileen Walker, John Hutchison, James McGinty, Eddie McCarthy, Joseph Donnelly, Alistair Murphy, Isabella McNally, Benet Brodie, Sr. **Recently Deceased:** Frank Coyle, Angeles García Mora. **Anniversary of Death:** Rose and Bob Simpson.

Special Anniversaries & Birthdays: Bridie and Jim Lamont, Golden Wedding (8th August).

NOTICES

PATRICIA DYSON, RIP: We extend heartfelt condolences and our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the late Patricia Dyson of St. Mary's Parish in Largs, who passed away on Friday 24th July. May the Lord grant her eternal rest. The Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 4th August at 10am. By law a maximum of just 20 persons may be present at a funeral. Only those named by the immediate family may thus participate in the Funeral Mass. The church will be duly sanitised and aired before and after the funeral.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION: This beautiful feast of the Lord occurs this coming Thursday, 6th August. I encourage as many as possible to follow the Mass live-streaming at 10am.

FIRST FRIDAY: August 7th. After 10am Mass, we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and recite the Sacred Heart Novena Prayers.

SERVICE OF THE WORD: Sunday, 6.30pm (live-streamed) with the full homily for the day. Ecumenical prayer recitation at 7pm.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: If anyone wishes to receive this sacrament, please phone or email me and we can set up a time and place to celebrate the sacrament in a "safe" manner.

PARISHES' ROSARY INTENTION: For a swift end to the covid-19 pandemic.

PRAYERLINE: To ask for prayers, phone: 078037 48251.

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SAFEGUARDING MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS:

For direct access to our Parish Safeguarding Coordinators: 1) Largs (Gordon Sutherland) – 07707 598929; 2) Millport (.....) – 07852 753874.

SVDP PHONE NUMBER: 07950 586214. Please direct all enquiries and requests directly to this number.

LARGS LOCKDOWN INCOME (Mar-Jun, 2020):

Month	Via Bank	At Mass	Handed In
March	£2,167	£1,708.11	--
April	£2,399	--	£1,418
May	£2,591	--	£886
June	£2,942	--	£900

BULLETIN: Requests for notices to be included in the weekly bulletin must be submitted by 12 Noon on **Wednesdays**.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER **7pm, Sunday, 2nd August**

God of all compassion,
Be with us at this present time.
As you have been with us in times past,
Continue with us in the times that are to come.
Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God whose compassion knows no bounds,
Meet us when we come to the end of our own strength.
Lead us to the place of renewal,
That we might know your presence and find ourselves renewed.
Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God whose compassion is embodied in the presence of Jesus,
May we know that presence revealed.
In the presence of your Son,
Grant that we may know that he is there for us and for all who hunger today.
Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God whose compassion responds to human need,
May we bear witness to the response of Jesus to the hungry and the weak.
Grant that in our witness,
We might respond to the needs of those around us.
Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God of all compassion,
Encompass our world in your unceasing love.
May your compassion flow to the ends of the earth
And embrace the suffering of this world.
Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

NOVENA PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

All Parishioners are invited to say this prayer for nine consecutive days beginning on whatever day you choose. The Novena can then be repeated as long as necessary.

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable
and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
suffering and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

***We fly to thy patronage,
O most Holy Mother of God.
Despise not our prayers in our necessities
But ever deliver us from all dangers,
O most Glorious and Blessed Virgin!***

THE BIBLE LIBRARY: TYPES OF BOOK (II)

Last week we took a wee look at the types of book or "literary genres" to be found in the Old Testament section of the library called the Bible. The three principal ones are: historical, sapiential (or wisdom) and prophetic.

This week, let's begin to take a look at the types of book in the New Testament.

EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SUNDAY, 2nd AUGUST 2020

There are four main categories: the Gospels, the historical book of the Acts of the Apostles, the letters of several of the Apostles and what's called apocalyptic literature, i.e. the book of Revelation or of the Apocalypse.

One thing you notice straight away is that all New Testament writings were either written directly by the Apostles or by an evangelist who worked closely with an Apostle (e.g. St. Mark's Gospel is heavily influenced by St. Peter, whilst St. Luke's Gospel is heavily influenced by St. Paul).

This apostolic foundation of the New Testament speaks to the new reality or community which Jesus established, i.e. the Church. This means that the New Testament testifies to the faith of the Church founded on the Apostles by Jesus himself. Through the New Testament, especially the Gospels, we may not ourselves be eye witnesses to Jesus, but we are ear witnesses to those who were his eye witnesses.

Let's focus this week on the term "Gospel" and examine briefly what it means.

What, then, is a Gospel? It is first and foremost the message of salvation, the "happy message" or "good news" of Jesus Christ himself. "The time has come. The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent and believe the Gospel" (Mark 1:15). The full extent of this proclamation of salvation by Jesus is tied in with his person. Not only everything he said, but also everything he did proclaimed the Gospel. In fact, both words and deeds go together and cannot be separated. Hence, the Gospel is as much an event as it is a message. The key events are Jesus' own incarnation and then his passion, death and resurrection (these three things often are called his "paschal mystery").

And so, if you look closely at the four Gospels, you will see that they put into writing, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the key events and teachings of Jesus. Their purpose is to bring those who read them to a deep personal commitment of faith in Jesus and so to share in the eternal life he promises. The faith in question is not one that we each make up for ourselves. It is the faith whose core content and extent were fixed by Jesus himself, professed by the Apostles and then by the community which began to grow around them. This faith develops but does not change. The successors of the Apostles, the Bishops, are our guides.

The four canonical Gospels, i.e. the four which the authority of the Church decided were inspired by the Holy Spirit, were not written as Jesus was going about

his ministry. No, they were formed gradually, first through a strong oral tradition and then by being carefully committed to writing by communities formed around the Apostles. Experts in the Gospels have written volumes about them, showing how deliberately they were structured, what audience they were intended for, what themes each Gospel seeks to emphasize, and so on. It is estimated that the four Gospels were written between about 60 and 110 AD.

You may have heard of other gospels called "apocryphal" gospels, e.g. the gospel of St. Thomas or even of St. Peter. These were composed in the 2nd century or later. "Apocryphal" means "put away" or "hidden." The Church considered some of these gospels to be useful but not divinely inspired. Many of them contain legends and many were falsely ascribed to an Apostle as a way to try and gain his authority. But they are not part of the divinely inspired Word of God and therefore only retain the value of whatever historical or literary relevance they may have.

Matthew, Mark and Luke are considered together as the Synoptic Gospels. The relationship between these three Gospels, if you set them down together in three parallel columns, is quite close. They often have the same stories, a similar sequence of events and even sometimes exactly the same wording. What the experts tell us is that Mark's gospel is probably the oldest. Much of the material in Matthew and Luke is taken from Mark. That said, these latter two Gospels are thought to have had another written source which explains their differences from Mark.

It is easy to see how the Gospel of St. John is unique in its recounting of the message, deeds and person of Jesus. It is very carefully structured and uses a gradual and dramatic crescendo to lead the reader to faith in Jesus. For example, the Gospel recounts seven "signs" of Jesus beginning with the wedding in Cana and ending with the resurrection of Lazarus. It also has seven speeches or discourses of Jesus in which he calls himself "I Am", the divine name in the Old Testament, culminating in St. Thomas' profession of faith, "My Lord and my God."

Each of the Gospels has its special themes, showing that the authors wanted to put particular slants on Jesus and his ministry, depending often on whom they were originally writing their gospels for (e.g. St. Matthew wrote for a Jewish audience, whilst St. Luke wrote for a Greek-speaking audience). They also wanted to highlight particular aspects of Jesus himself (e.g. Jesus as the awaited Prophet, in St. Matthew; the merciful Jesus, in St. Luke; Jesus as the incarnate Word, in St. John).

Fr. Peter

CHILDREN'S CORNER



Go and read today's Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21, and see if you can answer these questions!

1. Jesus was in a lonely place when people came to him. Why had he gone there?
 - a. To get some peace and quiet;
 - b. Because John the Baptist had died
 - c. To spend time in prayer
2. Why did the people follow him there?
 - a. To be fed
 - b. To hear his teaching and be healed
 - c. To be blessed and sent home
3. What time of day was it when Jesus fed everyone?
 - a. Noon
 - b. Breakfast time
 - c. Evening
4. What did the disciples advise Jesus to do?
 - a. To go to the village and buy food
 - b. To go themselves and buy food
 - c. To tell the people to buy food
5. How was Jesus able to multiply the loaves and fishes?
 - a. By magic
 - b. By prayer
 - c. By baking
6. The miracle of the loaves was a sign of Jesus eventually feeding us all with the bread of Holy Communion. What three words in the story are said at Mass?
 - a. Send, go and buy
 - b. Give, have and bring
 - c. Took, blessed and broke

(Answers next week!)