ST. PETER'S AND ST. FERGUS' PRISHES

Bulletin

SUNDAY 10 MAY: 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Peter's R.C. Church, 154 Braehead Road, Paisley, PA2 8NG
Phone - 0141 884 2435
Email - stpeter@rcdop.org.uk
Facebook: St Peter's Catholic Church Paisley
Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk

St. Fergus' R.C. Church
35 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1LU
Phone- 0141 884 2435
Email - stfergus@rcdop.org.uk
Facebook: St Fergus Catholic Church
Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Thomas John, *(Resident at St Peter's)*

Sunday Mass: St. Peter's 4.00pm (Sat) & 10.00 am, St. Fergus' 5.30pm (Sat) & 11.30 am
Weekday Mass: St Peter's – Tue, Thu, & Fri 10.00am; St Fergus – Mon, & Wed 9.30am
Confessions: St Peter's 3.15-3.50pm (Sat), St Fergus' 5.00 -5.25pm (Sat); and on request

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PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick, for all who have recently died in particular Sheila Curran and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

ASCENSION MASSES: Thursday 14th May is Ascension Day, Holyday of Obligation. In St Peter's School mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 13th at 1.45pm while in St Fergus School on Thursday 14th at 2 pm. Parishioners of St Fergus are very welcome to join this mass if the time suits or join for the later mass at St Peter's Church. St Peter's will have mass on Thursday 14th at 7pm.

FUNERAL MASS: A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of soul of Catherine McCann on Thursday 14th May at 9.30am in St Fergus Church.

NEW STALL: Please visit our new refurbished stall in St Peter's Church with varieties of religious articles and gifts for various occasions. Framed religious pictures, rosaries, medals, bibles for both children and adults, greeting cards, mass cards, and a host of others available. It will open before and after mass on weekends. Thanks to Kathleen O'Neil and her family for their hard work.

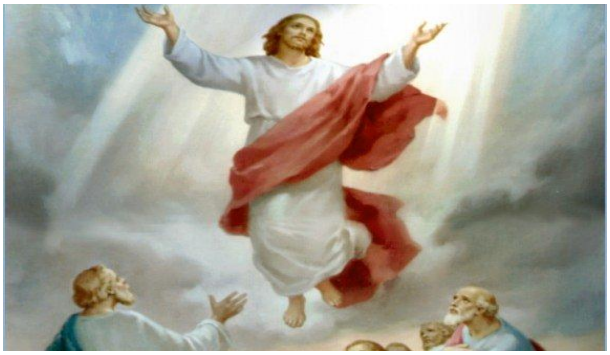
HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: 22 children of St Peter's School and 11 children of St Fergus School received the sacrament of Confirmation, Thursday 7th May at St Mirin's Cathedral. 37 children of St Peter's School received the sacrament of Holy Communion, Saturday 9th May at St Peter's Church. We Congratulate them and extend our prayerful wishes.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (03 May): St Peter's - Offertory: £499.00, B. Fund: £352.00, Vocations: £88.00. St Fergus – Offertory: £219.00, B. Fund: £142.00, Lucky Star: 36.00

REGISTRATION: If you are a new parishioner, please enter your name and address in our new parish register which is placed in the main chapel as you enter (Both parishes).

P4-P7 PENTECOST RETREAT DAY: The diocesan Youth Commission invites children in P4-P7 to a Retreat Day on Sunday 24th May from 1.45pm-5pm. The theme is "Our Friends, the Saints: The Children of Mary." The Retreat takes place in St James's church and hall on Greenock Road in Paisley (PA3 2LD). It will include Holy Mass. A light dinner will be provided. Registration is necessary https://tinyurl.com/ps-pentecost26.
Email Fr Ryan for more info: VE-Youth@rcdop.org.uk.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD:



When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking

intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away (Acts 1:1–12)

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord commemorates the fortieth day after the Resurrection when Jesus ascended body and soul into Heaven and took His seat at the right hand of His Father.

In the Apostles Creed we pray: "He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead…"

The Ascension marks the completion of Jesus' earthly mission. It was celebrated annually from as early as apostolic times.

Historically, this holy has been celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday – the Thursday in the sixth week of Easter. When celebrated on a Thursday, the Ascension of the Lord remains a holy day of obligation. The Church expects Catholics to attend Mass every Sunday already, so when the Ascension is celebrated on a Sunday, attendance is doubly encouraged. This year this feast is celebrated on Thursday 14th May, while in some places, the Feast is transferred to Sunday.

St. Augustine first points us to reflect on the Ascension with the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Colossians (Col. 3:1-4):

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

In the words of St Leo, *at the end of His earthly life Jesus ascends triumphantly into heaven. The Church acclaims Him in His holy humanity, invited to sit on the Father's right hand and to share His glory. But Christ's Ascension is the pledge of our own. Filled with an immense hope, the Church looks up towards her leader, who precedes her into the heavenly home and takes her with Him in His own person: "for the Son of God, after incorporating in Himself those whom the devil's jealousy had banished from the earthly paradise, ascends again to His Father and takes them with Him."*

St Paul in his letter to 1 Timothy 3:16 has this to say:

"He was manifested in the flesh,
Vindicated by the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Proclaimed among the nations,
Believed on in the world
Taken up in glory."

Only Jesus and His Blessed Mother have entered into the glories of Heaven, body and soul. Jesus' Ascension implies that He did so by His own authority and power. The Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption implies that she entered Heaven, body and soul, by God's power, and not her own.

As we celebrate the Ascension, try to prayerfully meditate upon the perfect unity of Jesus' human and divine natures. Ponder further the truth that because the Son of God is both God and man, and He beholds His Father and the Holy Spirit as both God and man, He invites each of us to begin to share in that glorious vision. Only after we fully die in and with Him and rise to new life in and with Him will we be able to know Him clearly and share in His glorious resurrected and ascended life.

SAFEGUARDING THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY: We regard as paramount our concern for the safety of all in our parish communities especially children and vulnerable adults.

A FAMILY DAY WITH MARY - SUNDAY 17TH MAY - 2-4PM: Bishop John and the Marriage, Family, and Life Commission warmly invite you to join families throughout the Diocese for an afternoon of celebration and fun in honour of Mary our Mother! The day will begin at 2 PM in St Francis of Assisi - Port Glasgow parish hall on Sunday, the 17th of May, and will include prayer, games, activities for children, and refreshments for all. We will conclude with Holy Mass at 4 PM, celebrated by Bishop John. The focus of this Family Day will be Our Lady of Fatima. Catechesis for children & families, Home baking and refreshments, Holy Rosary, Holy Mass.

COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY: Next weekend, the Church marks Communications Sunday, a day to reflect on how the Gospel is shared through media, digital platforms, broadcasting and communications. From parish social media pages and livestreamed Masses to Catholic television, videos and news coverage, communications play an important role in helping people stay connected to the life of the Church. The second collection next weekend will support the work of the Office of Communications and Evangelisation of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland.