



ST. PETER'S AND ST. FERGUS' PRISHES  
Bulletin  
SUNDAY 31 MAY: THE MOST HOLY TRINITY -  
SOLEMNITY



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

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

PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick: Rosemary McMulkin; for all who have recently died in particular Jean Davidson and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Norrie McCabe, and Hannah Nolan.

FUNERAL MASSES IN ST PETER'S: A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of soul of Robert McCarthy on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 10am at Peter's. His remains will be received into Church immediately before the mass.

A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of soul of Elizabeth Chalmers on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 10am at St Peter's. Her remains will be received into Church immediately before the mass.

May they rest in peace.

No mass in St Fergus on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (24 May): St Peter's – Offertory: £367.00, B. Fund: £360.00, Hall Lets: £180.00, Votives: £360.00. St Fergus: Offertory: 256.00.

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. Next safeguarding training is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm at Diocesan Centre Paisley.

MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2026 - Bishop John Keenan warmly invites all engaged and married couples, along with their families, children and friends, to St Mirin's Cathedral Paisley this Sunday the 31st May, the Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity, to celebrate the gift of marriage! The celebration begins with Mass at 11am, followed by a reception in the Cathedral Hall.

POPE LEO XIV'S FIRST ENCYCLICAL LETTER, *MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS*.

*Magnificent Humanity* as a timely and insightful contribution to one of the defining questions of our

age. As artificial intelligence rapidly reshapes human life, this important document calls us to place the dignity of the human person at the heart of every technological advance. The Bishops of Scotland encourage the faithful, schools and parish communities to read, study and pray with this landmark text. To support this, the Office of Communications and Evangelisation will soon publish a parish study guide and other resources for small groups and parish use, helping communities to reflect more deeply on the opportunities and challenges of new technologies and their impact on human life.

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY:

Trinity Sunday, also known as Holy Trinity Sunday, is celebrated a week after Pentecost Sunday in honour of the most fundamental of Christian beliefs—belief in the Holy Trinity.

*“Father,” “Son,” “Holy Spirit” are not simply names designating modalities of the divine being, for they are really distinct from one another: “He is not the Father who is the Son, nor is the Son he who is the Father, nor is the Holy Spirit he who is the Father or the Son” (Council of Toledo XI (675)). They are distinct from one another in their relations of origin: “It is the Father who generates, the Son who is begotten, and the Holy Spirit who proceeds” (Lateran Council IV (1215)). The divine Unity is Triune ~Catechism of the Catholic Church #254*

The Holy Trinity is a dogma of faith and so it is central to Christian faith and life. It is first and foremost a mystery and thereby becomes the source of all the other mysteries of faith. The object of the feast is this: There is one God and in this one God there are three Divine Persons; the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Yet there

are not three Gods, but one, eternal, incomprehensible God! The Father is not more God than the Son, neither is the Son more God than the Holy Spirit.

The Father is the first Divine Person; the Son is the second Divine Person, begotten from the nature of the Father from eternity; the Holy Spirit is the third Divine Person, proceeding from the Father and the Son. We do not confess three Gods, but one God in three persons, the “consubstantial Trinity.” In the words of the Fourth Lateran Council of 1215, each of the persons is that supreme reality, viz., the divine substance, essence or nature. This statement itself tends to confuse many people. And so not everyone can fully understand the sublime truth contained in it.

In the first place this dogma of faith is a mystery and hence this has become one of the most fiercely debated dogmas in the early centuries of the Church. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith. It is much above our rational understanding. It is above our natural comprehension. As supernatural realities, we cannot easily understand or grasp the truth about it unless it is revealed by God. This makes the Trinity a mystery.

In Scripture, it is revealed that God is One and God is Three, in that the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. This faith was held by the Church from her beginning. With time a theological language was developed, largely to exclude various errors about the nature of God (e.g. three gods, or three modes or aspects of God). After the end of Roman persecution in 313 A.D., the theological work of defeating errors regarding God and Christ was taken up by the great Councils of the fourth and fifth centuries. Trinity, specifically, seems to have been in use by the end of the second century.

Today’s solemnity did not enter the General Roman Calendar until the fourteenth century, partly because we are called to honour and worship the Most Holy Trinity every day and in every liturgy. But designating one Sunday on which we ponder the inner life of the Most Holy Trinity is an opportunity to renew and deepen our honour and worship.

As the Divine Mystery above all mysteries, we must begin by humbly acknowledging that we will never, not even in Heaven, have a complete understanding of God’s essence, His inner reality. Only God knows Himself fully. Not even the Blessed Virgin Mary or the highest choirs of angels see Him and know Him as He sees and knows Himself.

Nonetheless, every creature, whether angel or human, is called to probe the mysteries of God to the fullest extent possible. In that probing, contemplating, and understanding, we discover the purpose of our lives and experience the fullness of beatitude to which we are called. God and God alone satisfies the hungry, weary, and seeking soul (EWTN).

#### Every Life Matters: Scotland’s Abortion Figures Demand a Compassionate Response:

New figures from Public Health Scotland show that 18,783 abortions were recorded in Scotland in 2025, the highest number on record, with repeat abortions, disability-selective abortions and later abortions all increasing in recent years.

The latest statistics show that abortion numbers in Scotland have risen by 54.78% since 2016, increasing from 12,135 to 18,783. Over the same period, the abortion rate rose from 11.9 to 17.6 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44. The figures also show that repeat abortions reached 7,927 in 2025, accounting for 42.2% of all abortions.

Particular concern will be felt at the increase in disability-selective abortions and abortions taking place at a later stage of pregnancy. In 2025 there were 277 disability-selective abortions, a rise of 61.05% since 2018, while abortions carried out between 18- and 20-weeks’ gestation rose to 138, an increase of 50% over the same period. These figures underline the urgent need for a more compassionate response to women facing difficult pregnancies and for greater protection of unborn children.

Responding to the latest statistics, Bishop John Keenan, President of the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland, said:

*“Behind every figure is a unique human life, created with inherent dignity, and a mother who may be facing fear, isolation or hardship. These numbers should prompt not resignation, but a renewed determination to build a society where every life is welcomed and protected. “The Church does not underestimate the real challenges that can accompany a crisis or unexpected pregnancy. Women deserve practical, emotional and financial support, not a culture that too often presents abortion as the only solution. “We call on the Scottish Government and all MSPs to develop a culture and legal framework that expands support rather than abortion, one in which unborn children, including disabled children, are cherished, and in which no woman feels abandoned. Scotland should aspire to be a nation where compassion means standing with both mother and child, and where the dignity of every human life is defended from conception to natural death.”*

Fr. Michael Kane

Director, Communication and Evangelization