



St Francis Xavier's Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML15AJ

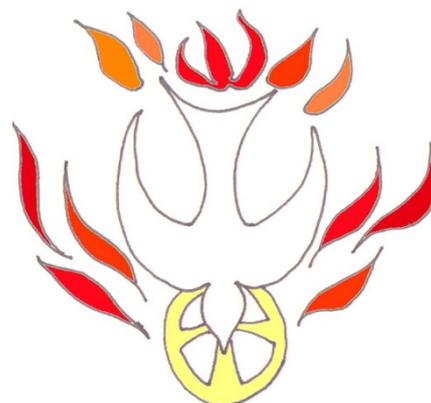


16th May 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Waiting for the Spirit

After Jesus ascended into heaven the apostles gathered in prayer to await the coming of the Holy Spirit. We gather in prayer this Sunday as we await for a new coming of the spirit at Pentecost. Each Pentecost renews the grace of the first Pentecost in us and the church. Let us pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit that the Lord will dispose us to receive the Holy Spirit and may his coming breathe new life into us.



Acts This tells how Matthias was chosen to fill the gap left by the defection of Judas. Jesus had chosen 12 apostles to be the nucleus of the new Israel, the church, just as the Jews trace their roots back to the 12 sons of Jacob so the new Israel (the Church, Chosen People of God) is rooted in the 12 apostles.

Gospel Here we have part of Jesus solemn prayer at the Last Supper Jesus prays for his present and future disciples who are to carry on his work in the world. He commits them to the Fathers care.

This week you are invited to celebrate

MONDAY

NO 10.00am Mass

- 1.00pm Pilgrims Mass in the Glass chapel
- 6.00pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (*Glass chapel*)
- 7.00pm Holy Mass in the Glass Chapel
- 8.00pm Holy Rosary at the Lourdes shrine

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

- 9.30am Rosary in the church
- 10.00am Holy Mass in the church
- 1.00pm Pilgrims Mass in the Glass chapel
- 8.00pm Holy Rosary at the Lourdes shrine

WEEKEND MASSES

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|-----------------|---------|----------------------|
| SATURDAY | 5.00pm | Vigil Mass in church |
| SUNDAY | 9.00am | Holy Mass in church |
| | 10.00am | Holy Mass in church |
| | 11.00am | Holy Mass in church |
| | 11.00am | Holy Mass in Hall |

N.B. Weather permitting the 1.00pm Mass being a pilgrim's Mass will take place in the Glass chapel and will have a collection taken up so that pilgrims may support the grotto. If the weather is inclement and people would be unable to gather outside, then the Mass will be celebrated in the main church.

Fr McGachey

Last Thursday, it was wonderful to welcome back Fr McGachey for the Fatima Mass on the 13th of the month. As all present that evening would have seen, Father Francis is looking extremely well and very relaxed. I have spoken to him with regard to a presentation to commemorate his nine years as your Parish Priest. He emphasised that he wanted to come back to thank the people who had been so good to him and due to his health was unable to do this before he left. He welcomes such an opportunity to return and do just that. I would hope we could do this at some point in September. **Watch this space.**



The Month of May Month of Mary

This coming Saturday sees the beginning of the month dedicated to Our Blessed Lady, the lovely month of May. **Pope Francis asks us to invoke Our Lady through the Rosary in her month of May, for an end to the pandemic.**

The Holy Rosary will be prayed 30 minutes before the weekday Masses – Monday - Friday.

Each evening during May at 8.00pm, the Holy Rosary will be recited at the Lourdes shrine in the grotto.

On Tuesdays of May the 8.00pm rosary will be broadcast via social media throughout the United Kingdom.

The First Holy Communion celebrations

Fri 21st May Paul McGuinness
7.00pm (Glass chapel)

Fri 28th May Sofia Johnston
7.00pm (Glass chapel)

Sat 22nd May Andrew McDougall / Calum Reeves
10.00am

Sat 29th May Poppy Somerville / Beau Sullivan
10.00am Olivia Boyle

Sat 19th June Ciaran Lettis / Erin Battersby
10.00am Isaac Managa / Ethan McCormick

Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers.

CONFESSION

This Monday evening (6.00pm) I will have the pleasure of celebrating the Sacrament of God's Forgiveness with Paul McGuinness, Andrew McDougall and Calum Reeves

THANK YOU FOR LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION	
Loose & GiftAid	£ 1980
Standing Orders	£ 152
Total	£ 2032
Contactless (Grotto)	£ 10

A polite and gentle reminder, please to switch off your mobile phones before coming into church.
THANK YOU.



Mr Paul McWatt, Head Teacher of Taylor High School

The priests of the 'feeder' parishes to Taylor High School met last week with the new headmaster, Mr Paul McWatt. He is a committed Catholic and extremely enthusiastic to continue to build on the Catholic ethos which is so much part of Taylor High School. I have invited him to come and speak to all the parishioners here at one of the Sunday Masses and he has very readily agreed to do so. We wish him every best wish in his role as head teacher.

Legion of Mary

Next Sunday afternoon, the **Legion of Mary** in Scotland will be having Holy Mass in the grotto to celebrate the centenary of the founding of the Legion of Mary by Frank Duff in Dublin 100 years ago. Bishop Toal will be the main celebrant and the Legion of Mary have also invited a number of priests to come and concelebrate this centenary with them.

Tea Room

The experiment with the tea room in the Bernadette suite in the Xavier Centre has come to an end. Experience has shown that the room itself is just too small to accommodate anything more than around 12 people but it was enjoyable to meet some of the parishioners after morning Mass and to share a blether with them over a cup of tea or coffee. Alas, the school groups coming next week will need the use of this room.

Work on the café in the Pilgrimage Centre has not progressed any. I do not think it will be open this side of Christmas but, let's see.

READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

		CHURCH	HALL
Sat	5.00pm	Liz McMahan	
Sun	9.00am	Alan Panton	
Sun	10.00am	Aileen Muir	
Sun	11.00am	John Paul Cairns	<i>volunteer</i>

Special Collection in May

The Diocesan special collection in May is for Sick and Retired Priests. In 2020, the costs to the diocese for sick and retired priests was in excess of £305K, whereas the special collection was only raised £29,850. The deficit of about £275K had to be met from diocesan funds.

Donations can also be made using the Payacharity online portal on the front page of the diocesan website – www.rcdom.org.uk. One of the options provided is for Sick and Retired Priests and the donation can be gift-aided.

Weekday Mass numbers

I have been taking a note of the numbers attending the 10:00 o'clock Mass and the 1:00 o'clock Pilgrim's Mass as well as the Monday evening 7.00pm Mass. I only have the last two weeks to go by but unless the numbers attending the 1:00 o'clock Mass were to increase dramatically I would have to consider 'dropping' this Mass. The same applies to the Monday evening Mass. I shall continue to monitor the situation and will keep you abreast of my thoughts. Now that I have been here for over a year I am beginning to get a feel for the considerable demands made on both my time and energy. In a chat with Fr McGachey last Thursday evening, he voiced the opinion that what happened to him should be a reminder to all priests that we have to be cautious with regard to what we would like to do and what we can actually do – and I have about 15 years on Fr McGachey!!!

I anticipate that in order to be able to keep up and fulfil the demands I would need one day a week where there would be nothing on in the grotto or in the parish church - a so called 'desert day' or to use a Latin phrase 'dies non' (in other words, a day when nothing happens and I am unavailable.) I will continue to pray about this in the weeks ahead.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sick: James Rielly

Recently Dead: Joel Glauser, John McAlister, Grennio Franchitti, Kathleen Melville, Eileen Pierrott, Daniel Sweeney, Mary Taylor, May Conner, Jim Oates (St Bernadette's), Bill Divers, Katie McEwen, Sean McGuigan

Anniversary: Lizzie McVey, Gerald Riordan, Joseph Hughes, Mary McMorrow

Months Mind: Agnes & John Riordan, Anne Marie (Cullion) Jeffrey

*May the Risen Lord shine his
peace and light on everyone.*

ST ALOYSIUS HIGH SCHOOL, Glasgow will bring groups to the grotto four days this coming week.

Remembrance Event for the Unborn

Carfin Grotto 22nd May 2021, 2pm



SPUC Scotland is marking the 14,000 babies lost to abortion in Scotland during a year, by the laying of a carpet of White Flowers in Carfin Grotto. Next Saturday, Bishop Toal of Motherwell will bless this poignant display and afterwards, prayers will be said for the repose of the souls of these lost lives.

Given the present COVID regulations and that this is the first public event in the Grotto since the lifting of restrictions, we cannot exceed 250 at the event. Therefore, could you also please share the following link where bookings can be made.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/white-flower-remembrance-event-for-the-unborn-tickets-154723587415>

UNA VOCE SCOTLAND

The Society for the preservation of the traditional Latin Mass is delighted to be hosting a Sung Mass in the Extraordinary Form at Carfin Grotto on the 4th of June 2021. The evening will begin with Holy Rosary and Confessions at 7.00pm followed by a Sung Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart at 7.30 pm.

The Mass will be offered outdoors at the Glass Chapel (No cap on numbers) or in the parish church in the case of inclement weather (cap of 120)

<https://unavocesotland.org/.../ef-carfin-booking-now-open/>



Other Events coming up in the grotto

Fri 11 th June	Sacred Heart Total Abstinence Society (Pioneers)	Mass in the church at 7.30pm
Sun 6 th June	Ukrainian Pilgrimage, 12.00noon	Ukrainian Liturgy in the Glass chapel
Sun 6 th June	Feast of Corpus Christi	Blessed Sacrament Procession
Sun 13 th June	Fatima devotions	Marian Procession, Holy Mass and Benediction
Sun 20 th June	Motherwell Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalite	Holy Mass and Blessing of the Sick, 3.00pm
Sun 15 th August	Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady into Heaven	Torchlight Procession
Sun 5 th September	Scottish National Pilgrimage to Carfin	Holy Mass at 3.00pm
Wed 8 th September	Our Lady's Birthday	Torchlight Procession
Sun 10 th October	End of the 'Grotto season'	Torchlight Procession

BAPTISMS When Deacon Jim Aitken was here, he celebrated all the Baptisms which left Fr McGachey free to attend to any Sunday events in the grotto. Now that we have no deacon, it will fall to me to celebrate all the Baptisms. Since I am going to be involved in some of the grotto events (see above) I think it would be prudent to restrict Baptisms to ONCE A MONTH. I propose to celebrate Baptisms on 20th of June at 12.45pm. (NB odd time, I have something in the grotto at 3.00pm that day).

If you have already spoken to me about Baptism, can you confirm with me, please, if you wish to avail yourselves of that date. Thank you.

