

St Francis Xavier's Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ



SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

16th February 2020

FULFILL – NOT ABOLISH

“You have heard...but I say this to you...”



Far from abolishing law and tradition, Jesus aims to **IMPROVE** and **EXTEND IT**.

PREPARING FOR HOLY MASS - WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO US TODAY?

Ecclesiasticus

This reading contains the clearest statement in the Old Testament concerning the God-given freedom of the human will. It exonerates God from all responsibility for evil in the world. We're free and we're responsible. Not even God takes away our powers to choose good or evil. **We decide and we take the consequences of our choices.**

Paul

Paul tries to give the Christians in Corinth the best reasons for believing in the superiority of their wisdom and way of life. The strongest claim he can make is that it all comes from God, for no one is wiser or stronger than God.

Matthew

St Matthew illustrates Jesus' attitude to the Law. Jesus has not come to dispense with the Law rather he asks for a deeper observance of it. Jesus wants to get to the heart of the commandments. He has come to bring them to their intended purpose. **Jesus is not bringing us 'Commandments lite'.** On the contrary, you could say that he is **tightening the screws!**



This week you are invited to celebrate

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| MON | 10.00am | Holy Mass |
| TUE | 10.00am | Holy Mass |
| WED | 10.00am | Holy Mass |
| THU | 10.00am 7.00pm | Holy Mass Sacrament of Forgiveness |
| FRI | 10.00am | Holy Mass |
| SAT | 10.00am 4.15 - 4.45pm 5.00pm | Holy Mass Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday |
| SUN | Seventh Sunday of the Year (A) | |
| | 9.00am 11.00am | Holy Mass Holy Mass <i>Admission to Candidacy for Ordination as a Permanent Deacon of George Frame</i> |



THURSDAY EVENING CONFESSIONS



7.00 pm - 7.50 pm

Quiet Hour of Prayer
Before the
Most Blessed Sacrament.



At 7.50 pm we conclude with a
simple Night Prayer

www.facebook.com/carfingrotto

The recently created Facebook page which has been generated to promote Carfin Lourdes Grotto has now over 4,650 followers and in a matter of only a few weeks has become the largest Facebook page associated with the Diocese of Motherwell. During this past week, the events surrounding the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes were watched by thousands from all over the world. You don't have to be a member of Facebook to access this Facebook page. It is open to everyone. **Simply type the address above.**

THANK YOU



I wish to place on record my thanks to everyone who in any way, large or small, helped us to celebrate

the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and to offer a warm welcome to the visitors who came to Carfin to join with us in our celebrations of the feast. **May God reward you all.**

LARGE PRINT MISSALETTE

A few people mentioned last weekend that they struggles to read the missalette because the print was so small. In actual fact it is larger print than standard hymn book print or commercially produced Mass sheets, certainly larger than newsprint. Nevertheless, I have sympathy with those who who struggled with the smaller print missalette so I have pointed two dozen large print missalettes for those who wish to use them. If you wish one, simply ask a passkeeper.

With today's emphasis on conserving the environment, I am conscious of the need to try and cut down on the amount of paper we use. Please note, the missalettes are all recycled after use.

Joe Greenhorn RIP

Our sympathies go to the family of the late Joe Greenhorn from Beechworth Drive who was called to the Father's house at the beginning of the week. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.

COMING SOON

A double DVD commemorating the visit of the relics of St Therese to Scotland last September.

Disk 1 'The Little Flower in Scotland'

Disk 2 'In search of the Little Flower.'

Price £10.00 each

WANTED



Volunteers to assist with the cleaning of the church on Thursdays after 10.00am Mass.

COPING WITH THE CASHLESS SOCIETY

I have only been here a week but even in that short space of time I have come to the realisation that one of the most daunting tasks I have to face is to find the financial resources to fund the day to day running and maintenance of the grotto. I am aware of the number of visitors who come here to spend sometime in prayer or attend Mass in the church, but one of the features of modern life is that many people no longer carry cash. They do say we are rapidly becoming a 'cashless society' since lots of people nowadays just use their credit/debit card. With that in mind, I have made enquiries with one of the companies that supply these contactless payment devices.

This company can supply a small contactless reader for around £30, but it does NOT have the ability to have a separate screen to allow the user to select the amount, however unlike most of the other companies I have looked at, this company offers a feature that allows the device to be set to continually take payments of a pre-defined amount. *Eg. you could have the device set at £2 for example, and you can tap as many times as you like.*

The device has to connect to an Iphone and then to the internet to process payments, but this should not be a major problem. This way **there are no monthly fees**, the only fee is (I think) 1.75% per transaction received.

There are other companies who produce more bespoke devices which have the advantage of allowing the user to select an amount easily, but the costs are much higher.

These other units range from £350 - £1500 to buy and then have monthly fees of around £12.50 and then also charge a higher transaction fee of 2.5% + 10p for every donation.

I propose to purchase one of the small readers for £30 to test it out and see if it would be a possible solution and work out exactly what charges will be involved. *If anyone has any advice or expertise in these matters, I'd be glad to discuss this with you.*

Visit of the Relics of the Little Flower SOUVENIR BOOKLETS



A most interesting booklet was compiled as a souvenir of the historic visit of the relics of St Therese of Lisieux to Scotland. It contains many interesting articles and photos—one of which was written by Fr McGachey.

These are on sale for £5.00 from the porch of the church. If you cannot afford the £5.00, then please leave a donation of what you can afford.



Please leave the money in the box provided.

|  PARISH INFORMATION  | |
|--|---|
|  | Clergy: Fr Jim Grant, PP. Deacon Jim Aitken |
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|  | Facebook www.facebook.com/carfingrotto |
|  | Twitter twitter.com/CarfinGrotto |
|  | Instagram www.instagram.com/carfingrotto |
|  | YouTube www.youtube.com/channel/UC- |
|  | Safeguarding Elizabeth McMahon Geraldine Battersby |

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Recently Dead Mary Brocket, Joe Greenhorn, Benny Thomson, Peter Dougan, Charles Blessing, Robert Smith

Anniversaries Agnes Carruthers, Owen Gallagher, Charles Savage, John McFarlane, Gerard Devine

 *Eternal rest give unto them O Lord.* 
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION



GiftAid : £540

Loose : £950

Total : £1490

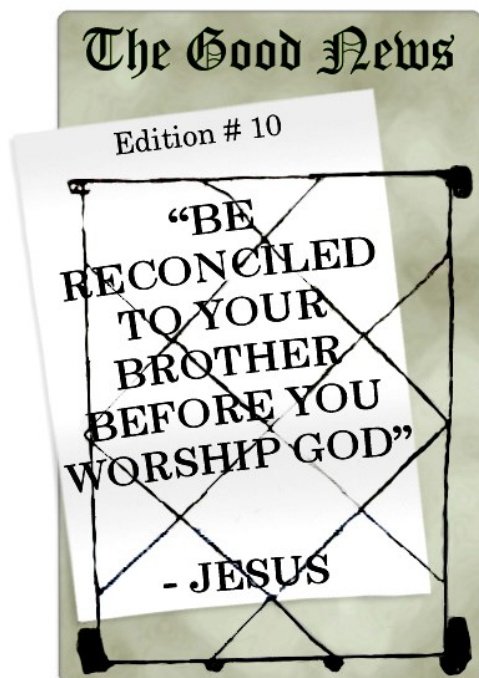
THE PARISH CHOIR - NEW MEMBERS

I have a special interest in church music. I believe that good music both enables people to pray and such prayers in turn fosters faith. It is my intention to introduce some new music to our liturgies. This would be achieved so much more easily with the help of the choir. Please see the very encouraging piece about the health benefits of belonging to a choir. Have a read and think about this. **More info to follow in future weeks.**



LENTEEN FAITH SHARING GROUP

Janet Kelly from Newarthill extends an invitation to any who may be interested in joining a 'Lenten Faith Sharing Group' which meets on Thursday afternoons at 1.30pm - 3.30pm with tea and socialising to close. Janet's Tel. No. is 01698 734171 or 07700300831 for any who would like further details. *An evening meeting could be arranged for anyone interested.*



SCIAF BOXES These are available from the church porch for those who wish to use them for their Lenten almsgiving. Please feel free to take them away and return them during Holy Week.

How can one who harbours anger, envy, bitterness, indifference, aversion of any kind against his neighbour, have part in the Sacrifice of Him Who offers Himself for His enemies?

