



# St Francis Xavier's Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ



## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

23rd February 2020

### STRIVE FOR PERFECTION

*Be Holy, for I, your God, am Holy*

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

**LEVITICUS** The Israelites are told that the Lord is holy; therefore they, his people, must also be holy. The second part of the reading forbids the Israelite to nurture hatred of his fellow-Israelite. v. 18 contains the commandment: *'You must love your neighbour as yourself'*.

**MARK** In Leviticus, the commandment *'You must love your neighbour as yourself'* is restricted to fellow-Israelites. Here Jesus broadens it to include everyone, Gentiles as well as Jews, enemies as well as friends. His disciples are to love as God loves.

Since God is holy, we are to be holy. We are holy when we imitate the generosity of God by not exacting vengeance, or bearing a grudge against another.

**PAUL** Paul gives us the most profound reason of all why we should respect one another: we are the Temple of God. Individually and collectively the Holy Spirit dwells in us. This is also the basis of our unity.



#### This week you are invited to celebrate

<b>MON</b>	10.00am	Holy Mass <i>Requiem for Tom McAleese</i>
<b>TUE</b>	10.00am	Holy Mass
<b>ASH WED</b>	10.00am 1.00pm 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass
<b>THU</b>	10.00am 12.30pm 1.00pm 7.00pm	Holy Mass <i>Requiem for Gerry O'Kane</i> Stations of the Cross Holy Mass Sacrament of Forgiveness
<b>FRI</b>	10.00am 1.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass
<b>SAT</b>	10.00am 4.15 - 4.45pm 5.00pm	Holy Mass Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday
<b>SUN</b>	<i>First Sunday of Lent (A)</i>	
	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass

#### Welcome to Bishop Toal

This weekend we welcome Bishop Toal to our 11.00am Mass. He is here to confer candidacy on George Frame who, God willing, will be ordained a permanent deacon later on this year. We welcome George's family who will attend the 11.00am Mass and we extend our best wishes and prayers to George as he takes this penultimate step leading to ordination.

#### This Wednesday is a Day of Fast and abstinence.

- One full meal
- No flesh meat.

Every person between the age of 18 and 59 (beginning of 60th year) must fast on Ash Wednesday

Catholics aged 14 and older must refrain from meat



# Lent 2020



It goes without saying that each person can choose their own challenge which they can carry out individually but sometimes it helps us persevere in whatever challenge when accompanied by others.

Each year, our Holy Mother, the Church offers us this time of grace as well as challenge when we are invited to take up the ancient Christian practices of **PRAYER FASTING ALMSGIVING**, *practices which we share with other religions*. Our Mother, the Church invites us, Her children, to make use of these tried and tested ways that we might come closer to God and to each other. Please think carefully about how you will keep this Lent, 2020. If I may set each of you a challenge **ONE EXTRA MASS PER WEEK**.

*I have deliberately 'scaled down' the number of Lenten Masses and liturgies which you have been used to in previous years. I quite simply would not have the necessary energy to fulfil all the different opportunities made available to you by Fr McGachey. Let us not forget that such a hefty liturgical programme eventually took its toll on his health. I do not want to risk the same adverse effect on my health. (I am at least 15 years older than Fr McGachey!). Besides, I have personal experience in past years of providing a very full Lenten schedule, and by the time Holy Week comes one just wants Lent to be over – too many Masses and liturgies, like too much food leads to 'spiritual indigestion'! It ultimately takes its toll on the spiritual health of the priest.*

*I trust you will understand the reasons behind my decision to 'scale down'. If I had an assistant priest, things would be very much different. All the more reason to pray for an increase in priestly vocations.*

LENTEN SCHEDULE		
MON	1.00pm	Holy Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration
	6.45pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00pm	Holy Mass
TUE	10.00am	Holy Mass
	12.30pm	Stations of the Cross
	1.00pm	Holy Mass
WED	10.00am	Holy Mass
	12.30pm	Holy Rosary
	1.00pm	Holy Mass
THU	10.00am	Holy Mass
	12.30pm	Stations of the Cross
	1.00pm	Holy Mass
	7.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions
	8.00pm	Night Prayer
FRI	10.00am	Holy Mass
	1.00pm	Holy Mass
SAT	10.00am	Holy Mass
	4.15pm	Confessions
	5.00pm	Holy Mass (Vigil)
SUN	9.00am	Holy Mass
	11.00am	Holy Mass
	6.00pm	Holy Hour begins
	6.30pm	Vespers / Benediction

**SCIAF BOXES** are available from the porch for those who wish to use them for their Lenten almsgiving.

## Visit of the Relics of the Little Flower SOUVENIR BOOKLETS

These are on sale for **£5.00** from the porch.

*Please leave the money in the box provided.*



## DAY OF PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ABUSED

The Catholic Church in Scotland will again keep the Friday after Ash Wednesday as our Day of Prayer for those who have suffered, or are suffering, from abuse of all forms. I attach the Liturgical materials prepared by the National Liturgy Commission for use in your parish and community Liturgies and Devotions on that day. I ask that you read them and decide how best to use them. It is necessary that we continue to pray especially for victims of abuse within the Church, for healing and consolation for those who have been so gravely wronged. **Bishop Toal will lead the Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral that evening at 7.00pm. ALL WELCOME**

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

On Saturday 22nd of February the 40 Days for Life Lenten Prayer and Fasting Vigil for an end to abortion will commence with the celebration of Holy Mass at 1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral. Archbishop Tartaglia will be the celebrant. The 40 Days for Life Vigil will then take place as before from Ash Wednesday, 26th February, from 8am until 8pm each day outside of the Hardgate Road entrance to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (QEUH). The Vigil will close on Palm Sunday 5th April at the QEUH. Please consider what you are going to do for Lent. Come and pray for a culture of life here in Scotland and around the world. If you would like more information then please contact [Ogilvie1615@outlook.com](mailto:Ogilvie1615@outlook.com). This is a worldwide campaign, composed of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach. It has inspired over a million volunteers around the globe. Its successes are impressive: 16,742 children saved from abortion; 196 abortion workers converted; 104 abortion centres closed.

## LARGE PRINT MISSALETTE

Large print missalettes are available. If you wish one, simply ask a passkeeper.

## COMING SOON - £10.00 each

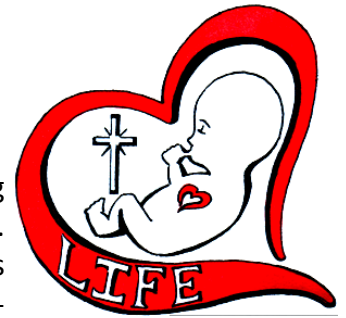
A double DVD commemorating the visit of the relics of St Therese to Scotland last September.

- Disk 1 'The Little Flower in Scotland'**
- Disk 2 'In search of the Little Flower.'**

## ABORTION

### THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN 2019

Abortion was the leading cause of death in 2019. Right to Life UK reports that abortion was the leading cause of death across the world in 2019. More than 42 million abortions took place across the planet last year, which compares to 21.2 million deaths due to illness, including cancer. According to the Worldometer site, there have already been approximately 1,500,000 abortions already in 2020. The number of abortions in Scotland reached a ten year high in 2018, totalling 13,286. This included an increased number of abortions for chromosomal 'abnormalities' such as Down's Syndrome. Nine in ten babies with Down's Syndrome are aborted in the UK. The number of women presenting for repeat abortions also increased in Scotland, rising 11% between 2017 and 2018. It is a tragedy that abortion is seen as the only option for many women. A society that allows a woman to terminate the life of her unborn child is not a loving, compassionate society; it is a society that sees the weakest and most vulnerable as dispensable, and it is a society that has failed its mothers. Instead of promoting abortion, society – through governments and elected representatives – ought to be standing up for its youngest members and challenging the abortion culture.



## MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The ALMA Group of young people, who will accompany the Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July, celebrated Mass and met together this week. Part of their preparation involves Safeguarding Training

and the PVG applications. This has to be organised now so it is important that all who wish to be part of the group are involved in the preparations. Bishop Toal writes: *"It would be good if a few more young people could join the Pilgrimage so I ask again that Parishes encourage this participation"*. The contact is Fr Martin Delaney at St Aloysius', Chapelhall, phone (01236) 763190 or e-mail [staloyus@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:staloyus@rcdom.org.uk)





# PARISH INFORMATION



	<b>Clergy:</b>	Fr Jim Grant, PP. Deacon Jim Aitken
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	<b>Website</b>	www.carfingrotto.org
	<b>Facebook</b>	www.facebook.com/carfingrotto
	<b>Twitter</b>	twitter.com/CarfinGrotto
	<b>Instagram</b>	www.instagram.com/carfingrotto
	<b>YouTube</b>	www.youtube.com/channel/UC-coiodOEbTzTiOhlfKpfXw/
	<b>Safeguarding</b>	Elizabeth McMahon Geraldine Battersby

## LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Recently Dead** Duncan Forrester, Christina Hendry, Charles Blessing, Thomas McAleese, Rosyln Findlay, Margaret Breen, Joe Greenhorn, Elizabeth Hughes, Tom McAleesh, Gregory Hoverter, Pat Dawson, Maria Hillis, Gerry O’Kane, Libby Hughes, Arthur Hand
- Months Minds** Peggy Campbell, John McFarlane, Elizabeth Carr, Alicia Gallacher
- Anniversaries** Gerard Devine, Mary & Charles McGhee, Catherine & Thomas, Denholm, Gerard McVey
- Birthday Remembrances** Ellen Gribbin, Paul McAllister Jnr,

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

### LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION



**GiftAid : £580**

**Loose : £943**

**Total : £1523**

## THE CASHLESS SOCIETY

**THE CARD READER IS NOW READY FOR USE.**

The machine is set for £5.00 donations which will all go to the **UPKEEP OF THE GROTTTO**. Each transaction takes a few seconds. If you wish to donate further, simply tap it a second time. Each time you tap it and the transaction goes through, you are donating £5.00.

You can also use it to pay for goods from the stall –but remember it is set (*at least for the time being*) at £5.00 per transaction.

## WANTED

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



"An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind". *Mahatma Gandhi*

"Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?" — *Abraham Lincoln*

## Sincere thanks for your generosity to your Parish

**[www.facebook.com/carfingrotto](http://www.facebook.com/carfingrotto)**

Our Facebook page, promoting Carfin Grotto has, in a matter of only a few weeks, become the largest Facebook page associated with the Diocese of Motherwell. 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.**

## GIN in CARFIN

Thanks very much to Xavier Centre Staff and everyone who attended and donated money and raffle prizes for the recent Gin in Carfin charity night helping make it another successful event for the second year running raising **£1060** which was donated between Lanarkshire Cancer care Trust and Chris's house well done everyone.

## Tom McAleese RIP and Gerry O’Kane RIP

Our sympathies go to the families of the late Tom McAleese and Gerry O’Kane who were called to the Father’s house at the beginning of the week. May their soul rest in peace and rise in glory.