

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

THE GREAT JUBILEE OF MERCY

Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Ordinary Season - 18th September 2016



THE SEVEN SORROWS OF OUR LADY - RESTORED



Thursday of last week was the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Devotion to Mary's Seven Sorrows has its roots in Sacred Scripture and in Christian piety, which always associates the Blessed Mother with her suffering Son. The feast was introduced by the Servite Order in the twelfth century in order to spiritually accompany Our Lady in these sorrowful moments of her life. The Seven Sorrows of Mary are the following:

The prophecy of Simeon that a sword would pierce her soul
The flight into Egypt with Joseph after Our Lord's birth
The Loss of the Child Jesus for three days in temple
Mary meeting Jesus on his way to Calvary
Mary standing at the foot of the Cross
The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross
The burial of Jesus



The Seven Sorrows of Mary are represented in the Flemish bas-reliefs in the sunken part of the Grotto. As far as I can ascertain, they were installed there around 1936. Neither time nor the weather have been kind to them, each one badly cracked and the paintwork worn away.

However I am delighted to say that they have been reconstructed and repainted by a series of artists over the past month - see the pictures. I want to thank Gerry Gallacher who has organised the project. The last pieces of scaffolding should be removed this weekend, and I hope you will find time to go down and have a look at the great work that has been done there.

The second phase of the restoration work will continue over the autumn months: the cleaning of the stonework right around the sunken area, to make it look more uniform. In the new year, after this work has been completed, I intend to have plaques placed underneath each of the Seven Sorrows with the relevant Scripture passage as well as a prayer. I would also like to have some slabs laid immediately in front of them so that the area can become a place of prayer.

On a related note, this week I have begun to have all the old photographs - which number around 500 - from the Grotto's past one hundred or so years digitalised so that they can be viewed on the parish website. This work will take a few weeks to complete.

Father McGachey

SUNG EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

will resume this evening (Sunday) at 6pm.

It is a beautiful way to conclude a Sunday - please join us if you can.

THIS WEEKEND - Ros Kerry, a representative from the Charity Lepra, will be making an appeal. A special collection will be taken up. Please be generous as you always are.

TODAY - COFFEE MORNING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT - After the 11am Mass. Smoothie bike, tombola, face painting for children, filled breakfast rolls with tea and coffee. Please support this worthy cause.

THE ANNUAL VINCENTIAN PILGRIMAGE - Next Saturday beginning at 1pm with a Rosary Procession and Holy Mass at 2pm. Celebrant is Bishop William Nolan of Galloway.

THE LITTLE FLOWER



NOVENA TO SAINT THERESE - enters its eighth week on Wednesday of this week with the Novena Prayers, The 'Twenty-Five Glory be's' and Benediction at 7pm.

SATURDAY 1st OCTOBER - THE FEAST OF SAINT THERESE OF LISIEUX - Solemn Sung Mass with veneration of the Relic at 10am.

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER - LITTLE FLOWER SUNDAY - At 7pm Rosary Procession in the Grotto, followed by Litany and Prayers to Saint Therese, Veneration of the Relic and Benediction in the Parish Church - the reason for concluding in the Parish Church is: it too cold to stay outside for too long, especially for the elderly. The *Schola Benedicti* will provide the music on this evening.

NEW PUBLICATIONS - On sale today apart from Monsignor Taylor's book, *A Little White Flower - The autobiography of Saint Therese of Lisieux*, priced £7.50 each, there are two new prayer cards: in honour of Saint Margaret of Scotland (available in the porch) the other with the story of the devotion linked with the 'Little Flower' about the twenty-five "Glory be's" (available in front of her statue). 50p each.



WEDNESDAY 5th OCTOBER

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS

with Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
at 7pm in the Parish Church

"In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life."
Pope Francis

MARY'S MEALS RAGS TO RICHES CLOTHING COLLECTION - will collect unwanted/unused clothing, rags and other textiles (no bric-a-brac) at St. Francis Xavier's on Sunday 25th September.

CARITAS COMMISSIONING SERVICE - will be held on Monday 19th September at the Cathedral in Motherwell starting at 7pm. All Caritas pupils, teachers and parents of the Caritas pupils are invited to attend this service and afterwards for tea.

FISH SUPPER AND QUIZ NIGHT TO SUPPORT THE GROTTO - Saturday 1st October at 7pm till 11.30pm. Tickets £7 each and should be paid beforehand. Raffle prizes would be gratefully received. To book your tickets call Mick McCormick on 07827975271.

COMMISSIONED TO ANNOUNCE THE MERCY OF GOD - Missio Scotland's Annual Conference will be held on Saturday 1st October 2016 here at the Xavier Centre from 11am until 4pm. A wonderful opportunity to begin Mission Month by reflecting on the gift of God's Mercy and our call to share it with others. Those wishing to attend are asked to sign up by sending an email to office@missio.scot, or calling 01236 449774.

THE HOLY DOOR - Since the Holy Door was opened by Bishop Toal on the 1st January 2016 the parish church has been visited by hundreds, perhaps even thousands of extra people, many of them coming to pray before the crucifix, or go to confession, or simply to attend Holy Mass or one of the other devotions.

The Holy Year will end for us here on Sunday 13th November at the 11am Mass when Bishop Toal will come to solemnly close the Holy Door. If you have not taken advantage of the graces attached to the Holy Door, then try and do so in the two months of the Holy Year that remain. The conditions for gaining the Plenary Indulgence are: to pass through the Holy Door, go to Holy Mass, go to Confession and pray for the Pope's Intentions. The indulgence can be gained as often as you wish for yourself, or be applied to your beloved dead. What the indulgence does is to cancel the temporal punishment due our sins that have been forgiven, in this life, or in the world to come ie. the time we would spend in Purgatory.

SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER - ROSARY SUNDAY - At 7pm Rosary Procession concluding with Benediction in the Parish Church.

TUESDAY 11th OCTOBER - CONCELEBRATED MASS FOR THE AMBROSIAN SOCIETY - With the Bishops of Scotland and the former students of the Scots College in Valladolid and Salamanca, Spain, at 1pm in the Parish Church. All welcome.

PARISH AND GROTTO SCHEDULE

CHURCH OPENING

Opens daily at 9am, except Sundays when it opens at 8am.

It closes at 6.30 pm unless there is an evening service.

GLASS CHAPEL AND GROTTO CHAPELS (Until 9th October)

Open at 10.30am, except Sundays when they opens at 12noon.

Close at 6.30pm

HOLY MASS IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Monday-Saturday - 10am, Monday-Thursday - 1pm

Sundays - Vigil 5pm, 9am and 11am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN THE GLASS CHAPEL

From 10.30am-6.30pm, except Sundays 12noon-6.30pm

CONFESSIONS

Mondays-Thursdays 1.45pm-2.15pm. Saturdays 10.30am-10.45am; 4.15-4.45pm

CONTACT US

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, Parish Priest
francismcgachey@gmail.com
Rev. Mr Jim Aitken, Permanent Deacon
vicechancellor@rcdom.org.uk

ADDRESS Saint Francis Xavier's Church, Taylor Ave, Carfin ML1 5AJ

TELEPHONE 01698 263308

WEBSITE www.carfingrotto.org

CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATORS Elizabeth McMahon & Geraldine Battersby

SCOTTISH CHARITIES NUMBER SC 011041

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year, except during Lent and on Easter Sunday, at 12.30pm.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE - At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

Please telephone or email Father McGachey to make an appointment, or speak to Father McGachey or Deacon Jim after Mass at the weekend.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING People IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

SICK — Mary Hart, James Kenny, Margaret Mitchell, Aqueel Naseem, Susan Inayat, Betty Walsh, Julie Fleming, Nan Rooney, Patricia Griffiths, John Brady, Teresa Cochrane, Ellen Knowles, Michael Miller, Elenor Giuberelli, Margaret Curran, Michael Gaynor, John McKeown, Peter McKenna, Anne McGowan, Kathleen Hughes.

RECENTLY DEAD - Anne Therese Devine (Reception Wednesday 5.30pm; Funeral Thursday 10am), Maria Schutt, Nancy Schutte, Harry Michael Hughes, Jimmy Hughes, Betty Veldon, James Roberts, Peter Barr, Karen Doyle, Thomas Regan, Nancy Hughes, Freddie Keegan, Aileen Cassidy, Margaret Cassidy, Gerry Costello, Ann Hutchison, May Wilson, Mary McGhee, Margaret Corcoran, Margaret Grant, Sadie O'Rourke, Thomas Smith, Annie Agnew, Anthony Rooney, Irene Hughes, James Whyte, Patrick Greene.

MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - John McFarlane, Margaret Mitchell, Gerry Mitchell, Agnes Sneddon Byrne, Anne Sneddon Hough, Lily and Hugh McCulloch, McCulloch Family, Timoney Family, Bobby, Annie and William Chambers, Mary Therese Hattie, John McNally, Patrick Howley, William and Mary Doherty, Mary Service, Janet and Netta Irons, Lucy O'Hare, Bill McAllister.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER - £1779

SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE UPKEEP OF YOUR PARISH