**Glasgow Faith Forum**
A series of talks for young people aged 16-25. The next talk, on the subject of God, is on Wednesday 26 September in Turnball Hall at 7.30pm. All young people welcome.

**Vocations to the Priesthood**
Is God calling you to His service as a Diocesan Priest? The Year of Discernment, beginning in mid-September, is a series of weekend retreats and scheduled meetings that form a "pre-seminary" year for applicants who wish to enter the seminary to study for the priesthood for the dioceses of Scotland. There are 5 weekends in total. The emphasis throughout is on prayer and discernment as the applicant is invited to consider the Lord's call to service in His Church. For more information, contact: Fr John Keenan, RChaplaincy@glasgow.ac.uk.

**Chaplaincy Secretary**
Rosemary Inglis, csecretary@admin.gla.ac.uk

**Collections**
Sunday 9 September £358.10 (Gift Aid £82.00)
Last Year £283.81 (Gift Aid £37.00)

Thank you for your generosity. Please consider Gift Aid—we receive back 28p on every £1.
Gift Aid forms available from Rosemary.

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**Chaplaincy Holy Shop**
Check out our Chaplaincy shop in the basement. We now have lovely hand made Rosaries and Rosary bracelets as well as unique icons, great books, dvds and cds. The Chaplaincy shop also stocks our Catholic newspapers. It is important to keep up to date with what is happening in the Church locally and universally so as to be well informed. We stock the weekly Scottish Catholic Observer and the monthly diocesan Flourish. If you would like us to keep copies for you just email Fr John or Rosemary.

**Where the Hell is God**
A public lecture given by Fr Richard Leonard SJ in St Aloysius’ College Hall on Tuesday 25 September 2012 at 7.00pm. Admission free. All welcome. See notice board for details.

**Holy Week and Easter**
The Abbot and monks of Pluscarden Abbey invite individual university students to stay for Holy Week (or part thereof) in the Abbey guesthouses and celebrate the liturgy of Holy Week and Easter with them. To avoid disappointment early booking is essential. Email warden.pluscarden@gmail.com, for further details. See notice board for details.

**Beginning Experience**
The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves alone again through divorce, separation or bereavement. The weekend will take place from 12-14 October 2012 at Xaverian Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact: Ros on 0131 669 0003 or email: roz@hotmail.co.uk.

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**What’s On This Week...**
- **Legion of Mary**—Sunday 4.00 to 5.30 pm downstairs in the Seminar Room. Contact: Mila (ludmila@y7mail.com)
- **Legion of Mary**—Monday 6.00 to 7.30pm downstairs in the Seminar Room. Contact: Jesus (lesous.yehoshua@gmail.com)
- **RISE**—Thursday 7.30 to 9.00pm in the Chapel for Charismatic prayer and praise. Contact Teresa (teresa.barnes@gmail.com)
- **School of Community**—Friday evening, 7.30 to 9.00 pm in the seminar room. Contact: Fr John.

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**16th September 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Most people, I imagine, can think of an occasion when they've said one thing but done another.

This seems to be the kind of thing St James is talking about in today's second reading. He gives the example of someone who sees people in need and expresses the wish that they be fed and clothed, but without actually doing anything about it (James 2:15-16). This kind of behaviour prompts the question, "Did he really mean it?" Was this well-wisher really a well-wisher if, when it came down to it, he didn't actually do anything to turn his apparent wish into reality? This example from the Letter of St James, of course, is not only meant to make us think about the particular moral case: it is also an illustration of his main point about what it means to have faith.

Is he saying, then, that if we say we believe but it makes no difference to how we actually behave, then really, we don't have any faith worth speaking of? If so, that's a rather scary thought. After all, how many of us could look at our lives and say, "Yes, my way of life corresponds fully with the faith I profess"? Does that mean we're just pretending, or even lying?

Well, I think today's Gospel can help us think about this rather tricky question. It starts off, after all, with Peter's profession of faith in Jesus as the Christ (Mk 8:29). He is the first to state his faith in Jesus, the first to profess this central tenet of what, as a result, we call Christianity.

How does this faith of Peter's show itself, though? Immediately afterwards, we find Jesus rebuking him, saying, "Get behind me, Satan!" (Mk 8:33) when, clearly completely misunderstanding things, he tries to stop Jesus from talking about his coming death. And later on in the Gospel, of course, Peter, the first to profess his faith in Jesus as the Christ, ends up denying three times that he even knows him!

Does this mean that Peter didn't really mean it when he professed his faith in Jesus? Did it turn out, in the end, to be simply a lie? "No," is the short answer, you'll be glad to hear. Why not, though? It seems to me that what Jesus has to say towards the end of today's Gospel passage can help us to understand.

‘If any man would come after me,’ he says, ‘let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me’ (Mk 8:34) – not, ‘he will deny himself…’ but ‘let him deny himself…’ It’s not a simple case of mechanistic cause and effect – faith, which we believe is a gift from God,
doesn’t make us act in a certain way, but demands of us a choice. And the way we human beings work, this doesn’t amount to a simple one-off ‘yes’ or ‘no’ which determines all our subsequent actions. Rather, our actions throughout our lives can be more or less in accord with our faith: clearly, our faith can end up being strengthened or weakened as a consequence of our choices, but it’s always a continuous process, with good days and bad days, advances and setbacks – after all, denying ourselves and ‘carrying our cross’ doesn’t exactly sound easy.

So if our lives don’t look like a perfect expression of the faith we profess that’s not a cause for despair, or fear that we’re lying to ourselves. ‘We’d be right to recognise that there’s a problem, but it’s not an insoluble one. Rather, it’s an occasion to hear again in our lives Jesus’ call in today’s Gospel and to turn to him – most obviously, perhaps, in the circumstances, in the Sacrament of Penance – for the strength to answer ‘yes’ to that call with our lives.

**Year of Faith**

**Pope Benedict’s Letter**

Article 3. Before you can do anything good for God you must have faith in Jesus Christ.

Today the salt of the Gospel is becoming tasteless in our society and the light of Christianity is being hidden and we cannot allow this state of affairs to continue. We have to believe that the men and women of today still have the hearts and hopes of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus met at the well. Despite her lifestyle she still felt a need to go to the well, really to hear the refreshing Gospel of Jesus, who invited her to believe in Him and, in putting all her trust in Him, to allow her soul to draw upon that living water that welled up from Him as its source. Every Christian – every person! – somehow has to rediscover our taste for the word of God which has been faithfully preserved, deepened and handed down by the Church and which alone can feed our human existence. We must also rediscover our hunger for the Bread of Life which Jesus gave to His disciples as good food and necessary nourishment for their pilgrimage through life. If we listen attentively we always find that the teaching of Jesus still resounds just as effectively and with the self-same power in our own world as it did when first preached from His mouth. Now as then He cries out to us, ‘Do not work for food that does not last, but for the kind of food that endures into everlasting life’. On hearing this words and being struck and convinced by them His disciples immediately asked Him the fundamental question that we ask of Him today: ‘What must we do if we are to do the work of God?’ We all know Jesus’ reply: ‘This is the work of God; it is to believe in Him Whom He has sent’. So in short, believing in Jesus Christ, making an act of faith in Him, is the first and most fundamental work, or task for the Christian and it is also the first and necessary step if we are to hope to be saved.

**Catechists’ Corner**

As the euphoria surrounding the Olympic and Paralympic Games subsides we are left with an enduring memory of the words of St Paul in his Letter to the Romans: “I have fought the good fight to the end. I have run the race to the finish. I have kept the Faith.” (2 Tim 4:7)

**Welcome and Welcome Back Everyone**

All through the long summer we have been waiting with excitement for the beginning of the new academic year. To our new members we may extend the warmest of welcomes. To old parishioners may we give the heartiest of welcomes back. Fr John and the Chaplaincy members wish you the most joyful and prosperous of years and hope that much of your time will be spent around here.

**Sunday Evening Welcome Mass and Cheese and Wine**

The evening Mass this Sunday will be a Welcome Mass, followed by Cheese and Wine in the upstairs hall. All welcome. Come and get to know our new members.

**This Saturday Welcome Ceilidh!!**

This Saturday 22 Sept we have our Welcome Ceilidh from 8.00-11.30pm. Please come along to meet all our new parishioners and students. Live music and demonstrations. Tickets £5.00. BYOB. All welcome. Sign up on the foyer sheet.

**Parish Youth Club Re-opens tonight.**

Parish Youth club meets Sundays 7.30pm-9.15pm in the seminar room and is open to all those from S3-6. This Sunday we will be serving at the Welcome Cheese and Wine.

**Sunday Morning Coffee**

Help needed for the Sunday morning coffee to set up, serve and clean up. Please speak to Fr John if you are able to help.

**Chaplaincy Café now open**

The Chaplaincy Café is open every weekday from 8.30am to 5.00pm. Hot lunches 12.00-2.00pm and the rest of the day hot rolls, filter coffee and teas etc. Thanks to Geraldine for taking the job.

**Accommodation Required**

Can you help? We have received several requests for help finding accommodation for students from outwith the UK.

**Accommodation Offered**

Accommodation is being offered by the following. Please contact them direct if you are interested.

- John Li — johnli8283@gmail.com
- Kathleen Doherty — k-doherty@02.co.uk
- Donald Anderson — a-d-anderson@ntlworld.com
- Pecky Poon — mobile 0777 594 6538
- Dr Dunn, South side — 0141 637 2797

**Rosary Appeal**

The Chaplaincy is collecting Rosary Beads.