

Day of Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be provided in **St Andrew's Cathedral**, Clyde Street, on **Thursday 22 March** from **7.45am until 5.45pm**. See poster on notice board.

Job Opportunity

There is a job opportunity for a Youth Ministry Worker with the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Closing date for applications is **31 March 2018**. See poster on notice board for full details.

Marian Age Pilgrimages

Knock and Lough Derg/Donegal

Marian Age Pilgrimages to Knock and Lough Derg/Donegal from **Monday 2 July** to **Friday 6 July 2018**. Cost for Knock and Lough Derg **£285.00** per person, for Knock and Donegal **£375.00** per person. See poster on notice board for full details.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions (March)

That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

Feasts This Week

19 March-Solemnity of St Joseph

What's On This Week

Legion of Mary—Monday 6.00 to 7.30pm contact Grace (ourladyseatofwisdomglasgow@gmail.com)

Catholic Society—Tuesday 6.30 to 8.00pm in the TV room. For under graduate students. Contact Ruairidh (Ruairidh@live.co.uk). Follow us on Facebook-Glasgow University Catholic Association or Twitter-@GUCatholic

SSVP—Mondays, fortnightly, contact Lily Kearns (turnbullssvp@gmail.com)

St Teresa of Avila Prayer Group-Every Monday at 7.30pm, contact Mollie Stegaroiu (mollie_195@hotmail.com) or on facebook at St Teresa of Avila prayer Group (Turnbull Hall)

RISE—Thursday 7.30 to 8.30pm in the Chapel for Charismatic prayer and praise. Contact Anna (annapf@hotmail.co.uk)

Collections

Sunday 11 March £303.39(Gift Aid £59.60)

Second Collection £146.67

Last Year £351.02(Gift Aid £83.87)

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

Gift Aid forms available from Rosemary

TURNBULL HALL UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

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Chaplain

Fr Ross Campbell

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VIA VERITAS VITA

Chaplaincy Secretary

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Masses

Sunday 9.00am and 11.30 am

6.15pm (during term)

Monday-Friday 1.05pm

Saturday 10.30am

Confessions

Monday/Wednesday /Friday 12.45pm or any time on request)

Saturday 10.00am

Rosary

Monday-Friday 12.45pm (during term)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 1.30pm-6.30pm finishing with Benediction (during term)

18 March 5th Sunday in Lent

Today's Gospel sets the scene for the forthcoming drama of Holy Week. Jesus is, in effect, telling His disciples both that His work of preaching is over and also – something difficult to grasp – that a final cosmic battle with Satan is about to begin. This battle will involve His death, but that death will be unimaginably fruitful in defeating evil and granting His followers access to eternal life.

What prompts this dramatic declaration is something fairly mundane, the significance of which only Jesus understands. Some Greeks arrive and want to see Jesus. He appears to show no interest in them. These are not Greek-speaking Jews but gentile Greeks. A meeting with them would surely be an opportunity for Jesus to expand his ministry. But he shows no interest. Philip and Andrew must have been perplexed by His reaction.

The arrival of these Greeks is the sign that Jesus has been waiting for – His message is beginning to spread to gentile lands. Paradoxically this means that His earthly ministry must now end – just as it is beginning to show promising signs of growth. Even so, here are potential converts – so why does Jesus ignore them?

It is easy for us to forget that Jesus' immediate ministry was primarily directed to His own people, the Jews. There is a very good reason for this. They are His people and God's chosen people. It is from them that He has been born and this is part of a divine plan which has been unfolding over the centuries, a plan in which the descendants of Israel are called to a two-fold witness – to witness in their faith to the one true God and in their manner of living, to be examples of fidelity to God's commandments. Like all human beings, the chosen people did not always live up to their calling to be a holy people. But their very failings served only to highlight God's love for them and His infinite mercy. The prophet Jeremiah reminds us of this mercy and he foretells a new era when God will recreate His chosen people by planting His law in their hearts.

It is Jesus who ushers in this new era. He is both a son of David and the Son of God. In Him a human will has so fully embraced God's law that it is a perfect expression of the Father's own will. His first priority, then, is to perfect His own people by living among them and acting as a channel of the Father's love for them. He will sacrifice everything

to show them how to respond to the God who is our Father. If Jesus recognizes the privileged place of His own people in the divine plan, He also knows that there is a place in that divine plan for the rest of humanity too. As He tells us in this Gospel passage, by being 'lifted up from the earth', in other words by dying on the cross, He will draw everyone, Jew and gentile, to Himself. And so after His resurrection He will send out his disciples to accomplish the second stage of His mission, which will be to the whole of the gentile world.

There is a hard pill to swallow in this Gospel because being drawn to Christ will involve 'hating our life in this world'. To serve Jesus means to follow Him says the evangelist; and to follow Him means to follow Him to the cross, because that is where He is now heading. The letter to the Hebrews offers us this further reflection on the human condition: that we all learn to obey God through suffering. Jesus himself in His passion and death demonstrates the need for 'suffering as a way to obedience'.

Most of us are careful to avoid anything that might involve difficulty or suffering. We are tempted to surround ourselves with comforts, says Blessed John Henry Newman, but these comforts corrupt our hearts and seduce us from God. It's just part of wanting to have things our own way and to be the centre of the world.

Yet, when we think about it, suffering is an ever present and important part of growing as a human being. The transformation from child to mature adult is no easy achievement. So it should not surprise us that suffering and sacrifice are also the way to grow in holiness. The main thing is not to fear sacrifice and to be willing to begin here and now to embrace the will of God in every moment of our lives.

'Easier said than done' you may say – and

you would be right. But then it's not all down to us. It is the grace of Christ working within us which will refashion our will and transform our rebellious human spirit into loving and regular obedience. We only have to keep asking for that grace.

Fr John Kenrick O.P.

CATECHIST'S CORNER

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday when we enter into the solemn time of Holy Week. So much of Jesus' life is pre-figured in the Old Testament and this is particularly true of the events of Holy Week. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry John the Baptist pointed to Him and said "Behold the Lamb of God." By saying this John the Baptist was indicating that Jesus Himself would be the sacrificial victim. Although hailed by the crowds today as the King of Israel Jesus was not going to be the kind of king they expected; instead He would be the "suffering servant" mentioned by Isaiah. Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross is pre-figured in the Old Testament by Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only son Isaac at God's request. Isaac carried the wood to build the altar on his shoulders in the same way that Jesus bore the wood of the Cross, which would become His altar of sacrifice, on His shoulders. Truly the Old Testament points to the New and the New Testament fulfils the Old.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Tuesday Adoration

Please note that Tuesday Adoration has now stopped.

Welcome

We welcome back Fr Paul Denney who will be joining us to preach the Easter Triduum.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday during Lent at 12.30pm.

Second Collections during Lent

There will be a second collection at all Sunday Masses in Lent for sick and retired priests.

Confessions during Lent

There will be confession every weekday during Lent at 12.45pm.

Foreign Coins

Please do not put foreign coins in the collection or in for votive candles. They cannot be banked and are disposed of in the nearest waste-paper basket.

Expecting a Baby? New Mother?

Come and share your story and increase your confidence in birth in a positive, supportive and confidential monthly discussion group. Contact Jackie Gillick (07704 763 560)

GUCA Ball

The GUCA ball will be held on **Friday 25 May 2018** in the GUU. Tickets for this event are **£25.00** now available.

Lenten Charity Tea Party

The chaplaincy will be hosting a charity tea party this Lent in support of the Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative. It takes place today and all are welcome. Tickets are **£3** each and can be obtained from the GUCA office.

Retreat 24 March 2018

Fr Ross will lead a retreat on **Saturday 24 March** in Turnbull Hall. It will commence with Holy Mass at 10.30am and finish at 4.00pm. All welcome. Sign up sheet on table in foyer.

Palm Sunday

We are looking for two readers for the Passion on Palm Sunday. If you are able to help, please add your name to the sign up sheet, which is available on the side table in the Chapel.

Triduum

We are looking for readers for Maundy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. We also need twelve men willing to have their feet washed on Maundy Thursday; also a reader for the Passion on Good Friday. If you are able to help, please add your name to the sign up sheets, which are available on the side table in the Chapel.

Times of Masses and Services for Holy Week and Easter

Please make sure that you have taken a leaflet, which will be available on the tables at the back and the side of the chapel. These give the times of all services for Easter. Please note that there is **one** Mass only on Easter Sunday at **11.30am**

OTHER NEWS

SCIAF

SCIAF 'wee boxes' are available at the back and side of the Chapel. Please take one home with you, fill it with your loose change and return it at the end of Lent. (Please note that foreign coins should **not** be included as SCIAF cannot bank them). This year the UK Government are again matching pound for pound the amount received by SCIAF.

AGAP

AGAP are once again presenting 'Lentfest', their programme of events taking place during Lent. Copies of the programme of events are available in the foyer. See poster on notice board for details.