Mass of St Patrick  
Mass for St Patrick’s Day will be held in St Andrew’s Cathedral, Glasgow on Saturday 17 March at 11.30am. Celebrant Most Rev. Archbishop Philip Tartaglia. Due to large numbers expected, please come early if you require a seat.

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 Maran 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.

Lenten Reflection  
A Lenten Reflection will be held for teachers and school staff in St Andrew’s Cathedral on Wednesday 14 March at 7.00pm. See poster on notice board.

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intentions  
(March)  
That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

Fees This Week  
17 March-Feast of St Patrick

What’s On This Week  
Legion of Mary—Monday 6.00 to 7.30pm contact Grace (ourladyseatofofwisdomglasgow@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 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 (annafp@hotmail.co.uk)

Collections  
Sunday 4 March £217.27(Gift Aid £56.00)
Second Collection £141.01
Last Year £271.53(Gift Aid £45.05)
Thank you for your generosity. Please consider Gift Aid—we receive back 28p on every £1.

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Collections forms available from Rosemary

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)

Today’s first reading summarises the story of the Temple’s destruction and the Exile in Babylon, which took place soon after 600 BC. It tells us why God allowed these traumatic events to befall His People: they had not remained faithful to Him, they had resisted the Prophets, they had worshipped false “gods” alongside the True God. We think of the Prophets’ complaints against failure to practise justice or care for the poor. We must be careful how we receive such texts, otherwise we may twist God’s Word into an occasion of sin.

The temptation to pride is insidious. Some Christian writers, some Christian artists, have implied: “We are not like those people of old, whom the Prophets told off. God rejected them, and rightly so. He called us in their place, and made us faithful to him. We Christians are better than those Jews, so God will never have reason to reject us.” If we have such thoughts, we must re-read the Scriptures, and ask why the Liturgy gives us readings like today’s.

Of course God will never reject his People. That is because He is faithful to His Covenant with Noah, His Promise to Abraham, the fierce love He revealed through Moses – we have been listening to those. For St Paul, Jesus does not abolish the Promise to Abraham. He fulfills it, and graciously opens it to all nations. The Letter to the Hebrews agrees with St Paul that the Old Testament rituals could not achieve what Jesus’ Sacrifice did. It also reminds us that throughout Old Testament times there were heroes and heroines of faith and hope, a cloud of witnesses to inspire us. So St Augustine describes how, throughout human history, there has been one City of God, one People of faith and hope, looking forward to Jesus’ Coming – in times past, to his First Coming, and now to his Second. For God’s loyalty to His People, God’s loyalty to humanity, has always ensured that some people are loyal to Him, and grieve over the sins they see. By “God’s loyalty” I mean what was revealed and enacted in Jesus’ Sacrifice. He said that when He was lifted up, He would draw all things to Himself. Hence the Mediaeval English Liturgy for Holy Saturday says, “Opening your arms on the Cross, you drew all ages to yourself.” Scripture shows us some people resisting God, and some traumatic events as punishments for sin. St Paul sees such writings as a warning to us. The Liturgy does not give us
such texts so that we can pride ourselves, but to make us *examine* ourselves. After all, Jesus Himself warned us that calling Him "Lord, Lord" does not ensure entry into His Kingdom.

Traumatic events have happened to the Christian People. Great houses of God, like Cluny, have been destroyed. England retains many such ruins – where the rich did not cannibalise the stones for their mansions. In penal times, many Martyrs gave their lives in solidarity with Christ, many people grieved. But were such times of destruction possible – were they *allowed* – because the Gospel had not penetrated Christian society deeply enough in “the Ages of Faith”? Civil rulers had waged dynastic wars, claimed authority over the Church, and hanged poor people for poaching! Some Church leaders had succumbed to greed.

And today: many people are ignorant of Christ; we worry how easy it will be to practise our Faith. But: how good a witness have we borne? How well have we resisted “false gods”? Is today’s a *rebuke* to us?

Into the Exile a sign of favour broke: Cyrus’ decree promised a “resurrection” of the People. On Good Friday, when we hear Jesus reproach us, reproach us, let us review how truly faithful we have been, and pray that into our lives and our land signs of God’s faithful love may break.

*Fr Richard Conrad O.P.*

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**CATECHIST’S CORNER**

This Sunday is known as *Laetare* Sunday from the opening words of the Introit, *Laetare Jerusalem* (Rejoice Jerusalem). Just as in Advent we have *Gaudete* Sunday, a day when there is a sense of rejoicing as our Saviour’s birth approaches, so during Lent we have a slight relaxation in our Lenten penance as we look forward to the day of our redemption. This Sunday is also known as Mother’s Day since, in the days of live-in servants, the servants would be given the day off so that they could return home and visit their mothers. However, although it is always good to celebrate all that mothers do for us, it is even more important to remember all that Jesus did for us. “For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in Him we might become the goodness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). Let us, therefore, thank Him for doing His Father’s will and pray that we too might always be prepared to do our Heavenly Father’s will.

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**CHAPLAINCY NEWS**

**Catholic Society**

The purpose of the society is for young Catholics (and those interested in Catholicism) to socialise, discuss and discover the faith. We meet *every Tuesday at 18:30* at the University Catholic Chaplaincy during the academic year. Meetings begin with Benediction in the chapel, after which there will be a talk. Drinks in the pub will follow! Open to all young people! Contact: ruairidhm@live.co.uk or annabenova94@gmail.com

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**Stations of the Cross**

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

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**Second Collections during Lent**

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

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**Confessions during Lent**

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

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**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.

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**Glasgow Faith Forum**

A series of talks for young people aged 16-25. The next talk is on **Thursday 15 March** in Turnbull Hall at 7.30pm on the subject of “Prayer at the Heart of Evangelisation.” Speaker Fr Matthew O’Gorman. All young people welcome.

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**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.

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**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 will take place on **Sunday 18th of March**, all welcome. Tickets are **£3** each and can be obtained from the GUCA office.

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**Fairtrade Fortnight**

Fairtrade fortnight 26 February-11 March: Would you like to help workers receive a fair wage for their work? Why not buy a Fairtrade item when you go shopping? There are a lot of Fairtrade goods for you to choose from in the supermarket. See poster on the notice board.

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**Retreat 24 March 2018**

Fr Ross will lead a retreat on **Saturday 24 # March**. From 10.00am until 4.00pm. All welcome. Venue and theme to be confirmed. Sign up sheet on table in foyer.

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**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.

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**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.