

# LITURGY FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## ENTRANCE PROCESSION

O Lord, we want to praise you, your holy name confess, your mighty deeds acknowledge, your awesome love express. We want to give you worship, to lift your name on high, yet somehow words are lacking however hard we try.

O Lord, we want to praise you, through all we say and do, to so live out the gospel that all may know it's true. We want to bring you glory, to help your kingdom grow, yet though we strive to serve you, it rarely seems to show.

O Lord, we want to praise you, to celebrate your love, to thank you for the blessings you pour down from above. We want to bring you honour respond with all our hearts, yet sacrifice is costly - we rarely even start.

O Lord, we come to praise you, poor though our words may be; although our faults are many we come, still joyfully for though we often fail you and know you but in part, you look beneath the surface and see what's in the heart.

## GLORIA

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## FIRST READING

*Jeremiah 1:4-5:17-19*

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you - it is the Lord who speaks.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: *My lips will tell of your help.*

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, free me; pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from my mother's womb you have been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still.

## SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13*

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or self-ish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge - for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

## GOSPEL

*Luke 4:21-30*

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, "This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen." And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, "This is Joseph's son, surely?" But he replied, "No doubt you will quote me the saying, 'Physician, heal yourself' and tell me, 'We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside.'" And he went on, "I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman." When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

## PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

The love I have for you, my Lord 662

## HOLY, HOLY

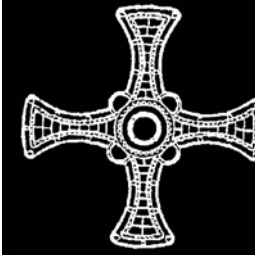
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## LAMB OF GOD

Response: Hear our prayer have mercy (2). Give us your peace.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Be thou my vision 168



# Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



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### Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil at 6.30 pm

Sunday at 10.00 am

### Weekday services

Monday to Friday at 9.00 am

### Mass intentions this week:

Sat: Mary Malone (Ann)

Sun: Mary Dodd (RIP)

Tue: John McLarty (Ann)

Thu: Martha Shearer (Ann)

### Sacrament of Confession

After Vigil Mass and when requested

### Sacrament of Baptism

Forms available at the back of the church

### Sacrament of Marriage

At least six months notice is required

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 28th January 2007

The gospel records the anger in Nazareth as Jesus calls his hearers' bluff. He knows they will only accept him as "Joseph's son", no matter what he says or does. They will have no real faith that he is the Messiah. Their familiarity with him will discount the evidence of his power. Eyes fixed on the little picture, they will not see the bigger one.

We too can trust our feelings at times more than God's word. It is hard to forgive the one who continually wrongs us, or to turn the other cheek to an aggressor. Yet this is the way of love which Jesus commands us to follow. We can only live this way through faith and trust that the One who commands can also empower us to do it.

We believe we have been given a real gift of faith from God to overcome our fears and natural inclinations. It is through eyes of faith that we encounter the Risen Christ in the Eucharist, within ourselves, in our neighbour and in all creation. The precious gift of faith keeps our eyes fixed on the things of heaven, so that we can see the bigger picture and learn to love as Jesus did.

Items for inclusion in this newsletter should be given in writing to David Kiltie (882644 or [david.kiltie@virgin.net](mailto:david.kiltie@virgin.net))

Last week's collection £460. Thank you.

## NEW 'EQUALITY LAWS' WILL CLOSE CATHOLIC ADOPTION AGENCIES

Archbishop Conti has written to both Jack McConnell and Tony Blair detailing some consequences of proposed equality legislation should it become law. The act, due to come into effect in April, outlaws discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the provision of goods and services. It would prevent a Catholic adoption agency ruling out gay and lesbian couples as suitable foster parents. In his letter to the Prime Minister, Archbishop Conti says, "As you will be aware the Catholic Church in Scotland also provides adoption and fostering services and the proposed regulations put in jeopardy the ability of these agencies to retain the discretion they have always exercised in favour of the children entrusted to them, which discretion is informed by the moral and social teaching of the Catholic Church."

Unless the proposed equality legislation is amended insofar as it affects adoption agencies, and exceptions made to cover this and other areas of conscience, it is unlikely that Catholic adoption agencies will survive. Last year Catholic adoption agencies handled 40 of about 400 adoptions in Scotland. Very often they work with children who are judged difficult to place.

However in cases of fostering or adoption the good of the child must be paramount. Such legislation would have a damaging effect, unless it were to recognise that adoption agencies were not only entitled to, but had the responsibility

of always ensuring that the needs of disadvantaged children were not further compromised by their being placed in circumstances the agency prudently judged to be inappropriate or less than ideal. Our Catholic agencies, upholding as they do, the dignity of the natural family, namely the union of a man and woman in a permanent relationship open to life are not disposed to placing children for fostering and adoption with those in civil partnerships. Such a position does not imply, and should not be taken to imply, that our agencies do not accept the genuine desire of such couples to benefit a child nor indeed to suggest that they are incapable of or would be unloving in providing a home. However it is our firmly held conviction that children being placed for adoption, and therefore already in a vulnerable position, are best cared for in a family unit of a man and a woman united in a permanent relationship. This stability and familiarity with loving male and female role-models serves the best long-term interests of the child.

If the law were to require such agencies to act contrary to their prudently held convictions, in effect threatening them with closure if they did not follow what might be termed a state-imposed morality, such legislation would in itself be discriminatory. There are plenty of agencies ready to take a different stand from those of the Catholic Church. Same sex couples who are allowed now under the law to adopt can be assisted

by such agencies.

What remains is a debate on principle and it has resulted in a confrontation between, on the one hand, the Catholic Church with those who support it (including the most senior figures in the Church of England and the Muslim Council) and on the other, the Westminster Government. Government should think carefully about the consequences of such unnecessary confrontation.

The gay adoption issue is of course just the tip of the iceberg. A fundamental point is at stake. A distinction must surely be made between according rights to individuals and groups within society and the imposing of duties on others to service those rights in all circumstances, irrespective of reasonable conscientious grounds for not so doing.

The laudable principle of allowing conscientious objection to requirements which offend individual consciences is already recognised in practice (eg requests for an abortion or in carrying arms). The conscientious decision of a Catholic adoption agency not to place children with same sex couples should not be considered under the law as automatically prejudiced and subject to penalty. This is not the way to foster harmony in society. That comes about mainly by cultural change. In this process it is reasonable to see that the law has a role, but not uniquely.



The Hospitalite of Our Lady of Lourdes will join Bishop Taylor to celebrate Mass for the World Day of the Sick at St Quivox' Church, Prestwick on Sunday 18th February at 3.00 pm. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available during Mass. All, sick and healthy, are warmly invited to this Mass.

### HALL DIARY

Thu 1st Feb, 6-8pm  
Residents Association Youth Club

### A REQUEST OF ALL PARISHIONERS

Shortly the parish will publish a directory and yearbook explaining something of the life of the parish and giving details of the people who are responsible for carrying out the many ministries and tasks that keep our parish alive.



Since the parish is the people who are in it, I'd like to take a photo of as many people as possible in the parish after 10.00 am Mass next Sunday, and put it on the front cover of our directory.

Please don't be camera shy. You are part of the parish. Please wait behind for a few moments around the statue of the Virgin and we'll take a couple of photos for the new parish directory. Thanks. Fr Stephen.

### PLANNING AHEAD

It will soon be the season of Lent and then Easter and many things have to be prepared to celebrate these liturgies well. Would the following people please meet to help us prepare for this holy time of year at 11.20 am on Sunday 4th February in the parish hall. Thank you.

Eileen Hamilton  
Ellen Hawkes  
Nicola Lawrence (or a representative from the choir)  
Alex Kelly  
Laura Kiltie  
Denise McCaffery  
Donna McKay  
Robert Malone

### YOUTH EVENINGS

Fr Jim Hayes will host the next evening for the young people of the Diocese in St Mary's, Saltcoats on Sunday 11th February. The evening begins with Mass at 6.30 pm followed by time together in the hall until 9.30 pm. **All young people are welcome.**

A bus will leave Our Lady and St Cuthbert's at 5.15 pm. Please phone Denise McCaffery (882760) if you'd like to book a place.

**CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS** are on sale at the back of the church. There is a lovely selection of quality birthday, for wedding and wedding anniversary, get well soon, thinking of you, baptism, communion, Mother's Day, sympathy and Mass cards. Please have a look.

## MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

Please contact Alex Kelly (882970) if you are unable to minister at a Saturday Mass and Nancy Flanagan (882458) if you are unable to minister at a Sunday Mass. All ministers are asked to gather in the sacristy five minutes before Mass for a moment of prayer together.

4th Sunday in Ord Time	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	PROCESSION OF GIFTS	SERVERS
27th Jan	Alex Meek	Ellen Hawkes	Jim McDermott Irene Hewitt	John Sabbatini Robin Donald	By invitation	Paige & Kyle Campbell Phoebe & Owen McDowall
28th Jan	Ellen Hawkes	Elizabeth meek	Nancy Flanagan Cindy McEwan	Jim Campbell Tony Kerrigan	McCaffery family	Louis Simpson, Kieran Porte, Rhian Collins, Chloe Brownlee

5th Sunday in Ord Time	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	PROCESSION OF GIFTS	SERVERS
3rd Feb	Matthew Reilly	Stuart Green	John Malone Angela Kirkpatrick	Alex Kelly Jim Campbell	By invitation	Patrick & Roisin McCallum Simone McCahill
4th Feb	Paige Campbell	Rhian Collins	Margaret Kiltie Ellen Hawkes	Dennis McCaffery Tony Kerrigan	By invitation	Justin McQuillan, Liam Menzies, Chloe Brown- lee, Ross Malone

## 150 CLUB ANNUAL DANCE

The 150 Club annual dance will take place on Friday 23rd February in the Speakers' Club from 8.00 pm until 12.30 am. Music will be provided by the band 'Something Else'. The ticket price is £2.50 for 150 Club members and £7.50 for non-members. Tickets are available from Jim McDermott, Dennis McCaffery and Kate Sprott.

The Arts and Crafts group will meet in the hall after the Children's Mass next Sunday morning. All children are welcome.

**MAYBOLE'S CHURCHES GATHER ROUND THE TABLE:** Last Sunday, Maybole Council of Churches hosted a meal for members of all the Christian church communities in the parishes to mark Christian Unity Week. Many from the Christian communities in the town joined in food and fellowship to, recognising our common faith in Christ.

