

LITURGY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Saturday Vigil)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Be still for the presence of the lord

165

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:5-12.17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. I am the Lord he said to him who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land. My Lord, the Lord, Abram replied, how am I to know that I shall inherit it? He said to him, Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon. He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: *The Lord is my light and my help.*

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.'

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord!



SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17-4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory! (2)

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.



PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

We behold the splendour of God

711

HOLY, HOLY

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LAMB OF GOD

Response: Have mercy on us, have mercy on us, grant us peace (2).

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Be thou my vision

168

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Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **Father Stephen G McGrattan**

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Telephone: 01655 882145

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Web: www.olasc.org.uk

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: Cissie Highton (Ann)
Sun: Eddie McCaffery (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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 4th March 2007

Sunday 4th March

In today's gospel on Mount Tabor we glimpse the glory concealed behind the humanity of Jesus. He took his disciples apart and showed them the reality of his Godhead, to reassure them before they descended into the valley where his passion and death would soon overtake them. As we look around our world it can seem dark and gloomy, yet we can come apart with Jesus to our own personal Mount Tabor and quietly reflect on the eternal reality which enables us to face whatever is ahead of us.

Monday 5th March

As disciples of Jesus we are to be compassionate and non-judgemental. For that we need all the help we can get from the Holy Spirit. As Jesus struggled under the weight of a heavy cross, his compassion was so great that he could tell the women of Jerusalem not to weep for him but for themselves and for their children. Let us reflect on these words of Jesus and ask if we need to weep for ourselves and our children?

Tuesday 6th March

The Church in her Lenten readings at Mass calls us to reflect on some hard facts. Today we hear Jesus warn us about the dangers of not practising what we preach. He exalts the virtue of humility. Perhaps we need to reflect on our own attitudes and repent of any which are self-centred rather than centred on God and neighbour.

Wednesday 7th March

We remember how Jesus reacted when his disciples sought the best places in his kingdom. He turns the world's idea of greatness on its head. Anyone who wants to be great is to be a servant. In today's world of ambition and celebrity worship these words would go down like a brick. Let us reflect on how our behaviour as Christians ties in with these words of Christ.

Thursday 8th March

The cross of Jesus looked very like failure at the time. That was certainly how it seemed to his disciples in spite of all he had said to prepare them. The world would have us believe that only the materialistic and the politically

correct will succeed and that holding on to Christian values is antiquated. Even the wearing of a cross can be viewed with disfavour. Yet the reality is very different in God's eyes. Do I measure failure and success in the same way as God?

Friday 9th March

Sometimes we find it hard to imagine how the Pharisees could have discounted the many miracles Jesus performed and rejected him and his teaching so wholeheartedly. Their refusal to believe resulted in the kingdom being given to another people "who would produce its fruits". Let us reflect on the fruit we are to produce.

Saturday 10th March

As we continue our Lenten journey, we reflect on the immense love of God which resulted in the incarnation of his Son, the first stage on the road to Calvary. Redemption is offered to all as a free gift but it cost God a great deal. God's verdict on sin is seen clearly on Calvary. Today we will spend some time considering the selfless generosity of Jesus on the cross.

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

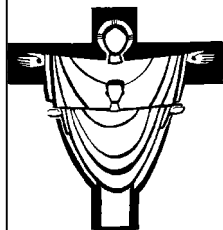
Last week's collection £524.
Thank you.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL INVITED

Last Sunday, 25th February, we started the process to invite nominations for the new Parish Pastoral Council.

What does a parish council do and why does the parish have one? Well before we answer these questions, lets take one step back and remember what happened at our Baptism.

BAPTISM: WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR US



In Baptism we became members of the Church — parts of the body of Christ. Our gifts and personalities are an important and valued part of the Church which is the Body of Christ here on earth. This Body of Christ continues the work Jesus began when, as God, he came down to earth as a human being, one like us except he didn't sin. God became human to show that he was

willing to share our sufferings, our sickness, our frustrations. He wanted us to know that he knows what it is like for our life to be hard at times. Yet, he encourages us to have faith in him because he destroyed sin and death —the most self-emptying and lonely moment of our human existence— and won life for us by rising from death. We are invited to take the place prepared for us in heaven. And in the face of all that is difficult in our world that is incredibly good news — in fact, it is the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our brother.

BAPTISM: WHAT WE NOW DO FOR JESUS

So in Baptism we began our journey towards death in the hope of the new life beyond death. We will all die — nothing is more certain and that is not something to fear or become morose about. It's a most basic fact of life. The good thing about our faith is that we can taste already the life that awaits us in heaven. We do this through the Church — by a

prayerful relationship with Jesus and with the help of the Sacraments. By tasting already that new and wonderful life that awaits us, we can live good and honest lives here on earth that make visible that new life in heaven. That is the life our Baptism calls us to lead.

BAPTISM GIVES US THE CHANCE FOR OUR VOICE TO BE HEARD

As well as the duty we have to live Christian lives, we have the right to have a say in how our Christian parish community is to be built up and function. Many of us enjoy that right and duty already. Belonging to a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) give us a real and active opportunity to live out our Baptism in a way that closely supports and builds up our parish mission.

You can make the difference in our parish because our parish is not the bricks and mortar of our lovely building — our parish is the communion of gifts and service that is offered by

our members. Our parish is our continued witness to the values Jesus taught and lived while walking this earth.

WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?

As a member of the PPC you would be given an exciting challenge: to help set goals for the parish and to help make them a reality so that we can be a strong and caring Church at the service of our modern world. To be a member of the PPC you do not need vast knowledge or formal qualifications. We are looking for people of faith, who are committed to practising that faith. You should have an understanding of your faith from a "person in the pew" perspective and be open to the Holy Spirit working in you and in others. It is important that you voice opinions and offer constructive assessment while respecting differing ideas. You will be expected to attend a meeting usually every month for 10 months of the year and one weekend retreat which will take place at the end of April. We are

looking for people to help promote better contact and communication among the people of the parish.

Are you interested? Or do you know someone who would be good at this? You can put your name forward or nominate someone else to be asked if they would be willing to join the PPC.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

The constitution of the PPC states that four members will step down each year and nominations are invited to fill these places. The members who were selected by lottery to stand down are eligible to stand again. We need nominations.

People who are nominated are totally free to choose whether they wish to stand for election or not.

Should there be more than four candidates nominated and happy to serve, the members will be decided by an election to take place next weekend.

Be courageous!

BISHOP CUNNINGHAM has returned home after his hospital operation. He is recovering well but will have to rest for several weeks. Please keep him in your prayers.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS help us to repent and to focus on God's merciful love. They will be prayed as a community after morning Mass on Fridays during Lent. Please also consider taking time to pray this devotion privately during this season: in doing so we focus on the final journey of Christ to his Father and strengthen ourselves to follow his example with hope.

NEW ROTAS for reader, Eucharistic ministers, passkeepers, flower arrangers, altar servers, cleaners and musicians are available. Please take one from the back of the church if you are involved in these tasks.

BUILDING FUND: The monthly collection for March will be taken up at Masses this weekend. Thank you for your

continuing support. Last month the building fund realised £794 and with the gift aid we will reclaim the February total rises to £919.72. A big thank you also for the generous donation of £500 given to the building fund during the week.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: The Junior Parish Council takes place at 5.30 pm next Sunday, 11th March. The Parish Council meets later that evening at 7.00 pm.

BINGO: The monthly bingo run by the Women's Guild to raise funds for the parish takes place on Wednesday at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

ADVANCE NOTICE: The annual retreat for the Parish Pastoral Council will take place from the evening of Friday 27th until lunchtime on Sunday 29th April at the Notre Dame Retreat Centre in Skelmorlie. Member of the Parish Council please keep these dates free.

CEREMONY OF COMMITMENT FOR P4 CHILDREN



Jodie Brownlee, Brittany Campbell, Ciara Campbell, Fay Green, Ronan McDowall, Emily Kiltie and Zak Roy promised before the parish community to use Lent as a time of special preparation to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. They are pictured above with Mr Moan (primary 4/5 teacher, Fr Stephen and Mrs Miller (Head Teacher). Please support them with your prayers and remember to pray especially for the young person whose name you drew from the tin last Sunday.

PRAY AS YOU GO

Pray-as-you-go is a website www.pray-as-you-go.org which allows people to download a short meditation for their mp3 players.

A new prayer session is produced every day. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer.

Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection. The aim is to help you to:

- become more aware of God's presence in your life
- listen to and reflect on God's word
- grow in your relationship with God.

Although the content of pray-as-you-go is different every day it keeps to the same basic format:

- Bells - the call to prayer
- Opening music, with a few words of introduction
- Scripture for the day
- Questions for personal reflection
- Repeat of the scripture reading
- Final reflection
- Conclusion: *Glory be to the Father...*

These meditations will be made available every week on CDs at the back of the church. **Please take one and**

SPECIAL REQUEST

Please return the CD envelope covers to the back of the church after using the week's CD. They can then be used again for Pray as You Go CDs.



Mothers' Prayers was started in England in November 1995 and has spread rapidly throughout the world with contacts in over 70 Countries and has the approval, support and blessing of Christian leaders of all denominations. There are now thousands of groups around the world. Two grandmothers, Veronica and her sister-in-law Sandra, felt led by the Lord to start Mothers Prayers and to pray in a special way for their children: to bring the worries they had for their children to the Lord and to trust in His words 'Ask and you will receive'.

We hope to begin a Mothers' Prayers group in the parish which would be launched on the week of Mother's Day this year. If you are interested in meeting with other mums and praying for your children this way for a short time—each week where possible—please speak to Ellen Hawkes (882747), Denise McCaffery (882760) or Fr Stephen.

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.

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.

	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	ALTAR SERVERS	MUSIC
Sat 3rd Mar 2nd in Lent	Stuart Green	Ellen Hawkes	Margaret Reilly Jim Hawkes	John Sabbatini Kate Spratt	Paul Strang, Amy Malone Simone McCahill	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 4th Mar 2nd in Lent	Kieran Porte Connor Menzies	Paul Strang	Elizabeth Meek Marian Davidson	Chic McDermott Jim Campbell	Liam Menzies, David Welsh, Rhian Collins, Rachel Campbell	Donna McKay Gerry Murphy Child Musicians
Sat 10th Mar 3rd in Lent	Jim McDermott	Nancy Flanagan	Ellen Hawkes Eileen Hamilton	David Malone Alex Kelly	Paige & Kyle Campbell, Patrick & Roisin McCallum	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 11th Mar 3rd in Lent	Robert Malone	Eileen Hamilton	Dennis & Betty McCaffery	Chic McDermott Tony Kerrigan	Jonathan Lewis, Chloe Brownlee, Kieran Porte, Connor Menzies	Maria Newlands Choir

You may notice that the gift bearers are not listed in the rota above.

The passkeepers will invite members of the congregation before each Mass to bring forward the gifts of bread and wine.