

# LITURGY FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Saturday Vigil)

## ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Sing the gospel of salvation, tell it out to all the earth;  
to the ones so long excluded, speak of hope and human worth.  
All the darkness of injustice cannot dim salvation's light,  
for the outcast and exploited count as worthy in God's sight.

Christ the one eternal Shepherd, calls creation to rejoice,  
and the victims of oppression thrill to hear salvation's voice.  
All who recognise the Saviour take their place within the fold,  
there, in perfect truth and freedom, life's eternal joys to hold.

See, the host that none can number gathers in from ev'ry side,  
once the victims of injustice, now redeemed and glorified.  
Fear and weeping here are ended, hunger and oppression cease.  
Now the Lamb becomes the Shepherd!  
Now begins the reign of peace!

## 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.

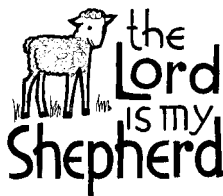
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

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.

## FIRST READING

*Acts 13:14.43-52*

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them. The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. "We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth." It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,  
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age.

## SECOND READING

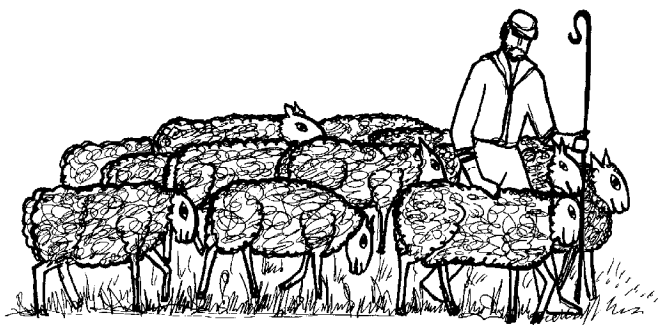
*Apocalypse 7:9.14-17*

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, "These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes."

## GOSPEL

*John 10:27-30*

Jesus said: "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one."



## PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

Loving shepherd

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## HOLY, HOLY

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

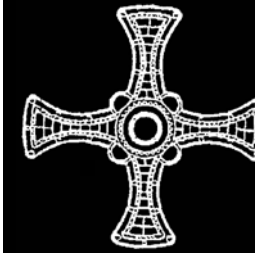
## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hail Redeemer! King Divine!

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# Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **Father Stephen G McGrattan**

Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Presbytery, 28 Dailly Road, Maybole, KA19 7AU

Telephone: 01655 882145

Fax: 01655 882173

Email: [info@olasc.org.uk](mailto:info@olasc.org.uk)

Web: [www.olasc.org.uk](http://www.olasc.org.uk)

### Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil at 6.30 pm  
Sunday at 10.00 am

### Weekday services

Monday at 7.00 pm  
Tuesday to Friday at 9.00 am

### 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 OF EASTER 29th April 2007

In our society shepherds are not familiar figures. However in Jesus' time, shepherding was a common, if lowly occupation. The shepherd lived alongside his sheep. He had to, because the sheep were prone to stray and vulnerable to animals of prey. From dawn to dusk the shepherd cared for his flock. The sheep knew this and their trust in the shepherd was such that they would follow anywhere he led. On the integrity of the shepherd the safety of the sheep depended.

This is how Jesus wants us to relate to him. As the Good Shepherd, he wants to take the same intense care of us. But will we trust him enough to follow wherever he leads?

The words of Jesus in today's passage are among the most important for human ears to hear. They promise security from the things which threaten human life - even from death itself. He affirms that nothing will happen to separate him from the sheep who listen to his voice. We have a shepherd whose care has been proven - he laid down his own life for us. We have nothing to fear from the future, if we stay close to him.

In today's world there are many lost souls - sheep that have strayed - seeking an identity, seeking to be loved, seeking a homeland, seeking peace and hope for the future. It's up to us to tell them about Jesus who can lead them to safe pastures and eternal life.

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 £554.70  
Thank you

Today is VOCATIONS SUNDAY. Perhaps you have considered a vocation to priesthood or the religious life. Perhaps you know someone who may be suited or called to life as a priest or religious. Why not suggest this to them? There is information about the vocation to priesthood available at the back of the church and at [www.priestsforScotland.org.uk](http://www.priestsforScotland.org.uk). More information is available from Fr Stephen. A prayer for vocations: **Jesus, Son of God, you call all the baptised to 'put out into the deep' taking the path that leads to holiness. Grant that many may also hear the call to serve as Priests in Scotland, witnesses in the world of today to the power of your love. Amen.**

## ELECTION MATTERS Part II

### So what do I look for in a candidate and party?

First, we must vote for candidates and parties that uphold the right to life for all Canadians and for all human beings everywhere.

Second, we must vote for candidates and parties who recognize that a family is "a man and a woman united in marriage, together with their children"(12); who will enact policies that recognize that children are the responsibility and duty first and foremost of their parents and not of the state; and who will enact policies that assist and do not hamper parents in raising their children.

### What if I cannot find a suitable candidate?

If no candidate upholds the right to life and the rights of the family, we are still obligated to vote. We can vote for the candidate who is the least hostile to the right to life and to the family. In the words of one theologian, "At times, the voter can do no better than make a choice of the lesser of two or more evils. (.) He must choose the group or individual who, everything considered, is the most favourable to faith and morals or is the least hostile."(13) To quote another theologian,

"It is sinful to vote for the enemies of religion or liberty, except to exclude a worse candidate.."(14)

When no truly good option is given to voters, we are then forced to use our vote to ensure the least objectionable outcome.

### Besides casting a pro-life vote, what else can I do?

Apart from always voting for a greater recognition and protection of the right to life and other human rights, we must also constantly strive to use other means to build a culture of life.

As Christians we are called to evangelize our culture by bringing Christian values into the market place, into every phase of our life in society.

One important way of doing this is by voicing our views publicly and by getting involved in the political process, influencing the nominations of candidates, the setting of party policy and supporting candidates who stand for the Gospel of Life in all its aspects.

12. CCC #2202; 13. Bernard Haering, C.Ss.R., The Law of Christ, Vol. II pp. 513-514; 14. Davis, Moral and Pastoral Theology, vol.2., p. 90

### The Greens' Manifesto on Catholic Schools

by Michael McGrath

Director, Scottish Catholic Education Service

Most people are "for" the environment. We are in favour a range of initiatives which are designed to reduce the disastrous effects of global warming on our planet. For many people, I suspect, "Green" is good and Green politicians and cuddly and nice and harmless. Perhaps, though, we have all been fooled!

As I consider how I will cast my vote on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, a key issue for me is the education policy of all the political parties, in particular their attitudes towards Catholic schools. This is where the Greens lose my vote. For they have published in their election manifesto – in a tiny sentence tucked away at the very bottom of page 9 - a commitment to "move towards the integration of state-funded religious schools into non-denominational education". In other words, they intend to abolish almost 400 Catholic schools in Scotland or to force them to become private schools. And all of this because – the Greens claim –

schools across the world have become 'secularised'. They should try telling that to the 40 million students who attend 250,000 Catholic schools across Europe, North America, Australia and elsewhere.

The Scottish Greens' policy is all the more puzzling, given the success story of Catholic schools in Scotland, well supported by evidence collected by Her Majesty's Inspectors. Do they not wonder why the best 4 HMI reports published this year have all been on Catholic schools? Do they believe that it is merely a coincidence that these and many other Catholic schools punch well above their weight when it comes to leadership, ethos, achievement, support for pupils and so on? Do they not wonder why about 20% of the school population choose to enrol in Catholic schools when they are so many other choices available to them?

We live in an age when some people may think that it is time to let go of Catholic schools in order to ensure a 'more integrated' society. Such thinking is naive in the extreme. Those who lead the attacks on Catholic schools will not be happy until they have outlawed religious

faith from public life, until religious education is merely a historical study and religious observance in schools has been replaced by a secular "time for reflection" in the place of prayer and liturgy. Their intention is to impose their own secular stance on the rest of us – and this, ironically, all in the name of "freedom" and "equality and diversity". The educational, social and cultural consequences of such a policy would be disastrous for Scotland, not just for the Catholic community.

Now you might say, "So what?" After all, the Greens are a minority party who are not going to be forming an administration. Should they not be allowed to indulge themselves in such gesture politics which will never come to fruition? Yet, given the nature of the voting system, they could obtain enough seats to place them in a strong bargaining position to commit a coalition government to abolishing Catholic schools in the lifetime of a new Parliament!

If you vote Green in this election – be very clear on this - you could be voting for an end to Catholic schools in Scotland.

**PARISH COUNCIL RETREAT:** The annual retreat for the Parish Pastoral Council is taking place this weekend at the Notre Dame Retreat Centre in Skelmorlie. Bishop Taylor will celebrated Masses and is most welcome.

**ANOTHER BED AVAILABLE:** A single bed in excellent condition is available. It comes complete with headboard and bed linen. If you would like more details please contact Jean Harvey on 883271.

**37th HADDINGTON PILGRIMAGE:** This will take place on Saturday 12th May in St Mary's Collegiate Church, Haddington where Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated at 12.00 noon and will be followed immediately by an ecumenical service of healing and peace. At the conclusion of the service all are invited to take their lunches together in St Mary's church hall or in the grounds. Further information is available from Mrs Irene MacRae, Rathen, 45 Eskbank Road, Dalkeith, EH22 3DH; Tel: 0131 663 3291.

**MUSIC PRACTICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:** Will all the young musicians and singers please come to a music practice on Tuesday 1st May at 6.30 pm. Please do not forget your folder with music in it. **Please note the change of date and time.** Apologies for the confusion with times in last week's newsletter.

**ROTAS FOR MINISTRIES:** Rotas are available for all those involved in reading, ministry of the Eucharist, passkeeping, altar serving, music, flower arranging and cleaning in the parish. Please take one for May and June from the back of the church.

**CHARITY SHOP:** Once again, Our Lady and St Cuthbert's parish are running the charity shop in the High Street from Saturday 19th May. Please bring any goods you have to the church hall.



Some more highlights from the immensely successful C Factor Talent Show last weekend.



## 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 28th April 4th in Easter	Alex Meek	Matthew Reilly	Doreen Donald Nancy Flanagan	Jim Hawkes David Malone	Patrick & Roisin McCallum, Paul Strang	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 29th April 4th in Easter	Elizabeth Meek	Stuart Green	Ellen Hawkes Marian Davidson	Chic McDermott Jim Campbell	Rachel Campbell, David Welsh, Justin McQuillan, Liam Menzies	Donna McKay Gerry Murphy Adult singers
Sat 5th May 5th in Easter	Matthew Reilly	Alex Meek	Doreen Donald Ellen Hawkes	Jim Hawkes David Malone	Paul Strang, Amy Malone, Simone McCa- hill, Ali Roy	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 6th May 5th in Easter Children's Mass	Justin McQuillan Ronan Hunter Blair	Niall Murphy	Betty McCaffery Margaret Kiltie	Jim Campbell Chic McDermott	Liam Menzies, David Welsh, Rhiain Collins, Rachel Campbell	Donna McKay Child Musicians

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.