

St AIDAN'S PARISH CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Sunday Masses	Saturday Vigil 6 pm, Sunday 10 a.m. and 12 Noon.
Holyday of Obligation	Vigil 7.30 pm, 10 a.m. and 7.30 pm.
Weekdays	Monday to Friday 8.15am and 10.00am Saturday 10.00am.
Confessions	After All Saturday Masses

Parish Ministers' Rota

17th May 2009

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
Vigil	B. Higgins E. Lynn, S. Woods	G. Traynor
10.00 a.m.	C. Allen P. McGinlay	B. Moulds A. O' Neill
12 Noon	J. McCann J. Slavin	M. Ayton J. Fox

Today's Mass

What would Paul have done without Barnabas? It was Barnabas who introduced the newly converted Paul to the suspicious Christian community in Jerusalem. The friendship that Barnabas had with Paul ensured that Paul became accepted.

When Paul stood on the toes of some of the Greek-speaking Christians and had to flee Jerusalem for safety to Tarsus, it was Barnabas who made contact with Paul and brought him back fourteen years later to Jerusalem. Again it was Barnabas who set out with Paul on his first great missionary journey, a journey that would literally change the world. Even though they quarrelled for a time, the friendship between these two men was a pivotal turning point in the Christian story.

Someone once said that no-one is so rich that they can do without a friend. In these stormy economic times we have found ourselves appreciating our friends more. In the good times we were more self-sufficient. Anything we needed we could buy. But now we are grateful for the one who can do us a favour and we in turn will help them when they are in need. It is no longer about money. Now we realise that we are part of something that money could never buy. We are part of a community.

At the heart of our community is love. But our love cannot be 'just words or mere talk'. Instead it is love with rolled up sleeves. A love that is not times or measured but freely and generously given, after the example of the Father who loved the Son and the Son who loves each one of us.

St Aidan's Parish Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

10th May 2009



*"I am the vine, you are the branches,
whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty."*

Parish Priest: Rev. Joseph Clements

Rev. Francis King Chaplain HMP Shotts

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Fifth Week of Easter

Thursday 14th May St Matthias. St Matthias was the one chosen by lot to replace Judas as the twelfth apostle. He had been a disciple of Jesus from the beginning.

Remember that there is now an extra morning Mass at St Aidan's - from Monday to Friday. A perfect way to start the day before work or school.

Vocation Bulletin Inserts

"Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Love demands truth and action.

Call your diocesan vocations director:

Rev. Charles Dornan
St Stephen's, Paddock Street,
Sikeside, Coatbridge ML5 4PG
Tel. 01236 4205 . Email:
charles.dornan@btconnect.com

Praying the Rosary

To pray the rosary is nothing other than to do what Mary did. Luke tells us that Mary 'kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.' The 'things' in question here are all those things she, his mother, experienced in living with Jesus: the announcement of her being chosen by God to be the mother of the Saviour, the birth at Bethlehem, the events of the Presentation and later the 'Finding' in the Temple, and at the wedding in Cana. Finally there was the deepest pondering of all as she took her stand silently, beside her Son on the cross, at Calvary, with him all through his slow agony and death.

Mary is our mother too. She is mother of the Church. She is first Christian and model for all Christians. The great gift of the rosary as a prayer is that it enables us to do as Mary did right through her life: we ponder with her the events of the life of Jesus. In the rosary we call these events 'mysteries' because meditating on them is an endless source of fresh enlightenment for the experience of our own lives. As we ponder the mysteries with Mary, we are slowly and imperceptibly transformed



and we become more and more like Jesus and one with him and even more surprisingly we discover that Jesus is one with us, now in the joy, now in the sorrow and now in the glory that can be our experience at any moment in our lives.

When Pope John Paul II identified five new 'Luminous Mysteries' from Jesus' public life, he reminded us that Jesus' entire life and every event illuminates our lives and experience today.

The deep fruit of pondering the mysteries of the rosary for us is not that our problems are resolved, but that in the midst of all the ups and downs, we find light and peace.

Bishop Brendan Kelly
Bishop of Achonry

(The Rosary is prayed in St Aidan's Church on every weekday after 10.00am Mass.)

SVDP Caravan Parkdean Holiday Site, Nairn

The SVDP Holiday Caravan still has some dates free for this year. Details of the dates available are on the Church Notice Board.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please contact a member of the SVDP.

Carfin Grotto

St Aidan's Parish Day at Carfin Grotto is
Monday 25th May.

7.00 am exposition in Glass Chapel
10.00 am Mass in the Parish Church
1.00 pm Mass in the Glass Chapel
7,00 pm Cenacolo Prayers (Glass Chapel)
8.00 pm Night Prayer

Saturday 16th May

**On the Saturday of the First Holy
Communions (16th May), there will
be NO 10.00 am Mass in St Aidan's.**

PARISH HUMOUR

A man dies and meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. Peter says to the man, "Here's how it works. You need to have one hundred points to get into heaven. You tell me about all the good things you've done. They are all worth a certain number of points. If your total is one hundred or more, you can come in."

"Well," says the man. "I was happily married to the same woman for 52 years. I never looked at another woman. I was attentive and loved her dearly."

"That's great," says St. Peter. "That'll be two points."

"Hmmm," says the man. "This is going to be harder than I thought. Well, I attended church regularly, volunteered my time and paid my collections faithfully."

"Wonderful," says St. Peter, "That's worth another point."

"One point!" says the man. "Okay, okay. I was involved with a prison ministry for twenty-five years. I visited the prisoners at least once a month."

"Wow!" says St. Peter. "That's another two points!"

"Only two points!" says the man. "At this rate, it'll be by the grace of God that'll I'll ever get into this place."

"Bingo!" says St. Peter. "That's one hundred points! Come on in."

Postman: Is this letter for you? The name is smudged.

Man: No, it can't be for me, my name is Smith.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Tom: Hi, Betty, what are you doing?

Betty: I'm planting seeds, its my homework.

Tom: Are you doing a science project?

Betty: No, actually this is for our religion class. We are planting seeds and hopefully little berries will grow in the autumn.

Tom: Cool, but why is it for religion?

Betty: Well, our teacher was talking about this Sunday's Gospel and it is about the vine and the branches. When Jesus talked about the vine and its branches he was describing how kindness and good deeds are like the fruit on the branches. They multiply if enough care and thought is given to our relationships with each other and with God. She then asked us to plant the fruit seeds that she gave us and asked us to care for them. Every time we water them and look after them we are to do two things: a) try to do a good deed and b) talk to God! Our teacher reckons that by the time that the berries come we will have worked on being good fruit for God!

Tom: I get it, sounds like fun *and* you have a constant reminder that you are growing in faith as the plant grows! Cool idea and a great way to understand this Sunday's Gospel.

PARISH NOTICES

BINGO Bingo in the hall every Sunday at 7.30 pm.

STALL Stall available in the hall after both Sunday Masses.

Men's Club. The Men's Club meets every Thursday at 7.30 pm in the hall. Men's Club Mass on the first Thursday of the month.

200 Club This month's winners: No. 62 A. McAleavey £70; No. 61 M. McDowell £20; No. 140 D. McCourt £10

Intimations for the sick, the recently deceased and anniversaries must reach the Parish Priest by Saturday morning at the latest. All items for the bulletin should reach Fr. Clements by Thursday of each week. We acknowledge the assistance of *Intercom* in the preparation of the text for parts of this bulletin.