

St Aidan's Parish Church

Mass Times

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm, Sunday 10.00 am and 12 Noon.

Holyday of Obligation Vigil 7.30pm, 10.00am and 7.30pm

Weekdays 10.00 am

Confessions After all Saturday Masses.

Parish Ministers' Rota

2nd May 2010

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
Vigil	B. Higgins, E. Lynn, S. Woods.	K. Cassidy
10.00am	G. O'Dowd, A. McKee.	B. Moulds, A. McCrossan
12 Noon	M. McDowell, W. O'Neill	P. Allison, J. Scott.

Today's Mass

Antioch in Pisidia was a city, in what is now modern day Turkey, was an important military, agricultural and trade centre. Its population was mixed - Jews had settled there, many Roman soldiers retired there to farm and there was, of course, already the native population. Into this melting pot came St Paul and St Barnabas.

St Paul had been a senior Pharisee and the local Jews might have first thought of him as a visiting celebrity. Imagine their horror to find him preaching about Jesus and to the Pagans too. Paul makes it clear that he has not come to his fellow Jews but to all who will accept Jesus. The whole book of the Acts charts this move away from the idea of the Good News being for the people of Israel alone, and towards a global Church of believers of all nations. We are so familiar with the idea of a global Church that it can come as a surprise to remember that this was such a radical idea. St Paul paid for his radical ways over and over again as he was repeatedly ejected from places where he preached, was frequently imprisoned and was finally executed.

The second reading from the Apocalypse describes John's vision of the great crowd of the saved from all nations. This reinforces the idea of Jesus as the saviour, not just of the Jews but of the whole world.

Jesus' words in today's Gospel are a bit more subtle. In other parts of the Gospels, Jesus welcomes those who are not Jewish - Romans, Samaritans and those rejected by Jewish society. But in today's reading he uses the metaphor, frequently found in the Gospels, of sheep and their shepherd. He promises that his sheep will be cared for; and that these sheep will not just be cared for in this life, but will have eternal life and can never be lost.

We are lucky enough to be part of that great flock of sheep. Our we are asked to do is to listen to the word of Jesus our shepherd and to follow him.

St Aidan's Parish Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

25th April 2010



"The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, I know them and they follow me."

Parish Priest: Rev. Joseph Clements

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Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C

Thursday 29th April St Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church. Born at Siena in 1347, she strove to bring peace to the quarrelling factions and cities of Italy and to restore the rights of the papacy, at that time in exile at Avignon.

The Year of the Priest

During the year of the priest, we are asked to pray for a priest of the diocese on each day of the year. The priests for this week are:

Sunday Fr Daniel Rooney
Monday Fr Stephen Rooney
Tuesday Canon Michael Ryan
Wednesday Fr Stewart Alexander
Thursday Fr Eamonn J. Sweeney
Friday Fr Christopher G. Taylor
Saturday Fr John Taylor

We should pray also for our own Parish Priest every day of the year.

50th Anniversary News

Plans are underway for a long overdue renovation of the Parish Hall. The hall is a valuable facility in the parish and is used every day of the week. We hope that all parishioners will support the Hall Committee in their efforts to restore the hall. Please look out for news of events in the Parish Bulletin and on the Church Notice Board.

Many thanks to all who helped make last week's Fun Day such a success. The proceeds will go towards the Hall Renovation Fund and, once we have a final figure for the sum raised, we'll include it in the Bulletin.

The plans for the Hall renovation will be displayed in the Hall in the near future.

Please pray for:

The Recently Deceased: Robert King; Theresa Jardine, Hugh McMahon (Sr.).

The Anniversaries and Month's Mind of: Mary, Arthur, Sarah and Mary Grant; Joseph and Elizabeth Carroll; John and Francis Murphy; Israel and Cissy Simmons; John Kerr; Mary Stocksier; John Larkin.

Please check after Mass each week for details.

You can help the Renovation Fund by supporting the following parish fundraising events:

Sunday 9th May. Rolls and sausage in the hall after both Sunday Masses. We hope to display the renovation plans and members of the hall committee will be there to discuss the plans with you.

If the rolls and sausage event is a success we will repeat it on the second Sunday of each month.

Friday 18th June. Race night in the hall.
Friday 17th September Family Fun Night
Friday 26th November St Andrew's Ceilidh.

From the 8th/9th may we will be holding a monthly draw to raise funds for the renovation. Simply put a £1 in the envelope provided and write your name and address on the envelope. There will be a guaranteed £50 prize every month.

A Fair-trade stall will open soon in the parish. Look out for further details.

We will need the help and support from the whole parish to make the Anniversary Celebrations and the Hall renovation a success. If you would like to become involved, come along to the hall after mass on Sunday 9th May and speak to anyone from the Hall Committee.

PARISH HUMOUR

A Sunday School teacher said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" Tommy blurted out, "I know, Aces."

A state trooper sees a vehicle on the interstate doing 33 miles an hour and pulls the car to make sure everything is all right. When he approaches the driver he discovers that it is a nun. "Excuse me, sister. But are you alright?" He asked.

She replies, "Oh, yes officer. We're just fine. Was I doing something wrong?" The officer says, "Well sister, you were travelling way under the speed limit and I was concerned that you might be having car trouble or something." "But officer", the nun interrupts, "I saw a sign there about a mile back that said 33, and I know I wasn't going any faster than that."

Chuckling, the trooper says, "Sister, that was a state highway route marker, this is State Route 33, not the speed limit. The speed limit signs have a MPH at the bottom." "Oh, now don't I feel foolish!", replied the nun turning red.

SCIAF 'WEE BOXES
Today is the last date for returning your wee boxes to the Church. After today please send your donation direct to SCIAF at the address on the box.

"That's ok, but please try to be more careful, I would hate to see you get hurt", finished the officer. Then as he turns to say good-bye to the nuns in the back seat, he notices for the first time that they are trembling violently and quite pale.

"Sister, what is wrong with your friends? Can I escort you to a hospital?" "Oh, no, they're all right. We just turned off of Route 115!"

The Catholic Young Men's Society
General Election Hustings
Motherwell and Wishaw
Constituency

Thursday 29th April in Holy Family Parish Centre, Mossend at 7.45pm.
Candidates from the main parties will debate issues and answer questions from the public.

First Communion Cards

A range of first Communion cards are now on sale in the stall in the hall after **both** Sunday Masses

BATHGATE MENZIES CHOIR

The renowned Bathgate Menzies Choir are appearing in St Mark's Church on Tuesday 27th April at 7.30pm

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY

Tickets (£3, including tea / coffee) are available from St Mark's Church, or at the door.

PARISH NOTICES

BINGO Live bingo in the hall every Sunday at 7.30pm.

STALL The stall in the hall is open after both Sunday Masses.

MEN's CLUB meets in the hall every Thursday at 7.30pm. Men's Club monthly Mass is held on the 1st Thursday of the month. .

Intimations for the sick, the recently deceased, anniversaries and all other items for the bulletin must reach the Parish Priest by Thursday for inclusion in the next bulletin. We acknowledge the assistance of *Intercom* and *Redemptorist Publications* in the preparation of this bulletin.