



HEARTBEAT

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 74

17 MARCH 2024



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

READING REFLECTIONS

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34. In today's extract, the prophet is foretelling the setting up of a New Covenant, to replace the Old Covenant made between God and his Chosen People on Mt. Sinai, a covenant which the Chosen People had not kept. The New Covenant would not be written on tablets of stone but on each individual's heart. It would be a covenant of love rather than one of obligation.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews 5:7-9. The purpose of this letter is to confirm the converts in the Christian faith which they have accepted.

The **Gospel** is from St. John 12:20-33. On the first Palm Sunday, as Christ entered Jerusalem not as a conquering king on a charger but "riding on an ass" to show that he was the humble servant of all men, he clearly foresaw the sufferings and torments that would be his in that city, before the week was out. Among those who waved palm branches to honor him and who sang aloud: "Hosanna to the son of David, Hosanna in the highest," there were perhaps some who, urged on by the leaders, would be shouting the following Friday, "away with him, crucify him," and "we have no king but Caesar." Such was the fickleness of human nature then. Unfortunately it has not changed much, if at all, in the two thousand years that have since elapsed. We are still fickle when it comes to choosing between Christ and the things of this world. Yet he knew all of this, and was still willing to carry the cross for us who are such unworthy mortals!

This very thought should put us all to shame, for what repayment does the very best of us make for the incredible love he has shown for us?

We grumble and complain when some small cross is laid on our shoulders; we are full of laments if life is not running smoothly for us; we cannot understand why God should let certain things happen to us, his friends! But see for a moment what the lot of his beloved Son was on earth. Born and reared in extreme poverty; insulted and offended by those he wanted to teach; quickly forgotten by those he benefited by his miracles; hounded by his enemies and betrayed by one who had been his disciple for over two years and who had sat at table with him that same night; deserted in his moment of trial by those very ones who had sworn undying allegiance



to him. Then followed the torments wished on him by his enemies—those he had come to save; the mock trial and illegal condemnation; the scourging at the pillar; the crowning with thorns; the carrying of the cross and finally the three hours of intense torture and agony while his body hung on the cross! The next time we are tempted to grumble and complain about our sad lot. Let us look thoughtfully at a crucifix for a few moments!

"He who loves his life loses it," this is a truth stated by Christ at the solemn moment when he was speaking of the purpose of his own painful death. He died so that we might live, not for sixty or even a hundred years on earth, but forever in heaven. We can, we know, lose the eternal life Christ won for us if we are too attached to our transitory, earthly life. If we love our own comforts, pleasures, temporal gains, our own worldly will, more than we love our unending, happy future, then we are loving our earthly lives wrongly, and we are gravely risking the loss of the future, true life.

If, on the other hand, we do our best to be faithful servants of Christ, we shall always judge all our actions with eternity in view. We can use the things of this life which God gives us, and still be close followers of Christ. The lawful possession of the goods of this world, the enjoyment of the licit pleasures of life, are allowed to the fervent Christian. If these possessions and pleasures are accepted with Christian gratitude, they will become stepping-stones that will help us across the river of life to our everlasting home beyond.

Each one of us should look fervently and devoutly on the crucifix today, and try to compare our willingness to suffer those crosses sent to us by God, with the crushing cross and passion our Savior Jesus Christ gladly accepted for us and not for his own sake. Do not let the conclusion you draw stun you into inactivity, but rather let it shock you into a new outlook on life; a new resolve to serve, follow and imitate our loving Christ more closely in future. So may it be for all of us.

—Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

PARISH INFORMATION

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

If you or a loved one, neighbour or friend would like a home visit from Fr. Kane please complete and return the following form to the Parish House. The office will then be in touch to arrange a suitable time for Fr. Kane to visit, as well as a more long-term arrangement for the housebound person to receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick at home. Please use the form printed below. Simply cut out and return completed to the Parish House.



BAPTISM

PREPARATION CLASSES

There meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm in the Parish House. Parents and Godparents of children due to be baptised are asked to attend this single meeting. Please call the Parish Office or speak to the clergy.



REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL

You might consider leaving your parish a personal legacy gift in your will. Such gifts help the parish in its Gospel mission into the future. Contact the Parish Office for more details.



BREAKFAST CLUB

During term time, breakfast Club runs Monday-Friday for children who attend St. Augustine's Primary. Children can attend from 7.45am and will be taken to school by our adult volunteers.

To enrol your child in the Parish Breakfast Club please collect an enrolment form from the Church Porch. This must be handed in to the Parish Office before your child attends.

PARISH GIVING

St. Augustine's depends on the generosity of our parishioners and visitors to continue our mission and maintain our historic buildings. There are lots of ways to support your parish:

- You can donate via the regular collection baskets at the weekend Mass you attend.
- You can set-up a regular standing order which you can also Giftaid. The online form is available on the Donate page of our site.

SCAN TO DONATE



- You can donate using the secure online donation feature on our website.

Visit saintaugustines.org.uk/donate for more information.

St. Augustine's Parish - Pastoral Visit Request Form

Name of Sick or housebound person: _____

Contact Number: _____

Address for visitation: _____

** Please return this completed form to the Parish House. The office will be in touch to make arrangements.*

***For urgent sick calls please make direct contact with the Parish House and leave a message on the answer phone if necessary.*

PARISH CENTRE

Saint Augustine's Parish Centre
Booking our function suites is great
way to support your Parish! Our
two Function Suites available for:

Wedding Receptions / Funeral
Breakfasts / Baptism / Receptions /
Birthday Parties / Anniversary
Parties / Charity Events etc.



For booking enquiries email Chris
at the Parish Hall on
office@saintaugustines.org.uk.

Weekend dates are still available
for 2024.

Function Suite Hire from £80



KAIROS CAFE

Please support your parish café
which is open Monday – Friday
from 10.00am - 2.00pm. The café
offers hot and cold drinks, home-
baking, freshly made soups,
toasties, baked potatoes and more!

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

*The following are the dates
for special collections in 2024*

- Holy Places: 29th March
- Communications: 11/12th May
- Day for Life: 15/16th June



PARISH NOTICES



PARISH CONVERSATION MEETING

**Sunday, 24 March
6.00pm**

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH CENTRE

The success of Wellspring will depend on the
generous response of each one of us and our prayer
that God will bless and multiply our endeavours. The
Parish needs your help to respond. What can you
contribute? Can you help develop this vision of
Church? The Wellspring Vision for the Diocese
invites you to 'Imagine a church...' you are invited
help make that vision a reality.

Everyone is most welcome.

JOIN US

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Our candidates recently received The Rite of Election. The Rite of
Election takes place in the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent
and invites them to enter their names in the Book of the Elect.
During Lent three other services take place in the home parishes
of the candidates. These are known traditionally as The Scrutinies

Third Scrutiny: 17 March at 10am

PALM SUNDAY

Next weekend, 23/24 March, we celebrate Palm Sunday. This marks
the beginning of Holy Week. I encourage you to pick up your blessed
palms from the back of the church. These palms represent the
triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and serve as a symbol of hope
and renewal for all of us.

We encourage you to take these palms not only for yourself but also
for your family, friends, the sick, your neighbours, and housebound.
Let us spread the message of peace and love in our community and
beyond. These blessed palms are a beautiful way to bring a piece of
the Holy Week into your homes and share it with those who may not
be able to attend the services.



OUTREACH PROJECT



THE PEOPLE'S PANTRY

**Open: Mon 6.00pm - 7.30pm /
Thurs 12.00pm - 3.00pm**

No referral is required. Simply show-up and we will give you a free bag of food for you and your household. Please make only one visit per week.

We have also linked with the local Citizens Advice Bureau who offer advocacy services via our Pantry.

NEEDS OF THE WEEK:

- SOUP, BEANS, TUNA, PASTA, OATS, TOILET ROLL, TINNED VEG, TINNED FRUIT.



FURNITURE PROJECT

We have currently reached our storage capacity for furniture. We thank you for your continuous generous support.

If anyone requires support with furniture, please contact outreach@saintaugustines.org.uk



CONTACT US

If you require support, please contact us on the following email and someone will be in touch:
outreach@saintaugustines.org.uk



CLOTHING BANK

Open: Thurs 10.30am - 12.30pm

Need assistance with clothing? We can support you. New and good quality pre-loved clothing is available for all ages.

Thank you for your continued support to the clothing bank. It is greatly appreciated.

NEEDS OF THE WEEK:

- BOYS CLOTHING 2+
- CHILDREN'S JACKETS AND SHOES
- BEDDING
- TOWELS



UKRAINIAN SUPPORT

The Ukrainian Support Programme is now underway with the following groups:

Kids Club (6-10 years)

Thursday: from 3.30pm-5pm

Adult Support Group Monday:
11am-1pm



Our continued thanks to the Companions of the Order of Malta for their support in providing warm clothing to those in need.

Their help provides support to our clothing bank and our Winter Coat Appeal who all aim to provide warm clothing to anyone who presents themselves.



CONFESSION

Saturday: 9.00am – 9.50am

Tuesday: 7.00pm - 8.30pm

With visiting Priests

MONTHLY MEDJUGORJE EVENING

The next Medjugorje Evening takes place **Monday, 25th March.**

The parish hosts an evening of prayer, replicating the prayer schedule of the Marian Shrine in Medjugorje. Please join us if you are able at the next evening.

The evening format is as follows:

7.00pm Holy Rosary

7.30pm Holy Mass

Followed by Adoration

Refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre.



SUNDAY COLLECTION

The Parish collection for the Fourth Sunday of Lent 9/10 March 2024 is as follows:

- Plate collection: £1200
- Gift Aid: £1373
- Tax Reclaimed: 343.25*

This week's total: £2916.25

Last week's SCIAF collection: £1930

*Through Gift Aid we can claim back 25p from every £1 paid of taxpayer donations.

2024 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Any changes to this schedule will be printed in the weekly bulletin.

Early Morning Mass

Monday - Friday: 7.00am

Confession

Saturday: 9.00 - 9.50am

Stations of the Cross with Benediction

Tuesday: 7.00 - 8.00pm

Final Confession with Visiting Priests

Tuesday, 19th March: 7.00pm - 8.30pm

**No devotions this evening*

EASTER SUNDAY

We have a fun packed morning for all our children and young people on Easter Sunday! We will begin the day by digging up the alleluias before the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The children will be invited to ring their bells during the Gloria at Holy Mass (Vigil and Sunday Masses).

After 10.00am Sunday Mass, we will have our annual Easter egg hunt for our young people, followed by Sunday Brunch in the hall. Families will have the opportunity to take part in egg painting at the Sunday Brunch. We look forward to seeing you all there!

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Brunch with egg painting craft for all families
- Bells (Vigil Mass & Sunday)
- Digging up the alleluias



SCHOOL LENTEN MASSES

Holy Mass will be celebrated every Monday and Wednesday at 9.15am in the school hall of Saint Augustine's Primary School.

This is a great way for our young people to grow closer to Jesus during the holy season of Lent.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, 17 March

10.50 - 11.30am

in upstairs hall of the Parish Centre

This week is for P7 children
(Confirmation)

IGNITE SACRAMENTAL CATECHESIS PROGRAMME 2023/24

Please ensure your child attends at least 6 of the 8 Ignite lessons

First Reconciliation (P3)	First Holy Communion (P4)	Confirmation (P7)
1. Sunday 8th October 2. Sunday 5th November 3. Sunday 26th November <i>Advent Wreath Family Craft (children & parents invited to attend)</i> 4. Sunday 3rd December 5. Sunday 14th January 6. Sunday 4th February 7. Sunday 3rd March 8. Sunday 10th March	1. Sunday 12th November 2. Sunday 26th November <i>Advent Wreath Family Craft (children & parents invited to attend)</i> 3. Sunday 10th December 4. Sunday 21st January 5. Sunday 18th February 6. Sunday 10th March 7. Sunday 21st April 8. Sunday 2nd June <i>(Corpus Christi Sunday - Thanksgiving Mass & Procession)</i>	1. Sunday 29th October 2. Sunday 19th November 3. Sunday 17th December 4. Sunday 28th January 5. Sunday 25th February 6. Sunday 17th March 7. Sunday 28th April 8. Sunday 5th May

These take place in the upstairs hall of the Parish Centre each Sunday after the 10.00am family Mass. Please collect your children from the upstairs hall at 11.30am.

Children's Colouring Page

- Saint Patrick -



Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

PARISH NOTICES

SICK

Caroline Mitchell; Marion Moran; Josephine Martin; Irene Crawley; Simon Howard; Christine Elliot; James Trower; Cathy Gray; Craig Cameron; Barbara Martin; Catherine Brown; Paul Morton; Luke Morton; Bernd Reimann; Marianne McMillan; Teresa Coyle; Susan Robb; Margaret McClelland; Eileen O'Kane; Sharon Dolan; Paul McCormack

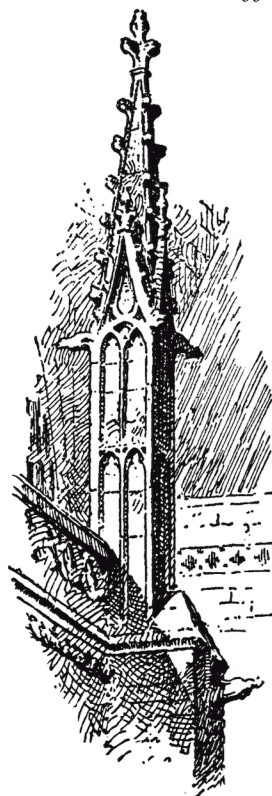
RECENTLY DECEASED

Brian Doyle; Joseph Dolan; Margaret Rowan; John Fitzpatrick; Marjory Maxwell; Sheila Young; Isabella Wallace; Jacqueline McLean; Alec McCormack; James Friel; Richard McCracken; Alex McKillop; Patrick McGiveny; Jason Gardiner; John McLean; Johnny Burns (Wales)

ANNIVERSARIES / MONTHS MINDS / BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Hugh Kelly; Pius Buckley; John Doyle; Craig Fallon; Kathleen Farrell; Charles Farrell; Catherine Delaney; Mary & Joe Burns; Jane & Peter Wallace; Cathy & James Wallace; Mary & Patrick Morgan; Mary & Francis Hilley; Eddie & Agnes McFadden; John Keating; George Ferguson; Betty O'Hagan; John O'Neill; Pat, Ina, Robert and John Reilly; Dermott O'Neill

**If you would like a Mass Offering, please collect the Mass card from the Parish Shop. Please also indicate if you would like the intention to be listed in the parish magazine. Alternatively, you may post intentions through the Parish House letterbox. Please ensure names are written clearly and are handed-in to the Parish House or office by Wednesday of that week at the latest.*



PARISH YORK TRIP 15-17 MAY 2024

£179 PER PERSON

- Two nights B&B
- Return coach
- York Minster ticket
- Spiritual Programme

To register your interest, please add your name to the sign up sheet on the noticeboard of the Church porch.

PARISH DIARY

Sunday, 17 March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Gift Aid Drive	10.00am: Family Mass <i>with Children's Liturgy and Third Scrutiny of RCIA</i> <i>Ignite Club for Confirmation Children (P7) Upstairs Hall</i> <i>Sunday Brunch is Served after 10.00am Family Mass</i> 12.00 Noon: Holy Mass 5.00pm: Holy Mass
Monday, 18 March <i>Fifth Week of Lent</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 9.15am: Primary School Mass (<i>School Hall</i>) 10.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am – 2.00pm: Kairos Café (<i>Parish Centre</i>) 10.30am - 1.00pm: Church cleaning 1.00pm - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm - 7.30pm People's Pantry Open (<i>Blairgrove Shopping Centre</i>) 7.00pm: Pro-Life Meeting (<i>Diocesan Centre, Motherwell</i>)
Tuesday, 19 March <i>Saint Joseph</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am - 2.00pm: Kairos Café (<i>Parish Centre</i>) 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 1.30-3.00pm: Confessions in School (P4 and P5) 7.00pm - 8.30pm: Confession with Visiting Priests <i>*There will be no Stations of the Cross</i>
Wednesday, 20 March <i>Fifth Week of Lent</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 9.15am: Primary School Mass (<i>School Hall</i>) 10.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am – 2.00pm: Kairos Café (<i>Parish Centre</i>) 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, 21 March <i>Fifth Week of Lent</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am – 2.00pm: Kairos Café (<i>Parish Centre</i>) 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – 12.30pm: Clothing Bank Open (<i>Outreach Hub</i>) 12.00pm - 3.00pm People's Pantry Open (<i>Blairgrove Shopping Centre</i>) 7.00pm: RCIA (<i>Parish House</i>)
Friday, 22 March <i>Fifth Week of Lent</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 10.00am: Holy Mass 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am – 2.00pm: Kairos Café (<i>Parish Centre</i>) 1.30-3.00pm: Confessions in School (P6 and P7)
Saturday, 23 March <i>Fifth Week of Lent</i>	9.00am – 9.50am – Confession 10.00am: Holy Mass 4.00pm: Holy Mass (<i>Vigil</i>)
Sunday, 24 March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10.00am: Family Mass <i>with Children's Liturgy</i> <i>Sunday Brunch is Served after 10.00am Family Mass</i> 12.00 Noon: Holy Mass 5.00pm: Holy Mass 6.00pm: Parish Wellspring Conversation Meeting (<i>Parish Centre</i>) <i>All welcome - please come along to pray and share together.</i>

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

PARISH CLERGY



PARISH PRIEST

REV. FR. MICHAEL KANE
FRKANE@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK



PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

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OUTREACH SUPPORT

OUTREACH@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Those who require the Sacrament of the Sick at home should contact the Chapel House to arrange for a visit from Fr. Kane. This should ordinarily be arranged prior to any prolonged hospital visit. In cases of emergency where you or a family member require the pastoral assistance of the Chaplain, please request this from the hospital nursing staff. Please note that even during this time of pandemic individuals have a right to be seen by a Minister of Religion, even if they are in COVID-19 isolation. The family should make this request clearly to nursing staff.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your parish priest to show that you accept and live the Catholic faith. For those living within the parish of St. Augustine's this means approval from Fr. Kane. This applies to those about to enrol for the teaching course, those starting out as probationary teachers, and all those applying for new posts (promoted or otherwise) within a Catholic school. Please contact Fr. Kane if you have any questions about this process.

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

www.saintaugustines.org.uk

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www.facebook.com/saintaugustines

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Contact Us:

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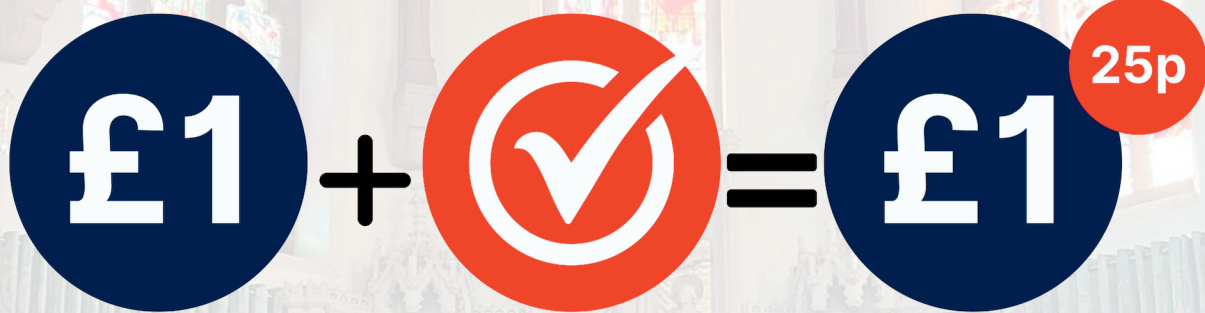
GIFT AID DRIVE

16th /17th March

Saint Augustine's Church, Coatbridge



giftaid it



Donating through Gift Aid means we can
can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give.

It will not cost you any extra.

#TickTheBox

Find our more at Mass this weekend.



THE PARISH OF

SAINT AUGUSTINE

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