



HEARTBEAT

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 82

12 MAY 2024

World Communications Day Sunday, 12 May 2024

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Father, keep those you have given me true to your name

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

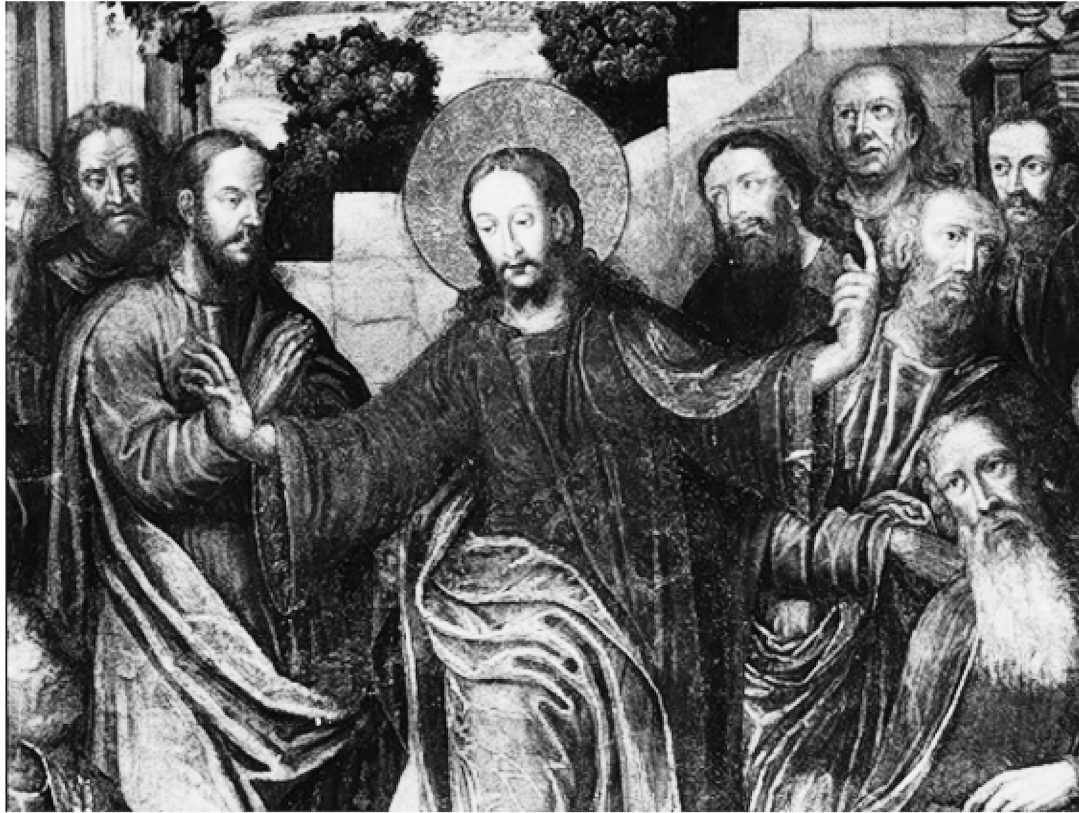
READING REFLECTIONS

The **First Reading** is taken from the Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 and describes the reception of the first Gentiles into the Christian Church.

The **Second Reading** is from the First Letter of John 4:7-10 in which he urges us to love one another, for we are sons of God whose very essence is love.

The **Gospel** is from St. John 15:9-17. It is only a few weeks since Good Friday when we commemorated the agonizing death of Christ on Mount Calvary. This was an excruciating, shameful death even for hardened criminals who deserved it. But for our loving Savior, the innocent lamb of God, one who had never offended God or neighbor, it was something of which the whole human race should be ashamed forever. What caused Christ that torment and death on the cross was our sins, the sins of all mankind and not the spite and hatred of his Jewish opponents, who were only instruments in the tragedy. Atonement had to be made to God for the sins of the world, so that men could reach the eternal inheritance which the incarnation made available to them. However, not all the acts of the entire human race could make a sufficient atonement to God. A sacrifice, an expiation of infinite value was needed. The death of the Son of God in his human nature was alone capable of making such an expiation.

That Christ willingly accepted crucifixion for our sakes, that he gave the greatest proof of love which the world has ever known, by laying down his life for his friends, did not make his sufferings any less, did not ease any of the pains of Calvary. His agony in the Garden before his arrest shows this: he foresaw all the tortures and pains which he was to undergo and sweated blood at the thought of what awaited him. But he was to keep his Father's commandment "not my will but thine be done."



We Christians must have hearts of stone, hearts devoid of all sense of gratitude, when we forget what Christ has done for us and deliberately offend him! Alas, this is what all of us do sometimes, and many of us do all the time. Christ died to bring us to heaven but we tell him, by our sins, that he was wasting his time. We do not want to go to heaven, we are making our happiness here!

How far can human ingratitude and thanklessness go? Christ told us, through the disciples on Holy Thursday night, that he had made us his friends, his intimates. We are no longer servants in the household, who merely earn their daily wage and have no intimacy with the family and no hope of ever sharing in the family possessions. Instead, we have been adopted into the family by Christ becoming man, we have been guaranteed all the rights of children intimacy with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the future sharing in the eternal happiness of that divine household. Christ's incarnation made us God's children; Christ's death on the cross removed sin. Sin is the one obstacle that could prevent us reaching our eternal inheritance.

Because God gave us a free will we can in a moment of folly, a moment of madness really, deprive ourselves of the privileges and possessions which Christ has made available to us. We can choose to exchange an eternity of happiness for a few fleeting years of self-indulgence on earth. We can fling Christ's gift of love back in his face and tell him we don't want it. God forbid that we should ever act like this, that we should ever forget God's purpose in creating us. It is a marvelous thing to be alive, if we have hope in a future life. If nothing awaited us but the grave, then to live on this earth, which is a valley of sorrow and tears for the vast majority, would be the cruelest of jests. But of this we need have no fear. Life on earth is but a short prelude to our real existence. If we use this brief period as Christ has told us how to use it, death for us will be the passage into the eternal mansions. Be grateful to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; love the Blessed Trinity; prove your love by loving your fellowmen. By doing this you are fulfilling the whole law and the prophets; and you are assuring yourself of the place in heaven which Christ has won for you.

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*

- Communications: 11/12th May
- Day for Life: 15/16th June



PARISH NOTICES

THANK YOU

In behalf of the whole parish, I would like to offer my sincere
thanks to Elaine Trower, our choir director, who has decided
to retire from our 12noon senior choir.

Elaine has a long fruitful association with our choir for many,
many years and she will be greatly missed at the helm.

She leaves the choir with our thanks and prayers. We pray
that the vibrant music ministry in our parish will continue to
flourish as she hands on the reins to another.

With Elaine's retirement a new arrangement will need to be
put in place.

I am grateful to the choir members for their continued loyalty
and support as you continue to serve the parish at the 12noon
Sunday liturgy.

God Bless,
Fr Kane

PETITIONS

At each Mass, you are invited to place your own prayer
intentions into the basket on the offertory table at the back of
the Church.

This will then be brought forward during our offertory. You
will be able to get Prayer Intention slips for your prayer
intention in the porch before Holy Mass.

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

Thursday, 23rd May

All Primary 4 children will have a retreat
day at Carfin Grotto on Thursday, 23rd
May. Details to follow



World Communications Sunday

In his message for World Communications Day 2024, Pope Francis has focused on the theme: Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication.

This year's theme is closely linked to the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace, which was devoted to the development of systems of artificial intelligence (AI).

AI is "radically affecting the world of information and communication, and through it, certain foundations of life in society," says the Pope in his Communications Day message, adding that "these changes affect everyone." So, the Pope asks, "how can we remain fully human and guide this cultural transformation to serve a good purpose?"

In answering this question, the Holy Father notes that "at this time in history, which risks becoming rich in technology and poor in humanity, our reflections must begin with the human heart." He recalls that, in the Bible, the heart is seen as the place of freedom and decision-making, "symbolising integrity and unity, while also engaging our emotions, desires, and dreams." But, he continues, the heart is, above all, "the inward place of our encounter with God." "Wisdom of the heart, then, is the virtue that enables us to integrate the whole and its parts, our decisions and their consequences, our nobility and our vulnerability, our past and our future, our individuality and our membership within a larger community," says the Pope.

The Holy Father goes on to stress that such wisdom cannot be sought from machines. Although the term "artificial intelligence" has replaced the term "machine learning," he said, "the very use of the word 'intelligence' can prove misleading." The Pope explained that it is not enough to be able to store data, like machines do, but that this data must be made sense of, and "human beings alone" are capable of this. "Depending on the inclination of the heart, everything within our reach becomes either an opportunity or a threat," warns the Pope.

He notes that the technology of simulation behind AI algorithms can be useful in certain specific fields. However, he adds, the use of AI becomes "perverse when it distorts our relationship with others and with reality." In fact, it is extremely important to know that in the wrong hands, such tools could lead to "disturbing scenarios." Artificial Intelligence must be regulated, asserts Pope Francis, acknowledging that, as in every human context, "regulation is, of itself, not sufficient." Pope Francis then invites everyone to grow together, "in humanity and as humanity," recalling that we are all challenged to make a qualitative leap in order to become "a complex, multiethnic, pluralistic, multireligious, and multicultural society."

In Scotland at the present time there is much debate about the use of smartphones in schools and a growing concern that overdependence on them may hamper the development of our young people. This debate reflects the concern of the the Holy Father who warns that "information cannot be separated from living relationships." He explains that relationships involve the body and an immersion into the real world, but that they also involve human experiences, "compassion, and sharing."

Bringing his message for World Communications Day to a close, Pope Francis recalls that "it is up to us to decide whether we will become fodder for algorithms or will nourish our hearts with that freedom without which we cannot grow in wisdom." Only together, he concludes, can we increase our capacity for discernment and vigilance and for seeing things in the light of their fulfilment. Pope Francis then prays that humanity may never lose its bearings, and that the wisdom that was present before all modern technology may return to us. Wisdom, says the Pope, can help us "to put systems of artificial intelligence at the service of a fully human communication."

In echoing the prayer of the Pope I hope that as a Catholic community we too will use all forms of modern communication in the service of compassion and the promotion of the values of the Gospels.

Bishop Joseph Toal
President, National Communications Commission



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:

- CHILDREN'S CLOTHING 2+
- CHILDREN'S JACKETS
- CHILDREN'S SHOES



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

MONTHLY MEDJUGORJE EVENING

The next Medjugorje Evening takes place **Monday, 27th May**.

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 Sixth Sunday of Easter is as follows:

- Plate collection: £1585
- Gift Aid: £1373
- Tax Reclaimed: £343.25*

This week's total: £3301.25

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

Children's Colouring Page



Seventh Sunday of Easter

PARISH NOTICES

SICK

Caroline Mitchell; Marion Moran; Josephine Martin; Irene Crawley; Simon Howard; James Trower; 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; Raymond Sneddon; Brian Sneddon; ; Frances Hughes; Francis Wardhugh; Billy & Molly Bothwell; Patricia Bannan; Veronica Bannan; Frank Kelly; Pat Sludden.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Cathy Gray; Anne Quate; Margaret McDade; Anne Millar; James Bruin; Agnes McCully; Peter Dornan; Rita Steel; Anne Lyden

ANNIVERSARIES / MONTHS MINDS / BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Italia Roselli; Helen Mackins; Kenny Mackins; Mary Hoy; Tommy McLoughlin; Bertha McIntyre; William Cairns; Margaret Cairns; John McCabe; Mike Caldwell; Thomas & Mary Mahoney

**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.*

May Devotions

Holy Rosary & Benediction Thursday Evenings at 7.00pm

In May of 2002 Pope John Paul II said, "Today we begin the month dedicated to Our Lady a favourite of popular devotion. In accord with a long-standing tradition of devotion, parishes and families continue to make the month of May a 'Marian' month, celebrating it with many devout liturgical, catechetical and pastoral initiatives!" Join us in continuing this devotion.

SAINT ANTHONY NOVENA

This parish will prepare for the Feast of St. Anthony by praying the Nine Tuesdays Novena before the Feast Day.

The service will be each Tuesday, at 7.00pm with the Holy Rosary followed by Holy Mass at 7.30pm. After Mass we will pray the Novena together before ending the evening in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



PARISH DIARY

Sunday, 12 May <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Communications Sunday</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 3</i>	Special Collection for Communications 10.00am: Family Mass <i>with First Holy Communion</i> <i>First Holy Communion breakfast in Parish Centre</i> 12.00 Noon: Holy Mass 5.00pm: Holy Mass
Monday, 13 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 4</i>	10.00am: Holy Mass 10.30am - 1.00pm: Church cleaning 10.30am - 2.00pm: Kairos Cafe 1.00pm - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm - 7.30pm: The People's Pantry (<i>Blairgrove Shopping Precinct</i>)
Tuesday, 14 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 5</i>	10.00am: Holy Mass 10.30am - 2.00pm: Kairos Cafe 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm: Saint Anthony Novena Mass and Devotions
Wednesday, 15 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 6</i>	10.00am: Holy Mass 10.30am - 2.00pm: Kairos Cafe 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm: Lectio Divina Prayer Group (<i>Sacristy</i>)
Thursday, 16 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 7</i>	10.00am: Holy Mass 10.30am - 2.00pm: Kairos Cafe 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am - 12.30pm: Clothing Bank (<i>Outreach Hub</i>) 12 noon - 3.00pm: The People's Pantry (<i>Blairgrove Shopping Precinct</i>) 7.00pm: Marian Devotions Rosary & Benediction
Friday, 17 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 8</i>	10.00am: Holy 10.30am - 2.00pm: Kairos Cafe 10.30am - 7.00pm: Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday, 18 May <i>Seventh Week of Easter</i> <i>Pentecost Novena Day 9</i>	9.00am - 9.50am: Confession 10.00am: Holy Mass 4.00pm: Holy Mass (Vigil)
Sunday, 19 May <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	Special Collection for Communications 10.00am: Family Mass 12.00 Noon: Holy Mass <i>with First Holy Communion</i> <i>First Holy Communion breakfast in Parish Centre</i> 5.00pm: Holy Mass

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

PARISH CLERGY



PARISH PRIEST

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



PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

REV. FR. DOMINIC TOWEY
FRDOMINIC@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK

PARISH STAFF



PARISH SECRETARY

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PARISH CENTRE MANAGER

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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

ANTOINETTE PARR

OFFICE@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK

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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Contact Us:

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12 Dundyvan Road, Coatbridge, ML5 1DQ

t: 01236 423044

e: office@saintaugustines.org.uk

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COATBRIDGE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

2 JUNE 2024 | 2.00PM

from St. Augustine's Church, Dundyván to St. Mary's Church, Whifflet



ON SUNDAY, 2ND JUNE, WE WILL PROCESS WITH THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT FROM ST. AUGUSTINE'S
CHURCH, DUNDYVAN TO ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
WHIFFLET. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME.
ALL FIRST COMMUNICANTS AND ALTAR SERVERS
ARE INVITED TO LEAD THE PROCESSION.