

RESPONSE FOR THE SUNDAY MASS

PSALM	With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
GOSPEL ACCL.	Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord: Whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Time	Date	Intention
SUNDAY	10am	29	People of the Parish & Betty McWilliams
MON	10am	30	Tony Brady R.I.P
TUES	10am	31	Tom Wilson R.I.P
WED	10am	1	Anne O'Neill (Anniversary)
THURS	10am	2	Mary Williams R.I.P
FRIDAY	10am	3	Sr Cecelia Dowley R.I.P
SAT	10am	4	Ian Henderson R.I.P
SUNDAY	10am	29	For the People of the Parish and John & Agnes Gallagher (anniv)

Although the Church is closed, we are still celebrating Mass each day. If you have a Mass request, for a sick person, recently deceased or an anniversary, please simply email or phone to organize.

Livestream of Mass. Several technical issues have emerged, not least the fact that I haven't got a clue. I've watched tutorials on youtube and don't understand a word. So, I'll record Mass earlier and post for 10a.m.

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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ST MARGARET'S, DUNFERMLINE
 AND
 CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME, OAKLEY

Dear Friends,

What an extraordinary time we are living in. It has been a week of cancellations and postponements, of people's lives being put on hold, of great selflessness and, sadly, great selfishness, of tears and laughter (thank God), anxiety and hope. This, the 5th Sunday of Lent, is the beginning of Passiontide. We would be covering the statues in purple veils as we focus on what is truly important. This has all been taken from us, prematurely, in the most dramatic way. Our churches are closed for private prayer and public worship. I know this is so painful. For me, the anxiety goes when I stand at the altar and celebrate Mass. You don't have that consolation at this moment. But please know that you are remembered there daily.

Pope Francis wrote in *The Joy of the Gospel*, *"When we live out a spirituality of drawing nearer to others and seeking their welfare, our hearts are opened wide to the Lord's greatest and most beautiful gifts. Whenever we encounter another person in love, we learn something new about God. Whenever our eyes are opened to acknowledge the other, we grow in the light of faith and the knowledge of God."* How do we draw near to others when we are asked to keep apart? How do we seek their welfare? How can we encounter them in Love and learn something new about God? It's been a steep learning curve for me as I've used teleconferencing, Zoom, email lists and all kinds of unfamiliar things. These things keep us in touch. A phone call to someone alone is an encounter in love. When it's all over I hope that we'll get our faces out of our phones and actually talk to one another, that we will have a greater appreciation for those who look after us in the NHS, filling shelves, delivering post, teaching our children etc. I hope that we will have a greater appreciation of the beauty around us and an enhanced awareness of its fragility and our duty to care for what has been entrusted to us. We will come to the Eucharist with a renewed faith and deepened love. Ask yourself, where is God raising you up? Are you being led to appreciate his greatest and most beautiful gifts more.

This Sunday's Gospel is the raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-45). Jesus says, "This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory". We say with Martha, "If you had been here my brother would not have died." I can almost hear the sting in her voice. It's ok to wonder where God is here, to be angry with him. These don't mean that we have lost our faith or that it is weakened. God can take our anger and frustration. But we continue to trust. Martha continues, "But I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you." God will raise us up. We keep praying that we will soon hear the words of Jesus, "I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do YOU believe this?"

With Prayers, Fr Chris and Fr Augustus

Act of Spiritual Communion:

*'My Jesus, I Believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
Although You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.'*

Please remember in your prayers Rose Martin (formerly Agnew), Anthony Celentano and William Burns (Sligo) who have died and their families. Please pray for all who are sick and anxious at this time and for all of those who care for the sick and offer any kind of support to keep us going.

Funerals. We have been instructed that funerals may only take place at the graveside or at the crematorium and will only be for immediate family who will observe social distancing at all times. This goes against all that comes naturally to us as human beings and as Christians. It goes against every instinct that I have as a priest. But it is necessary to save lives. Hold those who will experience this in your thoughts and prayers.

Volunteers: People have volunteered to help anyone in need, from shopping, collecting prescriptions and giving a wee phone call to check in. We are working with Dunfermline Advice Hub and Fife Volunteer Action as well. If you can give help, please do so. If you need help, or know someone who does, please don't hesitate to ask. At all times we will follow guidelines to keep people safe and well.

SCIAF. Last Sunday, we should have had a collection for the work of SCIAF. I have sent £1,000 from Parish funds to SCIAF to help them continue their vital work. Please continue to fill your wee boxes or make a donation to SCIAF online, if you can.

Parish Email list. I have put together an email list that will allow us to keep in touch at this time. I'll send a weekly update(at least) with the newsletter and some spiritual resources to help keep us going. Please also make use of the parish website, and pilgrimage facebook and twitter accounts. Don't be afraid to phone either. Details are all on this newsletter.

Legacy Project. In accordance with Scottish Government advice, work on the project is now suspended. The contractors have been making the site safe and secure and have followed all safety guidelines. We have just received a bill for £81,593.23 for the legacy project.

Parish Finances: Thanks to all of you who have completed standing order forms or set up internet banking donations to support your parish. If you can do this, it would be greatly appreciated. But please, **do not** put yourself into any hardship. Some people were kind enough to drop their collection envelopes through the door. Thank you for this but please follow advice to stay at home as much as possible (you can save them up!). We have to think of the vital work done by our S.V.P and One World Group. Before this happened, the SVP were helping around 40 families a week with life's necessities. The One World Group support a school Kitchen in Malawi. £1,000 has been sent to Dunfermline foodbank as well. This work has to continue and, indeed,

will increase. I have decided that we will support their work financially from the parish funds to keep this vital work going. The Bank details for St Margaret's are: sort code: 80 06 55 Account 00720303. Holy Name: sort code 83 33 00 account number 00176355.

Fruit and Veg delivery. Ferguson's on East Port are doing fruit and veg deliveries only. It's a set price £15 selection of fruit/veg (carrots, turnip, leeks etc). Also can deliver eggs £1.50 1/2 dozen. They have a Facebook page & telephone no. 01383 733048. Deliveries can be ordered 10am - 12 noon, Monday - Friday. Free doorstep delivery Dunfermline area, £3 delivery charge outwith Dunfermline. Payment by contactless card over phone when ordered placed.

Some useful online resources:

Parish Website: www.stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk

Facebook page: @stmargaretpilgrimage

Twitter: @StMargaretpilg1

Archdiocesan website: www.archedinburgh.org



Prayer and online Mass resources:

Sacred Space Prayer resource: www.sacredspace.ie

www.universalis.com

www.churchservices.tv (mostly Irish parishes but in Scotland include St Gabriel's (Glasgow), Coatbridge & Uddingston)

www.mcnmedia.tv (Scottish parishes include: St Francis Xavier (Falkirk), Glasgow Cathedral and St Alphonsus' (Barras))

Practical tips for survival at this time;

It's good to have a routine to follow at this time. Try and set a balanced, daily routine along with your usual routine, add those tasks that you've been meaning to do for ages, include time for relaxation and time for prayer/reflection.

Here's our routine in the presbytery, it might give you some ideas:

	Fr Chris	Fr Gus
7.30a.m	Morning Prayers	Morning Prayers
8.00a.m	Breakfast (Champagne)	Breakfast (Toast, 1 slice. Margarine)
9.00a.m	Netflix	Housework (washing, dusting & hoovering)
12 noon	Lunch (soup, dash of sherry)	Lunch (1 ryvita, mouldy cheese)
2p.m	Play the accordion, have a nap after	Gardening, chopping firewood, foraging for toilet rolls)
6p.m	rises from couch	pours The Boss a G & T (ice and lemon)
7.00p.m	Dinner (3 courses)	Dinner (microwave meal for 1)
8 till late	Karaoke	Canon Law studies (Bed by 10)It has been said that "when English people watch Fr Ted, they think it is a quaint Irish comedy. When Irish people watch it, they think that it's a documentary!"



of Kisii, Kenya.

