

Parish Newsletter

Sacred Heart & St Margaret's

5th Sunday of Easter - 10 May 2020



CHURCHES

Sacred Heart Church
56 John Street, Penicuik, EH26 8NE

St Margret's Church
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OFFICE

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Mary,
Mother of God,
Pray for us.



I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Today, the scene we consider in the Gospel explains the existing intimacy between Jesus Christ and the Father; but not only that; it invites us to discover the relationship between Jesus Christ and his disciples, between Jesus and us. «After I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.» (Jn 14:3): these words of Jesus, not only place his disciples in a perspective of future, but also exhort them to keep on faithfully following the course they had begun. To share with the Lord the glorious life, they also have to partake the same way that takes Jesus Christ towards the dwellings of his Father.

Lord, we don't know where you are going; how can we know the way?

Jesus answers: «I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.» (Jn 14:6-7). Jesus does not certainly propose a simple way, but he points out the path to follow. In fact, He becomes himself the Way to the Father; through his resurrection, He becomes the Walker who is to guide us; with the gift of the Holy Spirit, He encourages and fortifies us so that we do not lose heart in our pilgrimage: «Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me.» (Jn 14:1).

In the invitation Jesus makes to us, to go to the Father through Him, with Him and in Him, his deepest mission and most intimate desires are revealed: «He, who is the Son of God who became the Son of Man, wants to make us his brothers and, thus, He is in Himself presenting all humanity to its God and true Father, by taking with him all of his own kin» (St. Gregory of Nyssa).

Jesus Christ.

A Way to walk.
A Truth to proclaim.
A Life to share and enjoy.



Keeping the Sabbath Holy

Although we are unable to attend Mass, the Fourth Commandment still requires us to 'keep the Sabbath Holy'. During these restrictions you should decide on particular things that you will do each Sunday to mark the Lord's Day. While I'm saying Mass privately at 10.00am a lot of parishioners are meeting on 'Zoom' to say the Rosary and I encourage you to do it. You should also consider prayerfully reading through the readings of the day and making a spiritual communion.

Act of Spiritual Communion

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."

Mass Intentions

Although all public Masses are currently suspended, I continue to offer Mass for the parishioners' intentions. Each morning I offer Mass privately in the Church at 9:30am. Unite yourself spiritually with the Mass between 9:30am and 10:00am make an act of spiritual communion. On Sunday mornings I offer Mass privately at 10:00am.

I want you to know that **I pray for you all** at the altar each day during Mass, and will do so even more earnestly when I will recite rosary and breviary.

Requested Masses will be said by me on the appointed days as noted below.

Niedziela, 10th May -
+ Stanisław Pieńko

Monday, 11th May at 2:00pm -
+ Andrew Ewart - Funeral Service at Mortonhall Crematorium (Main Chapel)

Tuesday, 12th May -
Stefano and Julliana Barbadello - 30th Wedding Anniversary

Wednesday, 13th May at 9:30am -
+ John McSorley RIP

Friday, 15th May at 9:30am -
Mass for + Agnes McWilliams RIP

Sunday 24th May at 11:00am -
Asia Kulik - 18th Birthday

If you would like to schedule a Mass for someone who has recently died, for the anniversary of a loved one or for a special intention, please contact the Parish Office @ 01968 673709 or 0131 440 0458, and I will help you to arrange a Mass.

Confessions

Confessions are available on request.

The Anointing of the Sick & Last Rites

In our present circumstances, Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum may be carried out only in danger of death.

Baptisms & Marriages

Following the guidelines from the civil authorities, all baptism and weddings are suspended. To book a baptism or a wedding later in the year, please contact the Parish Office.

Those who may need help

If you are aware of anyone who needs assistance of any kind, or if you need help, let me know by ringing the chapel house: 01968 673709 or 0131 440 0458, or 07749078312. Thanks to all those who have offered their help.

Requiem Mass during restrictions

Should someone die, the Requiem Mass will be offered privately in the church. The priest will then meet with members of the immediate family at the cemetery. The numbers at the cemetery are restricted by the Council.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Gift Aid envelopes are available in parish house and can be pick up observing all the Government's hygiene precautions strictly.

If you would like a Gift Aid form, this can be emailed to you.

Collections

After the cancellation of all public Masses, the Parish has no longer any income from collections. Thank you to those who put their offerings through the door in an envelope.

Also thank you to those of you who have moved to standing orders to help support the running costs of the Parish during this time!





Parish finances and coronavirus

We have been asked how people can continue to support their parish when we cannot put money in the plate at church.

If your income has been impacted by the crisis, please do not feel obliged to contribute at this time. If your income is secure and you wish to contribute, **the best option would be to set up a standing order**. Also you can put your offering through the door in an envelope.

If you have online banking you can set this up quickly using the parish sort code and account number (if your circumstances change this can be amended/cancelled). Alternatively you can donate using electronic banking.

The Parish account details for **Sacred Heart Church** are:

Sort Code: **80-48-77**

Account Number: **10027865**

Account name: **Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh – Sacred Heart Penicuik**

(Please include your name as the payment reference).

The Parish account details for **St Margaret's Church** are:

Sort Code: **80-17-42**

Account Number: **00643001**

Account name: **Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh – St Margaret's Church**

(Please include your name as the payment reference).

Standing order forms:

If you would like a *Standing order form (SOF)*, this can be emailed to you.

My thanks to those who put collection envelopes through parish house door. God bless you.

Pope encourages faithful to pray Rosary at home



Pope Francis writes a letter to all the faithful, encouraging them to pray the Rosary, especially during the month of May.

Pope Francis is encouraging the faithful to pray the Rosary during the month of May, “when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary”.

In a **Letter for the Month of May**, published on the feast of St Mark the Evangelist (25 April), the Pope notes that it is a tradition to pray the Rosary at home with the family during this month. This year, he continues, “the restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this ‘family’ aspect, also from a spiritual point of view”.

That is why he is proposing to everyone to “rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May”, whether individually or

personally, “making the most both opportunities”. Pope Francis says, “the key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow”

Pope Francis also proposes two new prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, which can be recited at the end of the Rosary. In his letter, he assures the faithful that he too will be reciting those prayers throughout the month of May, “in spiritual union with all of you”.

The Pope says, “contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial”.

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

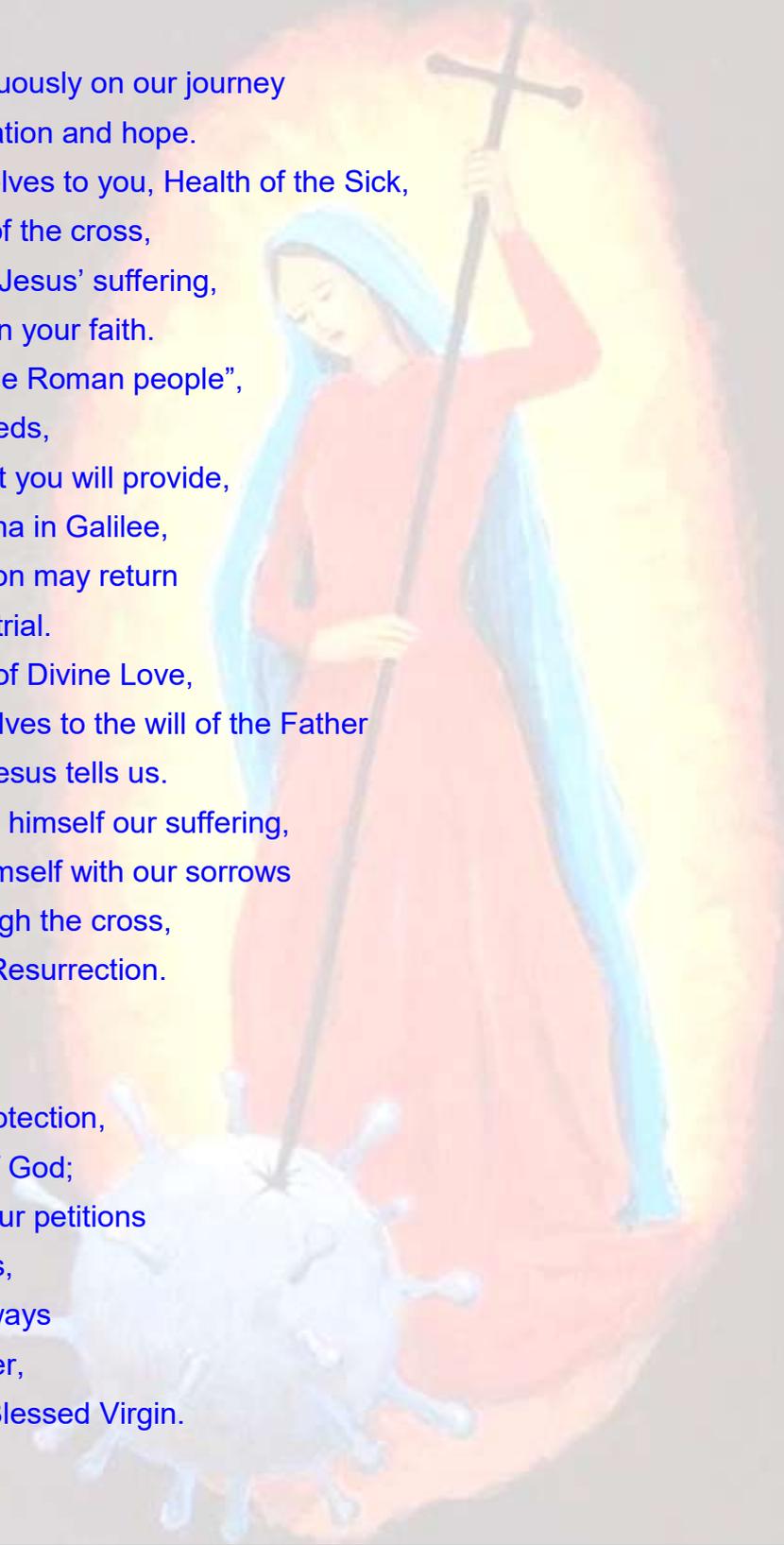
Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.
"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.



SECOND PRAYER

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.