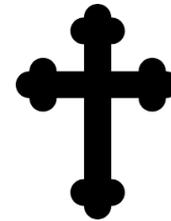


St Patrick's Catholic Church

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, 22 MARCH 2026



Clergy: Father Deeley VE

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30am - Holy Mass

11.30am - Holy Mass

Monday - Fifth Week of Lent

7.30am - Holy Mass

9.30am - Holy Mass

6pm - Stations of the Cross

Tuesday - Fifth Week of Lent

9.30am - Holy Mass

Wednesday - Sol. of the Annunciation

6-6.45pm - Exposition & Confession

6.45pm - Benediction

7pm - Holy Mass

Thursday - Fifth Week of Lent

9.30am - Holy Mass

Friday - Fifth Week of Lent

7.30am - Holy Mass

8.30am - Holy Mass (school)

9.30am - Holy Mass

10am - Divine Mercy

3pm - Divine Mercy

3.30pm - Stations of the Cross

Saturday - Fifth Week of Lent

9.30am - Holy Mass

10am - First Confessions

5-15-5.45pm - Confessions

6pm - Vigil Mass

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord:

Next Sunday the Vigil and 9.30am Mass will begin in the church. The 11.30am Mass will, weather permitting, begin in the garden in front of the hall and we will process into the church with our palms as we remember the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We will have Mass booklets so that everyone can follow the ritual and the reading of the Passion.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation is on Wednesday. This is a major and beautiful feast in the Church's year. Consider assisting at the sacrifice of the Mass....and it means it's only 9 months until Christmas!

Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs Jean McCann RIP, of Pirnie Place who has died aged 81 years. Her remains will be received into the church on Monday, 30 March at 5pm and the Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday, 31 March at 9.30am. ✠ *Requiescat in pace* ✠

Wee boxes have to be **returned by next Sunday at the latest**. The money will be counted and banked on Monday so any donations after that have to be made directly by you to the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund and not left at the back of the church or handed into the chapel house. Thank you.

Faith & Reason Series: will continue this Friday at 6.30pm in the hall. This will be a double session to make up for last week.

First Confessions will take place next Saturday after the 9.30am Mass. Pray for our first penitents!

Readers: Please sign up for Palm Sunday & Triduum Readings. The sign-up sheet is in the Mortuary chapel.

The Chrism Mass is at St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday, 31 March at 7pm. At this Mass, all the priests of the Archdiocese gather with the Archbishop to renew their priestly promises. It's also the occasion when the Archbishop blesses the oils (Chrism, the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Catechumens) for distribution to the parishes for use in the sacraments. The minibus will leave at 5.15pm, sign up if you would like to go.

Walk of Witness starts here in St Patrick's at 10am on Good Friday. All welcome.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM 2026

The most important liturgies are in **bold**.

HOLY THURSDAY

7PM - **MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Watch at the altar of repose until

10.45PM - THE NIGHT PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY

8.30AM - MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

3PM - **SOLEMN COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS

7PM - STATIONS & VENERATION

FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS

HOLY SATURDAY

9.00AM - MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS

EASTER

8PM - **EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT**

FOLLOWED BY A 'CHAMPAGNE' RECEPTION

9.30AM - HOLY MASS

11AM - HOLY MASS

Your Gift to God and His Church: £1523; the Episcopal Charities and SCIAF £673.

2026/27 Gift Aid Envelopes: For those who gift aid and use envelopes for the offertory, building fund or special collections, please pick up new envelopes from the back of the church. If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to sign up for gift aid, contact the chapel house. Last year we claimed back £16,407 through the gift aid scheme with no extra cost to parishioners.

Assisted Suicide rejected in Scotland: From Archbishop Cushley: "I am deeply grateful to the MSPs who voted in favour of life on Tuesday at Holyrood. The outcome of the vote reflects a careful and compassionate approach to a deeply sensitive subject, one that touches the dignity and vulnerability of all of us. Well, done to everyone who contacted their MSPs about this crucial issue. May we now go forward, committed to making Scotland's palliative care the very best in the world. Let's also accompany one another in life and death with humanity and humility." **From Father Deeley:** I have written to our constituency MSP Jamie Hepburn MSP who changed his position to vote against the bill on Tuesday. I have thanked him on behalf of the parish. Below is a list of how our constituency and list MSPs voted last Tuesday: **Against the bill:** Jamie Hepburn (SNP); Mark Griffin (Lab.); Meghan Gallacher (Con.); Stephen Kerr (Con.); Richard Leonard (Lab.) and; Graham Simpson (Ref.). **For the bill:** Monica Lennon (Lab.) and; Gillian MacKay (Grn).

Veiling the sacred images: Why is the crucifix covered? Today is the start of 'Passiontide.' The readings now focus on the mounting tension between Jesus and those who will put Him to death. There is also an intensification of our fasting. Fasting is not simply fasting from food. Fasting is also fasting from things that we take for granted. For this reason, there is an ancient tradition that the cross and sacred images are covered to deprive our senses of the beauty and consolation of seeing them. We miss seeing the crucifix just as we might miss something that we gave up for Lent and look forward to it at Easter. At this time what makes a church beautiful is gradually taken away until what is most precious in a church, Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, is removed on Holy Thursday; the Lord is taken from His Temple. Veiling sacred objects or people draws more attention to their presence and holiness. For example: the veil over the Holy of Holies in the Temple at the time of the Old Testament, Moses covering his face with a veil after he had conversed with God and things such as chalice veils, ciborium veils, tabernacle veils, nuns' veils and bridal veils. The covering of an object makes one long to see it as we shall see the crucifix again on Good Friday.

Diocesan structures in Scotland The Holy See have invited the Bishops of Scotland to reflect on how the present dioceses of the Church in Scotland can best serve her mission in the years ahead. In the coming weeks Archbishop Cushley would like to hold some consultations on what we might propose to Rome, so that the Church in Scotland might improve cooperation among its dioceses, share resources within our present structures, or consider, as necessary, how we might merge some of our dioceses. Read the full statement at <https://www.bcos.org.uk/>

Rachel's Vineyard retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held in Glasgow on Friday, 24 to Sunday 26 April. This confidential, supportive retreat is helpful to anyone who has been affected by their own or someone else's abortion experience. For more details call or text Sr Andrea on 07816 942824 or email sisterandrea@rachelvineyard.org.uk.

Save the Date The St Margaret Pilgrimage to Dunfermline, Sunday, 14 June.

FIFTH SUNDAY

SACRED SCRIPTURE [*Always read through the scriptures prayerfully before Holy Mass*]

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading Ezekiel 37:12-14

Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 130

R. With the LORD there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the sound of my pleadings. **R.**

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, that you may be revered. **R.**

I long for you, O LORD, my soul longs for his word. My soul awaits the Lord more than watchmen for daybreak. **R.**

More than watchmen for daybreak let Israel hope for the LORD. For with the LORD there is mercy, in him is plentiful

redemption. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. **R.**

Second Reading Romans 8:8-11

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Everyone who believes in me shall never die. **Glory and praise to you...**

Gospel John 11:1-45

[THE PRIEST MAY READ THE LONGER OR SHORTER VERSION OF TODAY'S GOSPEL. THE SHORTER VERSION IS IN **BOLD**]

At that time: A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.'

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.' After saying these things, he said to them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.' Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them

concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, Jesus was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept. So, the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Communion Antiphon

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.