

## HOLY CROSS PARISH 3 May Fourth Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

### Good Shepherd Sunday

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#### Reflections by Fr Strachan

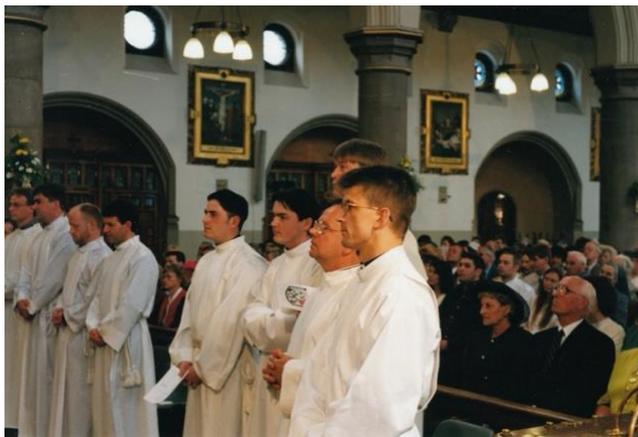
As a six-year-old I remember watching an edition of the BBC's Blue Peter show (now the longest running children's TV show in the world). This would've been 1970. The presenters buried a time capsule in the 'Blue Peter Garden', at the back of the old Television Centre in west London. They said it would be dug up in 2020 ... ooh, ah ... and the people of the future could marvel at their discovery. Was it ever dug up I ask? What became of the Blue Peter Garden ... who knows?

School, college, eight years nursing, and then another five in seminary brought me to 18 June 1995. The scenario was Holy Cross, Dixon Avenue. The occasion, Scotus College ordinations for the *diaconate*. All ten candidates were to be 'transitional', not 'permanent', deacons. In other words, deacon in a parish for a bit, finish your studies, and then hopefully be ordained to the priesthood in a year's time. From the Archdiocese were Paddy Boyle, from St. Vincent de Paul, Thornliebank and I, from St. Gregory's, Wyndford, along with eight other reasonably young Scotsmen.

Holy Cross hosted the Mass to which around 1,000 guests and parishioners turned up. Cardinal Winning presided and Monsignor Peter Smith was Master of Ceremonies. Father Simon Hughes, of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, directed memorable and powerful music. A married friend of mine standing at the back made clear just how, by clenching his fist and saying 'Yeah!!' During the liturgy, Paddy and I made fundamental promises to our Archbishop, including what some consider the biggest – celibacy – and what is surely the most vital – preaching the Gospel. After the 'laying on of hands and the prayer' and vesting by Father Charlie McElwee, I was literally sent out.

No, not outside the building! My very first task was outside the sanctuary. Take a chalice, containing the Most Precious Blood of Christ, and stand near the back. For a new guy, distributing Holy Communion concentrates the mind. Many people were there, on that unique day, who had helped make these deacons. Father Strachan – after Pollok, Kirkintilloch and Castlemilk, then eighteen years Army chaplaincy – was called back to Holy Cross on Friday 13 March 2020. Closed into this magnificent time capsule, service goes on. On your behalf, the Liturgy and devotions 'go up'. I stand on the same spot as in 1995, with time to pray and be glad of the past, making ready.

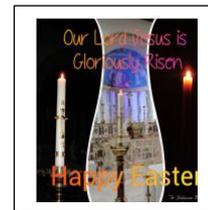
[Photo: S. Strachan. Father Alex is nearest the camera. Father Paddy Boyle just at the extreme left edge of the photo, almost out of shot].



HOLY CROSS  
PARISH 1995



Sanctuary 1936



## **Fourth Sunday of Easter(A) 26 April 2020**

### **Readings**

1st Reading. Acts of the Apostles 2:14.36-41

2nd Reading. 1st letter of St Peter 2:20-25

Gospel John 10:1-10

Sunday and Daily Mass Readings available at <https://www.scotscatholic.org/Mass-Readings.html>

**If anyone would like to speak to a Priest, please email the Parish with your name and phone number and one of the Priests will call you back.**

RCAG Youth are offering a variety of online opportunities for the young people of Glasgow in this time. These include Morning Prayer LIVE!, Lectio Divina Online and weekly audiences with guest speakers, amidst other things. To find out more, please check out [www.facebook.com/RCAGYouth](http://www.facebook.com/RCAGYouth)

### ***THOSE WHO ARE ILL IN THE PARISH.***

*Also, Family & Friends of those suffering during this time.*

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED.**

Theresa McLaren, James Black, William & Davina Duffy, Fr Dominic Doogan, Mgr Charles Hendry.

### **FOR THOSE WHOSE WHOSE MONTH'S MIND IS ABOUT NOW.**

Canon Barney Devine.

### ***THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY IS ABOUT NOW***

Archie Linich, Kathleen Sweeney

### **Please Pray for those whose Funerals took place last week**

Stephan Tyma

### **Please Pray for the repose of the soul of**

Theresa McLaren

**whose funeral is this week.**

### ***Fourth Sunday of Easter - 3 May 2020***

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for those discerning a call to priesthood or religious life. Is that you? Speak to your Vocations Director, email Priests for Scotland at [office@pfs.org.uk](mailto:office@pfs.org.uk), or see our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) pages ([PES](#) or [VocationNetworkScotland](#)) for more information.

### **Flourish**

The May edition of the Archdiocesan newspaper FLOURISH is now out. The new edition has features on how parishes are using the internet to reach out to parishioners. There's a special focus on vocations for the Archdiocese following the success of the recent BBC TV documentary Priest School. Don't miss the new Urbi et Orbi column by Vaticanista John L Allen and there is a special feature on art, poetry and prayers to Our Lady to mark the month of May. Check it out here: [www.flourishnewspaper.co.uk](http://www.flourishnewspaper.co.uk)

In his letter for the month of May **Pope Francis** asks us to Pray Together the Rosary at home Some great tips for getting started at Teaching Catholic children, the Rosary. <https://t.co/h3ZWD6WCsy>  
<https://twitter.com/RCSchoolParents>

**Vatican City, Apr 29th, 2020 Pope Francis** has postponed this year's Peter's Pence collection until 4 October as the Vatican confronts the economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic.

The collection, which traditionally takes place in churches across the world on June 29, the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul has been moved to October 4, the feast of St. Francis.

On April 29, Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni attributed the date change to "the current health emergency situation." The economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic are being felt throughout the world, including at the Vatican. <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/>

**During May the Archbishop** will frequently lead the recitation of the Holy Rosary and Devotions which will be live streamed from the Cathedral Monday-Friday at 7pm.

You can follow the May Rosary (and all Masses from the Cathedral) at [www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-andrews-cathedral](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-andrews-cathedral)

**Archbishop Tartaglia will offer Mass for our Catholic Communities.** On the 10 May at 12 o'clock 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, for all involved in our Catholic Communities please follow on the live streaming link [St Andrew's Cathedral](#)

*“Thank you* to all of you who continue to contribute to parish finances. I do realise that finance may be a problem for some at this time. If that is the case, please don't worry about us. Some people have contacted me about the possibility of donating through their online banking apps. If you would like to do this please email the parish asking for our bank details and we will get back to you. Email: [holycross.crosshill@rcag.org.uk](mailto:holycross.crosshill@rcag.org.uk)

Be assured that Fr Johnson, Fr Strachan and I will remember you in our Masses and our prayers.

May our good God keep us all safe until we meet again in our beautiful church.

Please if you know anyone who is either unable to go online or has no Internet access. If you are out on your daily walk, and able to without putting yourself at risk, post a copy of the bulletin through their door or even give them a phone to let them know latest information they might be interested in. *Thank you.*

Let us pray for one another and for our World.

Our Lady Health of the Sick Pray for us.

*Mgr Bradley, Fr Johnson and Fr Strachan.*

*When the world pushes you to your knees, you're in the perfect position to pray. (Catholic Diary 2020).*

*The Parish of Holy Cross is a Parish of the Archdiocese of Glasgow, a Designated Religious Charity SC018140*