



HOLY CROSS PARISH 10 May Fifth Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

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Readings

1st Reading. Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

2nd Reading. 1st letter of St Peter 2:4-9

Gospel John 14:1-12

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

On this 75th Anniversary of VE day. Remember those who gave their lives for us, so we could have a better tomorrow!

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

Adapted from Poem by Laurence Binyon

Reflections from Fr Alex Strachan

When you are 8 and you hear a grown-up saying something, in a serious voice, you believe it. In 1940, when the BBC News announced that German Armies were “26 miles away”, my mum thought that meant 26 miles from where she lived. The Nazis had taken France. In truth, enemy forces were twenty-six miles from Dover. An eight-year-old couldn’t see the difference and felt fear. “Will they make us speak German, daddy?” Families listened intently to Winston Churchill’s every word...

We now know what Nazi Germany did – and had wanted to keep doing – if they’d won their *hard, fast and aggressive* war. At the first air raid sirens, blasting out intensely loud, mum ran home – like other young children – but fell and gouged her knee on a kerbstone. The children’s evacuation ship, she and at least two siblings were to go to Canada on, was sunk by the Nazi navy. “You’re staying here!” (thank God). School was only half-days. You “couldn’t go anywhere” beyond your local area. Not enough to eat.

When Nazi aircraft heavily bombed Glasgow and up both sides of the River, the Archbishop urged that “all Catholics of the Archdiocese *as a body* should do what they can to help”. Later, he sent thanks to everyone for helping “people rendered homeless and penniless through German air invasion of our land.” The War changed lives forever. Finally, 75 years ago today (8 May), the unbelievable destruction, sacrifice and killing ended in Europe. Children like my mum remember **VE Day** for how happy most people were, outside – dancing, playing, talking, singing and laughing – hour after hour...

Please pray – a Rosary? – for those who suffered and who lost their lives, 1939 – 1945.

Father Alex.

Below is the Archbishop's Letter, dated 21 March 1941 (following the Clydebank Blitz)

Dear Rev. Father,

I take this first opportunity to convey to you and to all the Catholics of the Archdiocese my deep sympathy with those of the Catholic Flock who have suffered during the recent air-raids. I am sure that all the Clergy and the people of the Archdiocese will join with me in expressing our deep sympathy also to the others not of our Flock who have suffered likewise.

The air-raids have created much hardship both in Glasgow and further afield along Clydeside. It is known that individual Catholics have been doing their best to help towards meeting such hardship. But it seems very desirable that all Catholics of the Archdiocese as a body should do what they can for the same purpose.

Please therefore give your Congregation the opportunity to contribute towards the good work in question. You will be good enough to read this letter at every Mass on Sunday, 23rd March and to make whatever arrangements may appear best to receive the contributions on Sunday, 30th March. These contributions should be sent by you to The Vicariate, 160 Renfrew Street, Glasgow, whence they will be passed on for distribution to "The Glasgow Central Fund".

Wishing you and all the Faithful of the Archdiocese much blessing,

+ DONALD MACKINTOSH,
Archbishop of Glasgow.

Below is a paragraph from his letter of 30 April 1941, thanking everyone

(4). I shall be most grateful if you will kindly convey to your Congregation my very deep thanks for the wonderful way in which they met my invitation to help people rendered homeless and penniless through German air invasion of our land.

With much regard and deepest thanks to you and your people.

I am,

Yours very truly,

+ DONALD MACKINTOSH,

International Nurses Day is 12 May. Florence Nightingale's Birthday she was born in 1820.

Please pray for all Nurses, all front-line workers and those in the background in hospitals. All Emergency Services. Also, those helping to feed the Nation, keep the country moving etc.

Please stay indoors if you can to protect yourselves and others around you.

Mary's Meals

The coronavirus pandemic is causing challenges for us all, and we are very sorry that we cannot visit your church at this time to share the Mary's Meals story.

Until we can be together again, our founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, has recorded a special message for you. You can find his message, filmed outside the shed in Argyll where it all began for Mary's Meals, [here](#).

Here is a link to two of our moving films, [Child 31](#) and [Generation Hope](#), A children's activity pack, based on the story of Mary's Meals, is also available to download [here](#).

Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers, and we look forward to meeting you again soon.

Day of Prayer

Our world is facing at the moment a great danger that threatens the lives of millions of people around the world due to the growing spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. While we reaffirm the role of medicine and scientific research in fighting this pandemic, we should not forget to seek refuge in God, as we face this severe crisis. Therefore, we call upon all peoples around the world to pray according to each one's, respective religious convictions, to observe fast and to do good deeds to end this pandemic. May each of us, wherever we are, and according to the teachings of our own respective faith traditions and philosophies, seek divine help to rescue ourselves and the entire world from this adversity, to inspire scientists to find a cure for the virus and to save the whole world from the health, economic, and human repercussions of this serious pandemic.

As part of its efforts to realize the objectives of the Document on Human Fraternity, the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity proposes **Thursday, 14 May 2020 as a Day of prayers, fasting and works of charity** for the good of all humanity. In this regard, the Committee invites all religious leaders and peoples around the world to respond to this call together; to beseech God, the Almighty to safeguard the entire world, to help us overcome this pandemic, to restore security, stability, health, and prosperity, so that, once this pandemic-crisis is over, our world may become a better place for humanity and for human fraternity than ever before.

(Adapted from the Communiqué of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity)

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

THOSE WHO ARE ILL IN THE PARISH.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED.

Mary Anne Durkan, Theresa McLaren, Mary McLaughlin, William Shields.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY IS ABOUT NOW

Archie Linich

Please Pray for those whose Funerals took place last week

Theresa McLaren, Mary McLaughlin.

Please Pray for the repose of the souls of

William Shields: Jim Black
whose funerals are this week.

Fifth Sunday of Easter - 10th May 2020

We hear the story of the first deacons in today's reading. Could you offer yourself for service of this kind today? How do you share in the work of the Church? Speak to your Vocations Director, email Priests for Scotland at office@pfs.org.uk, or see our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) pages ([PFS](#) 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

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>

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

Archbishop Tartaglia will offer Mass for our Catholic Communities. On the 10 May at 12 o'clock 5th Sunday of Easter, for all involved in our Catholic Communities please follow on the live streaming link [St Andrew's Cathedral](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-andrews-cathedral) : www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-andrews-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

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.

Somebody is always doing what somebody else said couldn't be done. (Catholic Diary 2020).

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