

Baptisery 1936



## HOLY CROSS PARISH 17 May Sixth Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

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### Sixth Sunday of Easter(A) 17 May 2020

#### Readings

1st Reading. Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8.14-17

2nd Reading. 1st letter of St Peter 3:15-18

Gospel John 14:14-21

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

Thank you to everyone who has been saving money in your **SCIAF WEE BOX** to help women in the DR Congo. You have been most generous. If you still have your WEE BOX at home, please donate before **20 May to ensure it is matched by the UK government.**

You can donate over the phone on 0141 354 5555, via our website ([www.sciaf.org.uk](http://www.sciaf.org.uk)), or you can post your donation to FREEPOST SCIAF. If posting your donation, please include a small note with WEE BOX 2020 written on it so we know it's for this year's WEE BOX appeal.

*Thank you and God bless.*

**Thursday 21 May.** We celebrate the Ascension of the Lord.

Which normally would be a Holyday of Obligation. Unfortunately, we cannot honour it this year.

Masses are being streamed online.

St Andrew's Cathedral, Our Lady of Lourdes Cardonald and many more. So please see one.



### *Ascension of the Lord - Thursday 21st May 2020*

Could the Lord be asking you to fulfil the command to "Go, make disciples" as a diocesan priest, a deacon or in religious life? Have no fear: He is with us always! Contact 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](#)).

Friday 22 May in preparation for the **Feast of Pentecost**, is the start of 10 days of Novena for Pentecost. Link is on Facebook and check out Prayer page.

### **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](#).

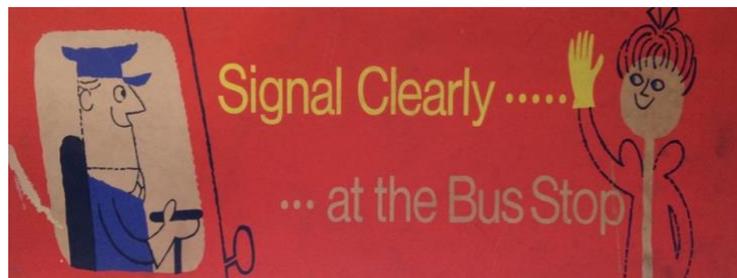
Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers, and we look forward to meeting you again soon.

## Reflections from Fr Alex Strachan

Signs and symbols help us communicate. We all use them: verbal and non-verbal. Some clever people around Holy Cross know more than one language! A clear code of simple, easy signals helps prevent misunderstanding. In a pub – remember them? – the bell for ‘Last Orders’ was to be ignored at your peril. If ‘the penny drops’, and you read all signs correctly, things go according to plan. (Surely the only people who drive through red traffic lights have friends who always stop at green) ... If the Army are training with live explosives, you can only imagine what ignoring the red flags, barriers, and safety staff, might lead to.

Animals use signals to attract or repel each other. For some creatures it’s a sound, or a posture, or even a smell, to show what they want. Nature can get awfully ‘red in tooth and claw’ for anyone or anything that ignores or mis-reads the code. It’s the way of the wild or, in Glasgow, the way to the vet / hospital. Have you ever walked between a bull and its young calves? – or noticed the loud buzzing might mean a wasps’ nest is very close? Farmers and pet owners learn what their animals are ‘saying’ and considerate owners act accordingly.

Not for the first time I find myself envying the birds. They get to fly about and go wherever they want. At the end of Week 8 in lockdown a lot of people want out the door. If I go outside, should I keep my head down and grunt at passers-by? No. Say hello, or ‘hi’ – and if the signs suggest it’s okay – smile. Ask, ‘How y’ doin?’ We are social by nature, and God made us to love and be loved. A tiny act or a word, or even a kind look, might be just the thing. We are spiritual too, not merely animals. Our rosaries or bending our back to pray ‘Glory be the Father, etc’, or our kneeling or standing, in prayer, are language signals for God. His replies get clearer the more we learn His language of love. In Week 9, be a disciple and send God’s message.



**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.**

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

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

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

John McFadyan, Jessie Sweeney (Kilbirnie), Isobel Baird, Caroline Ross.

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

Charlie & Alice Adams; Jimmy McKenna, Isaac Glencorse, David Glencorse, Dennis Healy.

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

William Shields: Jim Black.

**Please Pray for the repose of the souls of  
whose funerals are this week.**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter - 17 May 2020*

Philip the deacon and the apostles Peter and John, bring the Word and the Holy Spirit to the Samaritans in the reading today. Could you share in this powerful ministry? 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 ([PFS](#) or [VocationNetworkScotland](#)).

**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)

In addition to our ongoing events, Morning Prayer Live, Lectio Divina Online and ‘An Audience with...’ we will also be live streaming the Holy Rosary at 1200 on Thursday on Instagram.

You can keep up to date with our events through following our Facebook

page: [www.facebook.com/RCAGYouth](http://www.facebook.com/RCAGYouth)

I also want to share with you about a non-RCAG Youth initiative called Stronghold Festival. You may have heard of Stronghold Festival, which has been taking place annually in the Highlands over the last few years. This year, due to Covid-19, their physical festival has been cancelled and instead, they are running a free e-Festival online aimed at 16-35 year olds next weekend: 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020. To find out more, check out: [www.strongholdfestival.com](http://www.strongholdfestival.com)

### **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>

**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)

*“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 and not 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).*