

HOLY CROSS PARISH 24 May Sixth Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

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Seventh Sunday of Easter(A) 24 May 2020

Readings

1st Reading. Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14

2nd Reading. 1st letter of St Peter 4:13-16

Gospel John 17:1-11

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

REOPENING OF CHURCHES.

It looks as though the churches will be allowed to open in a few weeks

First, for private prayer then later for Services.

Next week look out for an appeal from us for help cleaning the church each day and after each service. We will also need help to prepare the church to open and to help maintain Social Distancing when events take place in the church.

Novena for Pentecost. Continues in preparation for the Feast of Pentecost Which is next Sunday.
Link is on Facebook and check out Prayer page on the Web Site www.holycrossparish.org.uk

Reflection from Mgr Bradley

Saint John Paul II

A few days ago was the 100th anniversary of the birth of Karol Wojtyla and today is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. These events set me thinking and remembering this most influential and inspiring man in my life. For most of my adult life he was Pope; during all my time in seminary, in the Pontifical Scots College in Rome. And to be in Rome at that time, and so close to this now beloved Saint, was an enormous privilege and blessing.

I was blessed to meet him on a number of occasions. My most outstanding memory was when he came to visit us in the Scots College. He celebrated holy Mass for us for the feast of the Ascension and stayed for breakfast with us, a breakfast that included fried potato scones. The scones were made by Archbishop Cushley's father, who was a baker, and brought to Rome to feed the Pope! After Mass each member of the College community was presented to the Pope and received a few words of encouragement. I was introduced to the Holy Father by Archbishop Winning. In the attached photo you can see the smiling face of the Pope as he ruffles my hair. Archbishop Winning is behind the Pope's arm and, behind my head you can see a young Fr Bill Nolan, now the Bishop of Galloway.

How excited we were that day. The College was buzzing in the days leading up to the visit and for many days after. And to this day our dear Saint continues to inspire me in my life as a Christian and my vocation as a priest.



Saint John Paul II, Pray for us!



Reflections from Fr Johnson

It is going to be two months that we are confronting lockdown due to pandemic covid-19. All churches are closed from 19th March for an indefinite period of time and thereby our faithful are not able to attend Holy Mass and other sacramental services in the church. But the Church holds them together. We the priests do remember all people in our daily private mass. Many of our people are either affected with corona virus or dealing with corona patients or in the house afraid of it and few people died.

In such a situation, for the Malankara Catholic community in Scotland and in the whole UK, Holy Mass on every Sunday at 10 am was conducted through online Zoom app. There were also conducted online morning prayer at 6, Divine Mercy chaplet at 3 pm and evening prayer at 7 on every day during great lent season.

After the Easter Sunday, I tried to keep a regular contact with our faithful. Many of our faithful are working in the hospital or related with people who are affected with corona virus. They all need a spiritual support during this great stressful situation. Therefore, I started online one hour Holy Adoration, evening prayer, Rosary, Litany etc., through Skype every day at 7 o'clock in the evening, and for whole UK doing online Holy Mass on Sundays from the Holy Cross Parish at 10 am through Zoom.

Youth are the backbone of the Church. Children are the future of the Church. Spending more time at home by staying away from the Church can lead their mind to live without God and sacramental life. We should not lose them. Therefore, I started for our youth and children a prayer session and adoration in English on every Thursday at 7 pm. In this session, they do hymns, spontaneous prayer, common evening prayer, praise and worship etc. Apart from this, from Sunday onwards (May 10), I started to conduct meetings for them for every Sundays at 2 pm. In this session, they do a quiz program for them by one of them, common discussion on religious – spiritual – biblical – social – ecclesial – general subjects, and now they are in preparation of making videos with such topics.

As Pope Francis globally declared May 14th, world day of prayer, fasting and charity for Mercy of God in the pandemic, the Malankara Catholic community in the UK spent whole day before the Blessed Sacrament. There was conducted a '13 hours continuous holy adoration' for our faithful in UK with the leadership of our five priests through online Zoom. It started with Holy Mass from Holy Cross Parish at 9 am followed by Holy Adoration before Blessed Sacrament exposed in London and concluded by benediction at 10 pm. Each one and half hour was allotted for each priest for their missions to lead the adoration and rest of the time was allotted for gospel ministry team and youth and children. Many of our people joined in this adoration with fasting. It was a prayer for divine mercy and for saving us all from this pandemic.

Finally, it can be firmly believed that no virus can make us stay away from God. Because of the Covid-19, all our homes became a small church. Instead of a big church, it gave us many churches. People all came to know the value of sacramental life, repentance and forgiveness sins.

Now what we can do is repent and plead for God's mercy and compassion and thereby forgiveness of sins.

If an invisible virus can shake the world, then the invisible Supreme Power (Almighty God) can save the world. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life." – John 3,16.

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.

Winnie Rankin, Mary Greene (Sister of Teresa McFadden).

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY IS ABOUT NOW

Please Pray for those whose Funerals took place last week

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter - 26 May 2020

The apostles joined in prayer with Mary after Jesus's Ascension. Pray today for the gift of the Holy Spirit to help you discern your vocation in life - or to guide someone who is considering a vocation. See our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) pages ([PES](#) or [VocationNetworkScotland](#)).

RCAG Youth

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

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

On Pentecost Sunday the 31 May Archbishop Tartaglia will lead the Rosary from St Andrew's Cathedral at 6.15pm as part of the UK National Rosary Rally.

The Rosary will be prayed on Pentecost Sunday from (9.00am-9.00pm all across the country at different hours indifferent places and dioceses. The Archdiocese of Glasgow is programmed over the hour beginning at 6.00pm. The intention of the Rosary is to seek the intercession of Our Lady so that we may overcome the Covid 19 pandemic and so that we may present our own petitions to Mary for her I ntercdssion and help.

"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 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).

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