



Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm

Sunday 10am & 11.30am

Daily Mass at 10am

Sunday Mass 11.30am

Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am

Saturday 9am

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10am & 4.30pm

Mon & Wed 6.30pm; Fri 8.30am

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### Sunday 16th August—Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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**We pray for those who have died recently:** Catherine (Cathy) McCabe, Michael Finnon, Helen Johnson, Cathie Murphy and Frances Murphy **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** David Stott, Emilio Pacione, Larry Reyes and Jean Cullerton.

**Prayers for the sick:** Please continue to remember in your prayers the sick, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

**Reception into Full Communion:** Divya, Lyn and Robert have become well known faces in the community at St Mary's before and since Lockdown. They would have been received into the Church (with Tamara as well) at the Easter Vigil. It is with great joy that we welcome them into Full Communion with us in the Church. At the 11.30am Mass in St Mary's they will join us in the Church through the Act of Reception and by receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Please pray for our three candidates and continue to pray for them as the newest members of the community.

**Our Journey of Faith—Enquirers:** We will continue to journey with our three newest members as they seek to deepen their understanding of the faith, but we would also welcome others who are wanting to enquire about becoming Catholics and joining any of our three communities. Could I ask anyone who is thinking of becoming a Catholic to approach myself or Fr Alexander and we will chat through how the journey into the Church might proceed.

#### **Requirements for visits to the church and for Mass:**

- \* You will need to wear a face covering (mask or scarf) at all times when you are in the church.
- \* There are sanitisers at the entrance and exit to the church and you are asked to make use of these when entering and leaving the church.
- \* Stewards will help you identify a space for prayer: there will be spaces for couples / family groups and for individuals.
- \* You will be asked to use a one-way system in the churches so please follow the directions of the stewards.
- \* If you wish to light a candle, please use the disposable tapers provided and after use (and making sure that the taper is extinguished), please place the used taper in the bin provided.

#### **Limited Attendance at Mass: Change of Preference / Booking**

The only space we have for people wishing to return to Sunday Mass is at 10am in St Mary's and 4.30pm in St Leonard and St Fergus'. I still need 10 volunteers to change their preference for Mass at St Mary's from 11.30am to 10am. As you enter for the 11.30am Mass this week we will ask you if there is the possibility that you might be able to change Mass time..

**More Help—Please:** We are still relying on the faithful few to help with stewarding and cleaning, so please step forward if you can help even in a limited way.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions):** Confession will be available before and after each Mass—please ask at the sacristy.

**Collections:** Monies handed in up to 9th August amounted to: St Mary's £1061 | St Columba's £316 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £573. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

**Offertory Collection:** During our Masses the 'plate' will not be passed round the congregation so all collections should be placed directly in the boxes / baskets at the back of the churches. There will also be containers for the deposit of any SCIAF boxes that you might wish to hand in.

**Donation / Legacy:** I would like to acknowledge the gift of £1000 to help us with our work among the poor, particularly the poor in St Columba's parish. This gift comes in memory of Annie Crowe who died earlier in the year and who had been a great supporter of the parish over the years. We thank the family for passing on this legacy.

**Streaming of Mass from St Mary's:** I now have 4 early bird volunteers so far to help at 8.30am streamed Mass. I knew that I wouldn't be disappointed. If there is anyone else **from our three communities** who would be happy to read and lead the responses at this Mass, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Absence (again) from the Parish:** I am taking the second part of my break this coming week and will leave the parish on Monday afternoon and return on Friday. Again, thanks to the generosity of Fr Alexander, there will be daily Mass in our three churches according to the usual daily Mass schedule.

**Sign of Peace:** Many parishioners have expressed their dismay that there is no opportunity to exchange a sign of peace. Although it is advised that we no longer shake hands, perhaps at the moment in the Mass when we customarily offer each other the sign of peace, we might turn and offer each other a slight bow, a nod of the head to acknowledge one another and to acknowledge the desire to be at peace with everyone as we approach the moment of Holy Communion.

## Charities

**SCIAF Coronavirus Appeal:** Over the next weeks in our communities, there will be the opportunity to respond to this appeal from SCIAF. One suggestion is that we 'recycle' our unused Lent SCIAF Boxes for this appeal. In the poorest countries of the world there will be no 'furlough' scheme for workers and many survive by working for their daily bread—if they do not work then they, and their families, do not eat. It is possible that poverty will kill more people in these countries than the virus. You will find boxes in St Mary's this week and we will look to provide ways of giving in St Columba's and St Leonard and St Fergus' over the coming weeks.

**Mary's Meals: From Karen Gray, Director of Communications at Mary's Meals:** 'Mary's Meals works in 19 of the world's poorest countries, often scarred by conflict, drought and indescribable poverty. Yet, time and again, communities refuse to give up because they have an unwavering strength of faith in God. Even in this most uncertain of times, I find so much comfort in the certainty that we serve a God so much bigger than poverty, inequality or a virus that steals lives. And because of God's love and the goodness of people, today we can continue to serve almost all of the 1.6 million children enrolled in our school feeding programme. Here in the UK, supporters have dedicated prayers to our mission since the very beginning – joining in prayer with families all around the world in asking our Father for His grace'. If you wish to help in the great work of Mary's Meals, please contact Kathleen Treacy at St Leonard & St Fergus' or hand in a donation to any of the churches. Whatever else you might do, please be generous in your prayers for the success of this work.

**SVDP:** Many of you give generously to the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society for the relief of the poor. In St Leonard and St Fergus' there will be basket at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to continue their donations to the SVDP and in St Mary's the wall box as you leave the church has been re-designated for this purpose.