

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

Parish Bulletin for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the
Ordinary Season 7th October 2018



OUR LADY, UNTIER OF KNOTS



In October 2015 we began a nine-week Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots. Since then we have had a further five Solemn Novenas - the attendances have been wonderful, Wednesday after Wednesday. We have been able to establish the new shrine behind the sanctuary wall - the only one in Scotland to my knowledge. We have sold almost 5000 of the novena books we had published. Most importantly of all, so many people have had their prayers answered by Our Lady.

On Wednesday of this week we will begin a sixth Solemn Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots, to ask for her prayers for ourselves and those who are dear to us. Do you have an intention that seems impossible! A problem that seems insurmountable! Then come to this most powerful of novenas! Our Lady will not let you down!

Where did this devotion come from? While studying in Bavaria in the 1980s the Jesuit priest, Jorge Mario Bergoglio - now Pope Francis - saw the painting (above) in the Church of Saint Peter in Augsburg, Germany. So impressed was he with the painting and the story behind it, that when he got back to Argentina he started to speak more and more about "Our Lady, Untier of Knots". He had new copies of the painting made and displayed in different Churches under the title "Our Lady, Untier of Knots" and many favours have been granted to those who have invoked Our Lady under this title.

To show the mission granted to Our Lady by her Son, the artist Johann Melchior Schmittner painted "Mary Untier of Knots" in 1700. It was originally inspired by a meditation of St Irenaeus (Bishop of Lyon, who was martyred in 202AD) based on the parallel made by St Paul between Adam and Christ. St Irenaeus, in turn, made a comparison between Eve and Our Lady, saying: "Eve, by her disobedience, tied the knot of disgrace for the human race; whereas Mary, by her obedience, undid it".

What are these knots? They are the problems and struggles we face for which we see no solution. Knots of discord in our families: lack of understanding between parents and children; the knots of deep rooted hurt and the absence of peace and joy in our homes. There are also the knots of despair: of separated couples, those who no longer practise their faith, of children and grandchildren who are not baptised. There are the knots of addictions: to alcohol, pornography, drugs, gambling... The knots of loneliness, depression and fear. The knots of unemployment, of health worries, and a million other things besides. The knots of all our lives !

Through this Novena: families have been reconciled! Family members have returned to the Church! Jobs have been found! Conversions have taken place! Problems have been solved! Our Lady comes to us as the One who unties these impossible knots, the One who knows all about us, who has compassion for us and hurries to help us.

Please join us on Wednesday if you can. **Father McGachey**

TODAY IS THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

At 7pm this evening Bishop Joseph Toal will lead a Torchlight Rosary Procession in the Grotto, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Church. The music will be led by the Motherwell Diocesan Choir.

Please join us for light refreshments in the Xavier Centre afterwards.

END OF THE GROTTO SEASON 2018

This evening's procession marks the end of the Grotto Season 2018. I would like to record publicly my sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who have supported the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes each day since we began eight months ago in February, both parishioners and pilgrims alike.

A particular word of thanks to all those who have helped with their time, energy and commitment over the past year: our sacristans, servers, cleaner, grounds man, sound engineer, our three organists, our painters, those who have opened and closed the chapels and shrines each day, those who have helped on the big pilgrimage dates, and the ladies who have looked after the catering arrangements in the Xavier Centre on numerous occasions. God reward you for all your hard work.

The Glass Chapel along with the other shrines in the Grotto close today.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS

with the Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament begins on Wednesday at 7pm in the Parish Church. It will continue on the following eight Wednesdays.

“In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life.” *Pope Francis*

PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Marking the final Apparition in 1917

Will take place on Saturday of this week, 13th October, beginning at 7.30pm with a Rosary Procession in the Grotto, followed by Holy Mass (Vigil Mass of Sunday) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. At the end of the evening the traditional Fatima ‘Adeus’ or ‘Farewell’ will take place. Father McGachey is the Celebrant.

DIARY DATES

- **VISIT OF THE CONSECRATED AND RELIGIOUS MEN AND WOMEN OF SCOTLAND** - Tuesday 16th October. They will be having their annual meeting at the Xavier Centre. They will join us for the 1pm Mass.
 - **MISSION SUNDAY** - Sunday 21st October, World Day of Prayer for the Missions. A special collection at all Masses today.
 - **ALL SAINTS DAY** - Thursday 1st November. Holyday of Obligation. Wednesday Vigil Mass at 7pm (The Novena Prayers to Our Lady Untier of Knots will take place during Mass), Thursday 10am and 1pm.
 - **ALL SOULS DAY** - Friday 2nd November - Masses at 10am and 1pm.
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PARISH PROGRAMME

SUNDAYS

- ❑ 8am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 9am Holy Mass
- ❑ 11am Holy Mass
- ❑ 6pm Evening Service in the Parish Church, unless otherwise announced

MONDAY-FRIDAY

- ❑ 9am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 9.35am the Rosary (except Fridays)
- ❑ 9.35am the Stations of the Cross (Fridays only)
- ❑ 10am Holy Mass
- ❑ 10.45am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 12.30pm
- ❑ 12.35pm The Rosary (except Fridays)
- ❑ 1pm Holy Mass (except Fridays)
- ❑ 1.45pm-2pm Confessions

SATURDAYS

- ❑ 9am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 10am Holy Mass
- ❑ 4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions
- ❑ 5pm Holy Mass (Vigil of Sunday)

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Tuesdays after 10am Mass

The Carfin Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes
and St. Therese, Thursdays after 10am Mass

Novena to St. Therese, Wednesdays after
the 1pm Mass with veneration of the Relic

CALENDAR - **Tuesday** is the memorial of **Saint Denis** (+258), Bishop of Paris. He suffered martyrdom there, together with his priest Rusticus and his deacon Eleutherius. It is also the memorial of **Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman** (+1890). He was beatified by Pope Benedict at Crofton Park in Birmingham in 2010. His Holiness noted Newman's emphasis on the vital place of revealed religion in civilised society but also praised his pastoral zeal for the sick, the poor, the bereaved and those in prison. On **Thursday** we remember **St. John XXIII**, pope from 1958-1963, best known for convening the Second Vatican Council. **Saturday** is the memorial of **St. Edward, the Confessor** (+1066). He became king of England at the age of forty-seven. Noted for his gentleness, humility and detachment, his reign was one of almost continuous peace.

NEXT SUNDAY - A major Canonisation Mass will take place in St. Peter's Square in Rome. Among the seven new Saints are Pope Paul VI, whom many of us will remember, who died in 1978, and Archbishop Oscar Romero who served as the fourth Archbishop of San Salvador en El Salvador. He spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, and torture. In 1980, Romero was assassinated while offering Mass in the chapel of the Hospital of Divine Providence. You will be able to see the Mass live on EWTN Sky channel 588 or on <https://www.ewtn.co.uk/live/tv> from 9.15am.

GENTLE REMINDER - **Extraordinary Ministers**: if you are purifying the sacred vessels after Mass, this should be done in **complete silence**. Sacristans and others please remember that **nothing** should be taken off the credence table until the vessels are purified. Please allow the Ministers to purify in silence.

To **Servers**: we have acquired a Mass gong. I would like this to be used at the Consecration of the Sacred Host and the Chalice at Mass: **one strike for each elevation**. The bells should be rung once at the calling down of the Holy Spirit before the Consecration as normal. The bells and the gong should be placed together on the altar step. Thank you for all your help.

CONTACT US

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SCOTTISH CHARITIES NUMBER SC 011041

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year, except during Lent and on Easter Sunday, at 12.30pm.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE - At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

Please telephone or email Father McGachey to make an appointment, or speak to Father McGachey or Deacon Jim after Mass at the weekend.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING People IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

RECENTLY DEAD - Frank O'Connor, Lynne Gillies, John Cadden, Brian Black, Tommy John, Samuel Hewitt, Helen Gray, Tom Craig, Therese McAllister, Peter Burt, Nan King, Jack Miles, Joe McLaughlin, Robert McDowall, Elizabeth Goodlett, Betty Gaffney, John McMullen, Ellen Boyle, Margaret King, Marie Fearon, Mary Allan, Malachy Cullen, Marian Cosgrove, John O'Neil, Angela Ciancio, Rose O'Donnell, Colin Imrie, Lynn Gillies, Bryan Herron, Brian Tansey, William Cassidy.

MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Patrick and Mary McNally, Patrick and Margaret Howley, John McNally, John McCallum, Morra Salvatore, Father Lawrence Connelly, Christophe Graham, Margaret and Bronie Smith, Margaret Hassan, Kathleen Hughes, Joseph and Annie Hughes, Michael and Gwyneth Clark, George and Susan Igunas, Dan Leslie, Father Joe Kelly, Margaret, Thomas, Margaret and Daniel Heffernan, Helen and William Balmer, Cathie McCall, The McCall Family, Emily and Jim MacKay, Karreen and Katrina Stuart, Bridget Donnelly, Jim Robb, Joe Fletcher, Mary and Hugh Cullen, Charlie, Kate, Charles jnr. Cullen, Cassidy Family, Patrick Connelly, Rosemary Quinn, Lawrence McGarry, Dan Smith, Jack Carlin, Theresa Carlin, Patrick Devenney sen..

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR SUNDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER - £1831
SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE UPKEEP OF YOUR PARISH