SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE - YEAR B

*A very warm welcome to Mass today, especially to those visiting the Cathedral.*

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| **DAY** | **TIME** | **HOLY DAY** | **MASS INTENTION** |
| Sunday 11th  | 6.00pm (Vigil)9.00am10.30am | *Polish* | Special IntentionCatherine Walsh |
|  | 12 noon5.45pm 7.30pm | *Polish* | Tony O’HareThanksgiving |
| Monday 12th  | 8.00am12.45pm |  | Dennis O’DonnellAmmini, RIP |
| Tuesday 13th Wednesday 14th Thursday 15th Friday 16th  Saturday 17th   | 8.00am12.45pm7.00pm8.00am12.45pm8.00am12.45pm8.00am12.45pm10.00am | ***Chapter Mass******Stations of the Cross***St Patrick | Jackson BhattiPeter Garriock, RIPGilhooly FamilyAnne Thereasa MeakinDeceased of the ParishJanaki, RIPThomas Kearns, RIPSpecial IntentionPatrick & Catherine Traynor |
| **Confessions**: Saturday 10.30am to 12 noon, 5.00pm to 5.45pm |
| **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 12.45pm, Saturday 10.30am to 12 noon |

**Collection** for 4th March: £1762.05. Many thanks.

**Marriage & Baptisms:** Couples should contact the parish office at Cathedral House at least six months prior to their proposed wedding. For baptisms also contact the parish office.

***Please join us for tea and coffee in the hall after the Sunday morning Masses***

**Laetare Sunday – Mother’s Day**

In the Church’s liturgical calendar this Sunday is known as “Laetare Sunday” meaning “Rejoicing Sunday” because we are now over half way through Lent. This is the only day in the year when the liturgical colour is pink or rose. It fits nicely this year with the secular celebration of Mother’s Day. We give thanks to God for our own mothers and pray for them whether they are alive or dead.

**P4 Children - Presentation of the Our Father – 9am Mass**

Today at the 9am Mass we welcome especially the children of P4 who are preparing for first Holy Communion, and who will be presented with the Our Father during Mass. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Stations of the Cross**

Remember, there are Stations every Tuesday evening at 7pm and every Friday following the 12.45pm Mass.

**Gift Aid**

Again, this Sunday at the end of Mass various members of the Parish Council will be speaking to us about Gift Aid. The reason for this is that for years there has been no systematic attempt to keep up our Gift Aid programme here at the Cathedral and consequently many people who could give using Gift Aid are not – with the net result that the Cathedral has one of the worst percentages of people giving by Gift Aid in the Diocese! More importantly this means that we are losing out on a very important source of income. So – please if you are a UK taxpayer and you come regularly, and you have not signed up for Gift Aid – please speak to one of the team at the back of the Church and take the opportunity to sign up today. Remember – it costs you nothing and it means that the Cathedral gets 25% extra from the government.

**If you are already signed up for Gift Aid…**

I am pleased to tell you that the new boxes of envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Each box has been named and put out in alphabetical order at the back of the Cathedral behind the passkeepers. Please collect your set on the way out after Mass. If you are expecting a box and cannot find one marked with your name, then please contact Caroline Read, our finance officer, on 0131 523 0101 or finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk

**Young Adults’ Group – This Wednesday**

This Wednesday, Fr Bernard Mournian, a newly ordained priest, will speak about devotion to Mary in the life of the Church. The talk begins at 7pm in the hall, followed by some time for prayer and then a trip to the pub. All those under 35 are welcome.

**Love Lent – Evenings for Young Adults with Archbishop Leo – Friday at 7pm**

The Archbishop invites all young people (16-35) from across the Archdiocese to join him for the final Lenten Catechesis on Friday 23rd March in the Cathedral Hall. As well as the opportunity to learn more about the Passion of Jesus according to St John, there will time for prayer and socialising over top-quality pizza.

**Divine Mercy Holy Hour – This Sunday at 3pm.**

Today at 3pm in the Cathedral we will have a Eucharistic Holy Hour guided by the Divine Mercy Group.  As well as the opportunity for confession, the group will offer meditations from the writings of St. Faustina.

**Sponsor a Kneeler!**

You will no doubt have noticed that some of our kneelers have recently been repaired. One of our Polish parishioners is doing the work and, as you will see, is making an excellent job of them. The cost of this repair is £120 per kneeler. We have renewed six, through the generosity of a parishioner, if anyone felt like sponsoring a kneeler or two please speak to me after Mass.

**Cathedral Roof**

As you can see the work on the flat roofs has begun (delayed because of the snow) – and we have now also got some potentially serious problems with the roof of 63 York Place. I am working with the Diocesan Fabric Office to arrange a full review of the roof. Obviously, this all takes an enormous amount of time, but I am leaning a great deal about the maintenance of Georgian buildings!

**General Renovations**

Can I remind you that a very kind benefactor has offered to match any donation *up to £5,000* made towards the Cathedral for repairs before the end of March. If you would like to donate, please put your donation in an envelope marked “Cathedral Repairs” and hand it in either to the Cathedral Office or at the offertory.

**Holy Week and Easter Schedule**

The details of all the Holy Week and Easter services are available on the website. It is sure to be a beautiful and moving commemoration of the Lord’s Passion and celebration of His Resurrection, so please do plan ahead to make sure you can participate as much as possible.

**Availability of current volunteers for Holy Week**

Could all current readers, Eucharistic Ministers, pass keepers and money collectors please give your availability for use in the Holy Week services to Alina (Vigil and 12 noon Masses); Peter McCourt (9am Mass) and Elizabeth Andrews (7.30pm Mass). Please also give details of the best way to contact you.  Thank you.

**Knitted Goods for Sale**

A great selection of knitted goods will be available in the porch after Mass on the 25th March to aid Cathedral repairs. We hope you will ‘flock’ to the porch where there ‘wool’ be great deals. ‘Ewe’ will not be disappointed!

**First Confessions – Rescheduled.** Having consulted with St Mary’s Primary, the first confessions will be celebrated on Thursday 19th April at 7pm. If this presents any problems, please speak to Fr Patrick or Fr Nick.

**“The Beginning Experience”** are holding a residential weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 23rd-25th March 2018 at St. Mary’s Kinnoul, Perth. For details contact: Ros on 01316690003 or email: rcm2524@yahoo.co.uk.

**The Knights of Malta Ball** which raises funds for Knights of Malta charities take place on 14 April. Visit [www.orderofmaltaball.com](http://www.orderofmaltaball.com) for more details

**Faith Summertime**. The dates for the Junior Youth Camp at Ampleforth are 16 - 19 July. More updates and forms for booking will follow soon. Save the date.

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**Please remember in your prayers the following people and those who care for them:** Vittoria Alongi, Elizabeth Boyle, Gloria Crolla, Mary Foster, Danny Gallagher, JosephGilhooley, Thomas Kerr, Rose Maughan, Patsy McArthur, Andrew and Mary MacDonald, William McNair, James McManus, Janette Myles, Hugh Nicholson, Theresa Nihill, James Robertson, Pat Robson, Bridget Sweeney, Mary Turnbull, Jean Wilson.

*Have a good week,*

*Fr Patrick, Fr Nick, Deacon Peter and Sr Mary Cora*

Parish Office (8:30am-3:30pm): Cathedral House, 61 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD, Tel: 0131 556 1798

Email: cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk

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Parish Council: ppccathedral@stmaryscathedral.co.uk

Finance (Caroline Reid)Tel: 0131 523 0101

Safeguarding:Maureen McEvoy

**Hospital Chaplains**: *Western General*: 07970 537432; *Royal Infirmary*: 0131 536 1000 & ask for priest on call

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