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Newsletter

The Most Holy Trinity

June 4th 2023

My dear parishioners,

I hope this finds you well and enjoying the beginning of summer. As we gather for the liturgy, we celebrate the beautiful Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity. I offer here some words by Pope Benedict for your reflection:

"On this Solemnity, the liturgy invites us to praise God not merely for the wonders he has worked, but for who he is; for the beauty and goodness of his being from which his action stems. We are invited to contemplate, so to speak, the *Heart of God*, his deepest reality which is his being One in the Trinity, a supreme and profound communion of love and life. The whole of Sacred Scripture speaks to us of him. Indeed it is he who speaks to us of himself in the Scriptures and reveals himself as the Creator of the Universe and the Lord of history. Today we hear a passage from the Book of Exodus in which –something quite exceptional – God proclaims his own name! He does so in the presence of Moses with whom he spoke face to face, as with a friend. And what is God's name? It never fails to move us: "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness". Pope Benedict XVI

As a parish we look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with some of our young parishioners. Bishop Toal will come to St. Paul's Church on Wednesday June 7th at 7pm and on Wednesday June 14th to St. Mary's Church at 7pm. It's good that the Bishop can once again come in person to celebrate this Sacrament with us and for us. Let us keep our *confirmandi* in our prayers.

Synodal Meeting: sincere thanks to everyone who came along to the meeting last Thursday; we had the opportunity to reflect together on the three great themes of this journey which Pope Francis is encouraging the church to make: communion, participation and mission. We also reflected together on what a Mission Statement might look like for St. Mary's and St. Paul's. Do you have any thoughts on what this might say? Pope Francis has asked the church to be a listening church and so we really need these opportunities to share concerns, ideas and hopes for the future.

I offer now the times of the Liturgy for the coming week:

Monday June 5th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am *Please note there is no public Novena in the evening*

Tuesday June 6th: Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

St. Paul's Primary will be with us for Mass; coffee morning in school afterwards

Wednesday June 7th: Mass at St. Paul's at 7pm

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Thursday June 8th: Requiem Mass for Christopher Grant at 9.30am

Saturday, June 10th

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday June 11th

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday 12th June: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Novena at 7pm;

Tuesday 13th June: Requiem Mass for Lauren Docherty at St. Mary's at 10am

Wednesday 14th June: Mass at St. Mary's at 7pm

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

In honour of Our Lady of Fatima you are invited to a monthly Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto on 13th of each month from May to October at 7.30pm; Rosary, Consecration to Our Lady, Procession, Holy Mass and Benediction.

Credo: Parish Faith Sharing Group will meet this Tuesday at 1pm in the parish meeting room. Faith sharing is about quiet and respectful listening and a celebration of how God is at work in my life and in the lives of the other members of the group. All are welcome to come along and afterwards to enjoy a cup of tea together at 2.30pm

Please remember in your prayers:

Recently Deceased: Christopher Grant, Lauren Docherty, Rick Anderson, Angela Kelly, William and Mary Drummond, Lesley Hughes

Special Remembrance: Jim Bryson Snr and Jnr, Peter Patrick Harkin, Tom Bridges, Wullie McKane and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace*.