

SAINT CHARLES' CHURCH, PAISLEY, 13TH SEPTEMBER 2020

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



forgive

Chaplet for the Mercy to Forgive Another

The following chaplet is prayed using a rosary.

The prayers are taken from Scripture: The first prayer comes from St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. He spoke it just before he died from stoning: **Lord, do not hold this sin against them.** Acts 7:60

The second prayer is based upon the very words of Jesus as He hung dying on the Cross: **Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.** Luke 23:34

Start with one **Our Father**, one **Hail Mary** and the **Apostles' Creed**.

On the large bead of each decade of the rosary, pray: **"Lord, do not hold this sin against them," for You are full of mercy and compassion for all. Please give me the grace to forgive so as to imitate Your perfect love...**

Then, on the ten small beads of each decade of the rosary, pray: **Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.**

Conclude all five decades by saying three times: **Lord, Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me a sinner. Amen.**

Forgiveness can be very difficult to achieve. Like everything that is difficult we should seek grace and help from God to make what seems impossible actually possible.

The Chaplet for the Mercy to Forgive Another is a great way to seek God's help. Why not try it today.

The back page of our bulletin also helps us to reflect on today's readings. Some of the phrases are quite American but the reflections are intended to help us to work out how we can live what we believe.

Thank You!

Thank you, once more, for all the donations that you have made to the parish over the past six months. They are most welcome and very gratefully received.

While many people have transferred to donating to the parish electronically by standing order or through the online portal, some people may still wish to use the weekly enveloped for donations. These were not distributed before the lockdown in March but are still available from the Church House.

Diocesan Notices

Second Collection – Holy Places – Sunday 13th September

The Holy Places of the Holy Land are the concrete, historical witness on earth of the story of our Biblical Faith and the sites our LORD lived among during His life, death and resurrection. From there the Good News spread throughout the world. A Christian community has remained there continually till now through trials, sacrifices and martyrdom. This Papal collection allows this community to survive as a local Church, to preserve the sacred sites of our Catholic faith and to keep the Christian message of peace and hope alive. If you would like to make a donation then please do so through the MyGivingHub link below, which will take you to the Diocesan Giving Page



MyGivingHub
Digital Giving to Your Charities &
Causes
mygivinghub.com

First Communion & Confirmations

Please keep in your prayers those children who would have received these Sacraments earlier in the year. The Bishop has asked us to celebrate them before Advent, if possible. Those children in P5 in St. Charles' will have already received information about the proposal. Unfortunately due to the current limitations we are very curtailed in what we can do but we will make every effort to make the celebrations as special as they should be for the children.

Arrangements are still to be made regarding Confirmations, hopefully they will be clarified in the coming weeks.

Vocations Awareness Week

Sunday marks the beginning of Vocations Awareness Week, a time of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Consecrated Life. Ordinarily, we would celebrate our Diocesan Vocations Mass at the Cathedral and host our Vocations Conference for S6 pupils. These events are not feasible this year. We have, however, developed our usual materials for secondary schools.

Focused on the theme of 'Parable', these invite pupils to consider God's plan for their lives and include resources for prayer and reflection. The material is also designed to be augmented by a talk from the school chaplain. All our resources are on the SCES Website and have been sent to our schools. Through the week there will be plentiful material on our Diocesan social media.

Please remember to pray for Vocations this week.



September 13, 2020

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30–28:7 | Rom 14:7–9 | Mt 18:21–35

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

It's part of human nature to focus on the negative "headlines" on any given day. For example, after encountering a traffic delay due to a harmless fender bender on an otherwise uneventful commute, we are more likely to be upset and angry at the delay – and the people who caused it – rather than forgiving of the situation, and aware of the concurrent fact that we made it home safely! The author of the Book of Sirach seems to have this insight into humanity, for he describes wrath and anger as "hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight." I, too, have "hugged tight" to my anger at times over offenses real or perceived, and so I love the way Matthew's Gospel challenges us to not only let go of past hurts, but to forgive: forgive, forgive, forgive. It doesn't mean glossing over the human fender benders that can wreck relationships, but Jesus cautions us to prevent them from becoming the headlines of our lives. Instead, by opening our ears and our hearts to the Good News of God's forgiveness, we can, in turn, extend it to those who have hurt us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When Jesus taught his disciples how to pray the *Our Father* in an earlier verse in Matthew's Gospel, he used these words: "forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Not, "maybe I'll think about forgiving tomorrow," or "I might forgive *this* but I can't forgive *that*." Because when we open our hearts to the Good News of God's forgiveness, we must forgive "from the heart," as Jesus says at the end of today's passage. Is there someone in our lives whom we need to forgive? What's holding us back? Are we "holding tight" to our anger, or hurt, or resentment? Think about a relationship in your life that could use some healing. Perhaps a first step involves a phone call, a letter, an email, or an embrace. In prayer, ask for God's help; seek forgiveness and ask for the grace to forgive others.

ACTION Think of someone or something that has caused you to hang on to anger or resentment. Write a letter [you're not going to send it!] to that person, or to the "event," as if it were personified. Spell out factually what caused your anger. Then write that you forgive them. Put the pen down, pray that God would help you with the grace to truly forgive, then shred the letter. And let the anger go.