

ST ANDREW'S

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SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2018

23rd Sunday of the Year - Year B

Today in the Gospel (Mk 7:31-37), Jesus cures a Gentile man who is deaf and has a speech impediment. The miracle was performed in Gentile territory. The faith-response of the Gentiles contrasts sharply with that of many of his own people. In Mark's mind Jesus was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah (first reading). In other words, Jesus is the one who brings salvation to Israel.

This miracle is the only cure in the Gospel's that is described as taking place gradually. Mark saw it as an illustration of growth in faith. It is what happens to every Christian. In baptism Christ touches our ears so that we can hear his word and touches our tongues so that we can profess our faith. But of course this doesn't happen instantaneously. It is something that happens over the course of a lifetime.



When Jesus urges those he heals to say nothing to anyone it is because he does not want a reputation as a wonder-worker. He is seeking those who will follow him in faith, not spectators avid to see marvels.

The person who has conferred a kindness should be silent; the person who has received a kindness should speak of it.

Confession:

St Andrew's: Sat 9am & 4.30pm
St Peter's: Sat 10am
St Philip's: Sat 9am
St Theresa's: Sun after 11.30am

Adoration:

St Andrew's: Tue 10am to 11am
Thu 7pm to 8pm
Sat 4.30pm to 5pm
St Peter's: Sat 10am to 10.30am
Sun 8.30am to 9am
St Philip's: Sat 9am to 9.15am

Morning Prayer:

St Philip's: Tue, Thu & Sat
9.15am

Welcome
to our Church

Shared News ...

Youth Club: The Youth Club is on tonight from 6.00pm - 8.00pm in the Lanthorn Centre. Children from P4 to S4 welcome.

Level 1 Safeguarding Training: The next training session will be on Wednesday 12 September at 7.00pm in St Andrew's Church hall. Those who have been trained prior to 2016 or have never received training need to attend.

Aged & Infirm Clergy Second Collection: This Archdiocesan fund provides support for our 26 retired priests. There will be a special collection taken next weekend, 15 & 16 September. Gift aid envelopes are available. Please remember to pray for those priests who have served us well and be as generous as you can.

RCIA: The new session will begin on Thursday 20 September at 7.00pm in St Theresa's. Anyone interested in joining the Church should come along.

CIC: Classes will start on Saturday 22 September from 10.00am - 11.00am in St Andrew's hall. Please register with the parish office or speak to Fr Simon or Fr Kenneth.

Meeting for P3 Parents: Will be on Wednesday 26 September at 7.00pm in St Andrew's. Parents of children in P3 who are to receive First Confession in the coming year should attend.


Schoenstatt Retreat: A reminder that this will be on Saturday 13 October. For more details, contact the parish office.

Help! West Lothian Foodbank are at present low on food which they distribute to those in need. Any donations would therefore be much appreciated. Suggested items are tins of potatoes, vegetables, fish, tomatoes, custard and rice. There are donation trolleys in most of the local supermarkets. We are also happy to receive items in our parishes which will then be given to the Foodbank on your behalf.

Become the Gift: There are a number of ways we can get involved in the life of the parish ... reading at Mass, Eucharistic Ministry, home/hospital visiting, Children's Liturgy, Youth Club, One World Group, Theatre Group, helping with sacramental preparation of children, preparation of parents for infant baptism ... just a few examples. Don't be shy to come forward if you're interested!

Kerala Second Collection: Thanks to all who contributed to the collection for Kerala. The total was £2,158.09 which has now been sent to Fr Sebastian.

Moldova Orphanages: Thank you for all the donations - a full van has now gone to Moldova. Special thanks to those who helped co-ordinate, pack, and store the donations.

 **Beard Donation for Malawi:** Fr Peter has now shaved off his beard! The total amount raised will be announced next week.

Next Sunday's Readings (16.09.18): Isaiah 50:5-9; Psalm 114; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35.

Recently Deceased: Margaret Ogg, Brian Mooney, Michael Coyle **Anniversaries (September):** Agnes McQuade, Catherine Carr Imrie (60th), Sylvia Crighton, Maxwell Robertson, Paul Lynas, Kenneth Haughey.

ST ANDREW'S ...

Fairtrade: Stall next weekend, 15 & 16 September.

Golden Jubilee: At Pentecost I wrote about beginning preparation for the Golden Jubilee of St Andrew's Church in Craigshill. The first meeting of the St Andrew's 2020 Group will take place in the church on Wednesday 19 September at 7.00pm. All welcome.

PVG Co-ordinator: The parish now has a new PVG Co-ordinator, Paulina Komar. She will deal with all PVG requests.

Last Sunday's Collection: £852.11; **Building Fund:** £170.94; **200 Club:** No 45 & No 126; **Sanctuary Candle:** Daniel Farrel

ST PETER'S ...

Altar Servers/Serviettes: Please all stay behind after Mass next Sunday morning to meet with Fr Simon.

PVG Co-ordinator: We have a new PVG Co-ordinator, Yvonne Broom, who will assist Tom Boyle with all PVG requests.

Last Sunday's Collection: £960.19; **Church Stall:** £76.72; **Kerala Second Collection:** £614.91

ST THERESA'S...

Fabric Committee: Will next meet on Tuesday 11th at 5.00pm.

Thank You: Congratulations and best wishes to Cathy O'Donnell on her recent celebration of her 90th birthday. She generously nominated St Theresa's parish as the recipient of gifts. We thank her for the cheque for £2,030.

Last Sunday's Collection: £624.31; **Building Fund:** £278.75; **Bonus Ball Proceeds:** £200.00 **Bonus Ball Winner:** No 50 T Canning

ST PHILIP'S ...

St Ninian's Primary: Congratulations to St Ninian's Primary School on their 41st year! Fr Kenneth will celebrate Mass for the Feast Day in the school on Friday.

MacMillan Coffee Morning: Will be held in the Lanthorn on Saturday 29 September from 10.00am to 12 noon. Entry is £2 (adults)/£1 (child)

Last Sunday's Collection: £485.00; **Church Stall:** £100.00; **200 Club:** No 45 Muir
Sanctuary Candle: Alan Mair (God's blessing on his ordination to the Diaconate)



One week after Pope Francis' visit to Dublin for the World Meeting of Families 2018 - "The Joy of Love" - I thought it would be good to reflect on what has happened there and what messages we have received from this gathering with the Pontiff.

I liked the description of one of the lay commentators for this event: "This approach to the visit of Pope Francis may give the impression of a Church that is on its last legs; not quite dead, but rapidly heading in that direction. After three days attending the World Meeting of Families 2018 Pastoral Congress in Dublin, I saw a very different Church, one that has a valuable message for our times, a message that is as relevant today as it was over two thousand years ago."

Then I read the homily notes from the Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin. "Some weeks ago, I posed the question: what would Pope Francis leave as a legacy to the Church in Ireland after his short yet intense thirty-six hour visit for the World Meeting of Families? My answer was simple: *My hope is that Pope Francis will challenge the Church in Ireland to be more authentically the Church of Jesus Christ in a culture that is different.* I was and am very much aware of the fact that Pope Francis could not provide all the answers himself. The future of the Church in Ireland remains very much the responsibility of the entire Church community in Ireland. Now we must be asking ourselves: where should we be going in the years to come?"

It is good that the Church allows discussion and sharing of opinions. On the Vatican webpage I was able to read the critical voice of the German Archbishop from Berlin: "Archbishop Koch criticised the lack of a clear final message. *I did not see any central aspect with which we could go home,* said the Archbishop, adding that children and young people were too rarely included in the meeting. *I also do not understand why topics like euthanasia or care for the elderly have not been discussed again, these are important themes for families*" said Archbishop Koch. Good points, but how much can you squeeze into a thirty-six hour visit?

The president of the Italian episcopate emphasises that papal teaching in Dublin is close to life and referred to specific realities. According to Cardinal Bassetti, the Holy Father offered a peculiar family vademecum. He said on the message of Francis in Dublin: *"The Pope explained the meaning of the most important words: please, thank you, I'm sorry. He explained that they affect the quality of relationships between children, parents and grandparents. Everyone in the family must be respected. Francis also said a lot about the need for reconciliation and forgiveness. This specific advice relates not only to the family, but can be perfectly transferred to the pastoral plane."*

Dublin is over and preparations for the 17th World Meeting of Families in Rome (at the Pope's request) in 2021 have already started.

Want to know more about Pope's message for families? see: <https://amoris.ie/animations/>

Fr. Peter - happy that the *beard challenge* is over and thankful for your generosity!

WIADOMOŚCI POLSKIEJ WSPÓLNOTY W LIVINSTON



Drodzy - na początek roku katechetycznego wołam z katechetkami za Izajaszem do Rodziców: *Odwagi! Nie bójcie się! Oto wasz Bóg (...) przychodzi, by was zbawić.* Za dobrze prowadzone katechezy, za każdą dziecięcą liturgie i za wszystkich zaangażowanych w pomoc charytatywną przez ofiary dla dzieci z Malawi dziękujemy, bo w ten sposób realizujemy nauczanie Jezusa - *Chwal, duszo moja, Pana, Stwórcę swego.* **Za apostołem Jakubem ucieszymy się z tego, że to właśnie my - emigranci na szkockiej ziemi - możemy skutecznie pomagać sobie nawzajem i innym, bardziej potrzebującym od nas: Czy Bóg nie wybrał ubogich tego świata na bogatych w wierze oraz na dziedziców królestwa przyobiecanego tym, którzy Go miłują?** Czyniąc dobro i wspierając potrzebujących naśladowujemy naszego Zbawiciela, który *głosił Ewangelię o królestwie i leczył wszelkie choroby wśród ludu.* Dzisiaj Ewangelista Marek opisał jak Jezus uzdrowił głuchoniemego, prosząc o tę łaskę Boga Ojca: *Jezus spojrzawszy w niebo, westchnął i rzekł do niego: "Effatha", to znaczy: Otwórz się.* Nie jesteśmy głuchoniemi, ale bywamy zamknięci na siebie nawzajem, na inne nacje, religie, tradycje. **Bóg mówi do mnie i do Ciebie dzisiaj: "Effatha", to znaczy: Otwórz się - pomyśl na kogo czy na co Ty masz się otworzyć właśnie dzisiaj w Twoim życiu** - ks. Piotr

PS: Zachęcam Was do obejrzenia kilku krótkich filmów: <https://amoris.ie/animations/>

DATE	ST ANDREW'S	ST PETER'S	ST PHILIP'S	ST THERESA'S	FEAST DAY
Sun 9 Sept	9.30am Polish PK 11.30am Mass KO <i>Ian Boak</i>	9.30am Mass SH <i>Janice MacIntyre RIP</i> 5.30pm Mass SH <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.30am Mass JS <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.30am Mass JS <i>Ellen Boylan RIP</i>	23rd Sunday of the year Year B
Mon 10 Sept	No Service	No Service	No Service	9.00am Mass JS <i>Donor's Intention</i>	Monday 23rd week of the year
Tue 11 Sept	9.30am Mass JS <i>Donor's Intention</i>	6.00pm Mass SH <i>Donor's Intention</i>	9.30am Mass KO <i>Brian Mooney RIP</i>	No Service	Tuesday 23rd week of the year
Wed 12 Sept	9.30am Mass JS <i>Donor's Intention</i>	9.30am Mass SH <i>Donor's Intention</i>	No Service	6.00pm Mass KO <i>Donor's Intention</i>	Wednesday 23rd week of the year
Thu 13 Sept	9.30am Mass JS <i>Donor's Intention</i>	9.30am Mass SH <i>Donor's Intention</i>	9.30am Mass KO <i>Sylvia Crighton</i>	No Service	Memorial of St John Chrysostom
Fri 14 Sept	No Service	9.30am Mass SH <i>Donor's Intention</i>	No Service	9.00am Mass KO <i>Donor's Intention</i>	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sat 15 Sept	9.30am Mass JS 5.30pm Vigil JS <i>Charlie Divers RIP</i>	9.30am Mass SH <i>Donor's Intention</i> 6.30pm Polish MM	9.30am Mass KO <i>Catherine Linstrum</i>	No Service	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
Sun 16 Sept	9.30am Polish JS 11.30am Mass JS <i>Comerford Family</i>	9.30am Mass SH <i>Vincent MacLean RIP</i> 5.30pm Mass SH <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.30am Mass KO <i>Brian Mooney RIP</i>	11.30am Mass KO <i>People of the Parish</i>	24th Sunday of the year Year B