



ST. BERNADETTE'S RC CHURCH TULLIBODY



Newsletter

Parish Priest: Fr. Mike Freyne MHM
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7th Sunday of Easter

Sat	16 May	5.30pm	Vigil Mass
Sun	17 May	8.30am 10.45am 11.30am	Mass Meeting for all Pass Keepers Mass
Mon	18 May	9.30am 12pm	Mass Deanery meeting, Tullibody
Tues	19 May	~ ~ ~ ~	No services
Wed	20 May	9.30am	Mass
Thurs	21 May	9.30am 10am	Mass Meeting CoS rep for Education
Fri	22 May	7pm	Mass
Sat	23 May	9.30am 5.30pm	Mass Vigil Mass
Sun	24 May	8.30am 11.30am	Mass Mass
Sun	31 May	11.30am	First Communions

This Sunday's Readings	
First Reading	Acts 1: 12-14
Psalm	27(26): 1, 4, 7-8, 13
Second Reading	1 Peter 4: 13-16
Gospel	John 14: 1-11

Last Sunday's Collection	
Non Gift Aid	£409.57
Gift Aid	£452.00
~~~~	£0
<b>Total</b>	£861.57

## Prayer Requests

### Those who are sick ~

Joan Jones, Msgr. Basil O'Sullivan, Natalie Otalini, Jade Dicerbo, Stuart Mason, Sean McCann, Carly Mournian, Brendan Murphy, Vincent McDaid, Peter Douglas, Mary Gordon, Mary Hughes, Peter & Margaret Stark, Sarah Jane Connelly, Duncan McGregor, Maria McIntyre, John & Trisha Smith, Drs. Diane & Mike Basquill, Maurice Di Duca, Cathy McCallum, Archie Gallaway, Cathy Fox, Jim McKay, Peter Caproni, Laura Laing, Susan Duvall, Brian Robertson, Melissa Brown, Margo Tobin, John Lawlor and Lisa Mcilwrath, Fr. Hutchinson, Margaret Smith, Kath Massanopoli, Bobby Williamson.

### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time ~

Jack Ray, Lawrence McArthur, William Conlan, Mel Latte, Alex Byrne, Fr. Colin Golden, Mary Galloway, Tom McMnemy, Annette Morgan, Pat Ward, Margaret Giannandrea, Canon Hugh McNally, Kate McNeil, Cathy Morrison, Lula O'Brien, David Tobin, Anne McNiven, Kathleen Clarke, Seamus McShane, Annette Morgan, Canon Michael Milton, Cathy Whalen, Maeve Bain, Helen Martin

## HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

MAY 5, 2026 PRAYER

Today, millions of people continue to suffer from hunger. This threatens the dignity of the most vulnerable and questions the way we live and share our resources.

In his prayer intention for this month, Pope Leo invites us to pray that no one might lack the food they need and that we might learn to live more responsibly, recognizing that the earth's resources are a gift for everyone. He also encourages us to awaken a new awareness—one capable of gratitude, sharing and caring for others, thus promoting a culture of solidarity.

<https://youtu.be/-a60VaSe3tY?si=l9fdf8sb6Dj2s7Bz>

# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Met last Wednesday and although few participated we decided to go ahead with the meeting as plenty of notice had been given and the agenda sent out. We began with a Conversation in the Spirit with questions on Diocesan and parish structures in the light of our mission. A fruitful sharing followed and we are sending a very brief report to Bishop Andrew. This will become part of a Diocesan report for the Scottish Episcopate. We reflected on the history of our own Parish pastoral Council and how in the past all groups were represented. We will continue to encourage ALL groups to send a representative and encourage all who are interested to participate- you do not have to speak! The PPC is open to EVERYONE.

The tendency in our Diocese, in the light of increasing awareness of synodality, is for a proper reflection using the method Conversations in the Spirit be employed more to reflect on Diocesan, Deanery and parish issues. We have approximately 10 meetings per year (a month's winter break and also in summer). One month we will have a PPC-C (Parish Pastoral Council-Conversation) where we will normally have time to reflect in a spirit of prayer on Diocesan, Deanery and parish issues. The next month we will have PPC-B (Parish Pastoral Council - Business) where there will be brief reflections, discussions and sharing of information between groups regarding the running of the parish and how we are carrying out our mission. We are ALL responsible for the parish. The parish priest is only temporary!

**Dates of all meetings-** PPC, F & M, PPC until March 2026 are available to put in your diary.

The experiment of offering **TEAS & COFFEE** after 11.30am mass on the FIRST SUNDAY of every month has been organised. Please support. The PPC wants to call attention that we see this as part of the parish's mission to evangelise, reach out and welcome others.

We hope new comers and visitors will go in and meet parishioners in a pleasant atmosphere.

Fabric & Maintenance with Parish Pastoral Council will draw up a list of priorities of "major" works that need to be completed in the near future. This will be sent to the Diocese to be registered as a specific fund and NOT part of parish income.

OFFICE During the meeting it was constantly mentioned that the parish priest is burdened with the very time consuming administration and day to day running of the parish. This should not be his major concern. We are trying to organise more volunteers to distribute some of the administrative tasks. For instance we already have someone who looks after only the electric & gas bills, contracts, keep an eye on payments etc. Someone already does this with the photocopier. We need to have someone to do the same with telephones, broadband etc. Volunteers?

We have wasted space where the old oil/gas heating was. As a priority we are looking for suggestions, advice how best to adapt and extend the office into a good working space, office and reception.

If anyone who has a relation or friend who may be able to give us some friendly architect's advice on the office - and also the church and kitchen - they would be most welcome.

## MONTH OF MAY - MARY'S MONTH

The practice dates back at least 700 years and is still observed around the world today. May is seen as the beginning of new life and the start of summer, which makes this a logical time for the celebrations of Mary, who brought life into the world.

In contemporary Catholic tradition, the month of May remains a deeply significant time dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, blending ancient devotion with modern, "lived" faith. While rooted in historical practices from the 13th-18th centuries, the modern view focuses on Mary as a relatable, active, and maternal figure for everyday life rather than a distant theological concept.

### Key Themes of Contemporary Marian Devotion

- The "First Disciple" & Model of Trust: Pope Francis and contemporary theologians emphasise Mary not just as a figure to be worshipped, but as the "first disciple of Jesus" who shows us how to trust God, even when life is uncertain.
- A "Yes" in Challenging Times: Her *fiat* (her "yes" to God) is seen as a source of strength for believers facing personal or global difficulties. She is often portrayed as the "Virgin of Promptness" who immediately acted to help others (e.g., in the Visitation).
- Not Worship, But Veneration: Modern teachings, especially in the context of interfaith dialogue, clarify that Catholics *honor* or *venerate* Mary, not worship her. She is loved as a mother and powerful intercessor who always points to her Son, Jesus.
- Mother of the Church: As confirmed by Pope Paul VI in 1964 and emphasised by subsequent Popes, she is seen as a living maternal presence watching over the church and providing comfort in the "here and now"

## WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?

We did not have a school mass in the church on Ascension Thursday. There is an outbreak of chickenpox in the school and Public Health advised against it. We have asked parents not to bring school children to mass this weekend. We have many people who are very vulnerable who come to mass. Please children do not come. Your child may not have chickenpox but without knowing could be a source of handing it on. Our responsibility is great.

Children's Liturgy  
of the **Word**

The Children's Liturgy team are running the sessions during the 11.30am Mass on 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month until the School Summer Holidays:~  
**24th May / 14th Jun**