

## ANNUAL IRISH DAY AT CARFIN GROTTA – SUNDAY, 14 JUNE 2015

The Annual Irish Day takes place at the Irish Shrine in Carfin Grotto. Mass will be concelebrated on the Mass Rock at 3.00 pm. A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to join us for this celebration. In the case of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated indoors.

## CENACOLO COMMUNITY UK ANNIVERSARY MASS

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's, Carfin. All welcome. We have a weekly meeting for anyone with addictions, family and friends who feel they need support or help in their time of need. For info call Mary on 07538 789548

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING MASS

At St Andrew's Cathedral, Clyde Street, Glasgow on Monday, 15 June at 7.00 pm. The Principal Celebrant will be Archbishop Tartaglia. All children and young people with Additional Support Needs, their parents, families, carers, teachers and friends are invited to participate. Refreshments will be served after Mass in the Archdiocesan offices, next to the Cathedral.

## ALL NIGHT PRAYER VIGIL

Feast of Sacred Heart – Immaculate Heart of Mary;  
All Night Prayer Vigil at St Maria Goretti, Bellrock Street, Cranhill  
Friday, 12 June - Saturday, 13 June 2015. Opening Mass 8.00 pm;  
Closing Mass 6.00 am. All welcome. For information please contact:  
liam.coyle1@ntlworld.com Phone: 0141 569 1982.

Please Pray for:

Sick: Shiela McDonald

Recently Dead: Edith King, Dorothy Hillhouse, George Allen, Charles Kennedy, Fr Noel Barry

Anniversaries : James & John Clark, Anna Wright, Eileen McKenna

St. Patrick's is a Parish of the Archdiocese of Glasgow,  
a Designated Religious Charity, Number SC018140



## St. Patrick's Parish

137 William St.,  
Glasgow G3 8UR,  
Tel: 0141 221 3579  
Fr Francis Okereke

E-mail: [stpatsanderston@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpatsanderston@hotmail.co.uk)  
Website: [www.stpatsanderston.weebly.com](http://www.stpatsanderston.weebly.com)

## 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015: Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ Page 83 in Mass Book

Mass Times this week		
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	10am,	Week 10 Year B
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10am,	Feast of Columba
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	10am,	Week 10 Year B
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Memorial: St Barnabas
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	10am,	<b>Solemnity Sacred Heart</b>
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Memorial: Immaculate Heart of Mary
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	6pm Vigil	Sunday Week 11 Year B
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	

**Morning Prayer:** Monday-Saturday 9.45am  
Confessions: 9.30–9.45 am; 5.30-5.50 pm on Saturdays  
*The church will be open Sun–Fri:8am–4pm (Wednesday 8am-1pm)*

**RECENT COLLECTIONS** 31<sup>st</sup> May £338.35 Day for Life £431.90

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP** on Thursdays at 7pm

**DO YOU PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT?** If so, there are laminated cards available at the back of the church for you to use when the collection comes around so you don't feel embarrassed! These will be returned to the back of the Church each week.

## ECUMENICAL SERVICE: GLASGOW THE WELCOMING CITY 2015

Glasgow City Chambers, Saturday 14 June 2015 at 3.00 pm.  
All welcome. Refreshments will be served after the service.  
Organised by Glasgow Churches Together

## EUCHARIST AS GOD'S PHYSICAL EMBRACE

There's a story told of a young Jewish boy named Mortakai who refused to go to school. When he was six years old, his mother took him to school, but he cried and protested all the way and, immediately after she left, ran back home. She brought him back to school and this scenario played itself out for several days. He refused to stay in school. His parents tried to reason with him, arguing that he, like all children, must now go to school. To no avail. His parents then tried the age-old trick of applying an appropriate combination of bribes and threats. This too had no effect.

Finally, in desperation they went to their Rabbi and explained the situation to him. For his part, the Rabbi simply said: "If the boy won't listen to words, bring him to me." They brought him into the Rabbi's study. The Rabbi said not a word. He simply picked up the boy and held him to his heart for a long time. Then, still without a word, he set him down. What words couldn't accomplish, a silent embrace did. Mortakai not only began willingly to go to school, he went on to become a great scholar and a Rabbi.



What that parable wonderfully expresses is how the Eucharist works. In it, God physically embraces us. Indeed that is what all sacraments are, God's physical embrace. Words, as we know, have a relative power. In critical situations they often fail us. When this happens, we have still another language, the language of ritual. The most ancient and primal ritual of all is the ritual of physical embrace. It can say and do what words cannot.

Jesus acted on this. For most of his ministry, he used words. Through words, he tried to bring us God's consolation, challenge, and strength. His words, like all words, had a certain power. Indeed, his words stirred hearts, healed people, and affected conversions. But at a time, powerful though they were, they too became inadequate. Something more was needed. So on the night before his death, having exhausted what he could do with words, Jesus went beyond them. He gave us

the Eucharist, his physical embrace, his kiss, a ritual within which he holds us to his heart.

To my mind, that is the best understanding there is of Eucharist. Within both my undergraduate and graduate theological training, I took long courses on the Eucharist. In the end, these didn't explain the Eucharist to me, not because they weren't good, but because the Eucharist, like a kiss, needs no explanation and has no explanation.

The Eucharist is God's kiss.

The Eucharist, and every other Christian sacrament, always has some very tangible physical element to it—a laying on of hands, a consuming of bread and wine, an immersion into water, an anointing with oil. An embrace needs to be physical, not only something imagined.

G.K. Chesterton once wrote: "There comes a time, usually late in the afternoon, when the little child tires of playing policeman and robbers. It's then that he begins to torment the cat!" Mothers, with young children, are only too familiar with this late afternoon hour and its particular dynamic. There comes an hour, usually just before supper, when a child's energy is low, when it is tired and whining, and when the mother has exhausted both her patience and her repertoire of warnings: "Leave that alone! Don't do that!" The child, tense and miserable, is clinging to her leg. At that point, she knows what to do. She picks up the child. Touch, not word, is what's needed. In her arms, the child grows calm and tension leaves its body. That's an image for the Eucharist. We are that tense, over-wrought child, perennially tormenting the cat. **There comes a point, even with God, when words aren't enough. God has to pick us up, like a mother her child. Physical embrace is what's needed. Skin needs to be touched. God knows that. It's why Jesus gave us the Eucharist.**

*Fr. Ron Rolheiser*

THE TABLET magazine has been made available for a few weeks now to let you see if you like it. If you wish to continue to receive it you need to take out a subscription. Details within the magazines at the back of the church.