



Saint Michael's Parish



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Parish Priest: Rev Vincent Toal

MASS THIS WEEK:

Sunday 26th April 2026 – 8am & 11am, 4th Sunday of Easter; Monday 27th – 10am;

Tuesday 28th – 10am; Wed 29th – 8.15am; Thurs 30th – 4.30pm, St Mahew;

Friday 1st May – 10am; Saturday 2nd – 10am; 5.30pm, Vigil 5th Sunday of Easter

Carmel: 9am Mon-Sat

Vocations Sunday

Glasgow Archdiocese has five seminarians in training – four in Rome and one in Spain – while a group of eight young men meet monthly to discern their vocations with a view to training for the priesthood. Fr Paddy Boyle, Director of Vocations said: “We are seeing more younger men expressing an interest in priesthood and are offering new options for those under 18 discerning their vocations.” You can contact Fr Boyle by email: vocations@rcag.org.uk

May Rosary

To honour the Month of Mary and to develop a greater devotional life in the parish, you're invited to come together in the church to pray the Rosary each Friday evening in May at 6.30pm, beginning this **Friday 1st May**.

Confirmation

This Thursday, 17 of our young parishioners will be Confirmed when Archbishop Nolan visits our pastoral area to administer the Sacrament at the evening Mass in St Patrick's church. Please keep Aiden, Neriah, Riley, Finlay, Ellie, Sofia, Lily, Cara, Liam, Leah, Kelvin, Olivia, Faith, Zara, Bryden, Logan and Lori in your prayers.

Holy Places

Thank you for your generous response to the Holy Places appeal during the Good Friday service Commemorating the Lord's Passion - **£2000** was raised for the Church's Holy Land mission.

Camp Out for Hope!

Aid to the Church in Need has organised an all-night prayer vigil to show solidarity with our suffering and displaced Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Taking place at Carfin Grotto on **Saturday 30th May & Sunday 31st, 8pm - 8am**, the vigil offers time to pray and socialise while learning about ACN's work. Aimed at young people, 16+, head to trybooking.com to sign up. Participants are encouraged to fundraise, with £50 as a target.



Bishop Agnelo

We send our congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Bishop Agnelo Pinheiro who was ordained Bishop of Sindhudurg, India, in mid-April. Twelve years ago, Fr Agnelo spent the summer in Scotland and served a couple of months in St Michael's – a number of parishioners have stayed in touch, since. A native of Goa, the 53-year-old was ordained priest in 2000 and came to Scotland while pursuing a doctorate in philosophy in Rome. I'm sure he picked up a lot of wisdom in Dumbarton!

Golden Youth

Saint Margaret of Scotland Youth Group is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a Fundraising Dinner on **Saturday 9th May** at the Raddison Blu, Glasgow. Each year, this group of young people provides invaluable assistance as part of the Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. Tickets for the fundraiser are available from Megan on 07908 552138.

Organ Sound

After an eight-month silence, due to a motor failure, the organ has been restored to full voice. We can again enjoy its sound, enhancing our liturgies and leading us in pulling out all the stops with hymns of praise and thanks to God.

The Interior Discovery of God's Gift

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV FOR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people!

In the Gospel of John, Jesus describes himself as the “good shepherd”. This expression refers to a shepherd who is perfect, authentic and exemplary, inasmuch as he is ready to give his life for his sheep, thus revealing God’s love. He is the Shepherd who draws us to himself, whose gaze reveals that life is truly beautiful when one follows him.

Only the one who pauses, listens, prays and welcomes the Shepherd’s gaze can say with confidence: “I trust him; life with him can truly be beautiful. I want to walk this path of beauty.” What is most extraordinary is that, in becoming his disciple, one truly becomes “beautiful”; his beauty transforms us.

Such a relationship is based on prayer and silence, and when cultivated opens us to receive and actively respond to the gift of vocation. It is never an imposition or a one-size-fits-all model to which one merely conforms; instead, it is an adventure of love and happiness.

In light of this, I invite everyone — in families, parishes and religious communities — to commit themselves more fully to creating conditions that allow this gift to be embraced, nourished, protected and accompanied, so that it may bear abundant fruit.

Only when our surroundings are illumined by living faith, sustained by constant prayer and enriched by fraternal accompaniment can God’s call blossom and mature, becoming a path of happiness and salvation. By embarking on the path that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, shows us, we come to know more deeply both ourselves and the God who calls us.

We are invited to know God through prayer, listening to the Word, the Sacraments, the life of the Church and works of charity for our brothers and sisters. Like the young Samuel, who unexpectedly heard the voice of the Lord during the night and learned to recognize it with the help of Eli, we too must create a space for interior silence in order to hear what the Lord desires for our happiness.

Dear young people, listen to this voice! Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ. Make time, then, for Eucharistic adoration; meditate faithfully on the word of God, so that you may put it into practice each day; and participate actively and fully in the sacramental and ecclesial life of the Church. In this way, you will come to know the Lord.

Through the intimacy of his friendship, you will discover how to give of yourselves, whether through marriage, the priesthood, the permanent diaconate, or consecrated life.

We must overcome fears and doubts, confident that the Lord of history — both of the world and of our own personal story — is risen. Through the light and strength of his Spirit, even amid trials and crises, we can see our vocation grow and mature, reflecting ever more fully the beauty of the One who has called us.

A vocation is not a fixed point, but a dynamic process of maturation sustained by intimacy with our Lord. To grow in one’s vocation means being with Jesus, allowing the Holy Spirit to act in our hearts and in the circumstances of life, and reinterpreting everything in light of this gift.

Like the vine and the branches, our whole lives must be rooted in a strong and vital bond with the Lord, so that we may more wholeheartedly respond to his call through our trials and necessary “pruning.” How important it is to discern and test the promptings of the Holy Spirit, so that a vocation can be brought to fruition in all its beauty!

A vocation is not an immediate possession — something “given” once and for all. It is a path that unfolds much like life itself. The gift we have received must not only be protected but also nourished by a daily relationship with God in order to grow and bear fruit.

Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people, I encourage you to cultivate your personal relationship with God through daily prayer and meditation on the Word. Pause, listen and entrust yourselves. In this way, the gift of your vocation will mature, bringing you happiness and yielding abundant fruit for the Church and the world.