

Seeing Your Life Through The Lens of The Gospel First Sunday of Lent

Jesus he is about to start his public ministry. Mark tells us this was preceded by a deep inner struggle when his resolve to take on his God-given mission was tested. Recall important decisions in your own life. Were they accompanied by struggle and doubt? Who were the angels who supported you at that time? Give thanks for them.

Such periods of anxiety may seem like wilderness experiences at the time. Later, with hindsight, we may see them as being good for us. Perhaps, like Jesus, you recall a time when the Spirit of God led you into the wilderness to be tested and after the experience you had a clearer sense of your own identity or your purpose in life.

Repent and believe the good news was the heart of the message of Jesus. It was not a call to penance but to a change of heart, a change of attitude, leading to a change in behaviour. The kingdom of God is a kingdom of right relationships: with God, with one another, with creation, with ourselves. It is a change that leads to a fuller life. When have you found that a change in your attitude towards God, others, yourself, or the world around you, has led you to a more fulfilled or more fruitful life?

There is an immediacy about the call of Jesus: 'the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near'. Recall when you had a realisation that NOW was the moment of opportunity – for a change in your life, for a spiritual renewal, or a time to give a wholehearted yes to life. At this moment to what do you believe you are invited to say 'yes'?

John Byrne OSA

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St Margaret's & St Serf's Parish Bulletin

1st Sunday of Lent
Year B2 18th February 2024



Fr Raymond J Breslin PhB, STL
Rev. Deacon George F. Frame
Sr Mary McKeon RSC

96 Hallcraig Street, Airdrie ML6 6AW
01236 763370

St Margaret's Hall 07736 350604

Web: www.stmargaretsairdrie.org.uk
www.stserfsairdrie.org.uk

Vigil Mass, St Serf's at 5pm.

**Sunday Morning - 9am & 12 noon, Mass in St Margaret's
- 10.30am, Mass in St Serf's**

Weekday Mass

**Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am, St Margaret's
Wednesday & Friday, 10am, St Serf's**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation,
Thursday 7-8pm.**

Next weekend there will be a Special Collection for Sick & Retired Priests.

During Lent there will be an early morning Mass in St Margaret's at 7.15am Tuesday - Friday. There will also be Stations of the Cross every Sunday at 4pm in St Margaret's. If anyone would like to lead the Stations of the Cross please see either Fr Breslin or Sr Mary.

Note from Fr McPhail about Monklands Hospital:

Our Chaplains and Eucharistic Ministers want to offer all Catholic patients Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick during their stay in hospital. To enable this, it is very important to inform the nursing staff working on your or your loved one's ward so that they can let the Chaplaincy team know to visit.

HOSPICE CAFE The Dove Café at St Andrew's Hospice is open again at weekends, Saturday and Sunday 11am to 3pm. It is also open on weekdays, Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. Using the café is a pleasant way of contributing to hospice funds. Details of daily offers can be found online.

There will be a fundraising **Family Ceilidh for St Patrick's Night** on Friday 8th March in St Margaret's Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 for adults and £3.50 for children, ticket price included a Fish Supper. Any money raised will go to SYG - The Scottish Youth Group who travel to Lourdes at Easter with HCPT, Scotland. While in Lourdes SYG assist the Scottish groups in caring for the children, provide music for the Regional Liturgies and will arrange parties for all the children in the Scottish groups.

Family Vocation Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us. Please help more young people to follow your example by giving their lives in service as priests and religious.

If you are calling someone in our family to the priesthood or the religious life, please help them to say 'yes'.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

We remember those who have died recently

Ellen Grant, Kevin McGoldrick, Guy Kirk, Thomas O'Brien, Joseph Jesmont, Sister Anna Larkins, John Madden, Eddie Reilly, Gordon Coletti Haining.

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We Pray for Those whose Months Minds & Anniversaries Occur at this time.

May the Lord Grant Them Eternal Rest

Bill Campbell, Josephn Fitzpatrick, Richard McGeough, John McGeough, Helen Kelly, Agnes Martin, Sandra Wilson, Neil Wilson, Bridget Tighe.

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We Pray for Healing, Peace and Contentment for our Sick

John Rooney, Jacky Mullen, John McSherry, Tracy Horn, John Gallagher, Michael Gribben, Pauline Coyle, Jim Mulholland, Harry Spalding, Jessie Duncan, John Timmons, Gary McInnes, Anastasia BoycDonald, Mary Tuite, d, George Cassidy, Megan Wilson, Thomas Harty, Shannon Campbell, Emma Smith, Donna Marie Menzies, P McPake, M D Williamson, D McPake, F Toner, John Kane, Liam Calheur, Michael Tracy, William Wilson, Douglas Sweet, Jim Flynn, Hugh Bonnar, Rev Ross Murphy, James Campbell, Nora Cochrane, Elizabeth Easingwood, Anne Martin, Annette Coup, Sally Campbell, Andy Waite, Anna Danna, Hannah McGhee, James Fay, Laura Chalmers, Siena McVey, Jacob Canning, William Higgins, Kathleen Morgan, Stewart Hannah, John Keenan, Anne Logue, Marie Elizabeth Tucker, Esther O'Neil, Alex Jamieson, Tracy Dawson, Evan Smith, John Hamill, Geoffrey Hill, Hugh Carr, Nicola Cochrane, Kathleen Harold, Lucia Jane Gavin, Rayhan Mavid, Patsy Brannan, Myra Taylor, Liz McCall, Rena Tague, Leanne Marshall, Kathleen Johnson, Anne Marie Robertson, Catriona Paterson, Marie Robertson, Grace Clark, , Emily Grace Friel, Peter Sherry, Anne Molloy, Brenda Burns, Mhairi Green, Claire Fox, Emma Higgins, Martin Murphy, Mark Craig, Gerard Hamill, Patrick Hughes, Mary Gorman, Allison Forrester, Eddie Welsh, Maureen Brady, Stephen Moore, Lynn Arnott, Tom & Marie Boyle, Peter Sherry, Karen Hunter, Betty Muirhead, Morris Stewart, Margaret Mary Brown, Tom Roche, Patsy & Irene Boreen, John Miller, Desmond McKay, Margaret Duggan, Diane MacDonald, Margaret & George Goodall, Joseph McKay, Paul Burns, Jean Robinson, John Stronach, Sister Kathleen Owens, Ann-Patrica Kane, Sandra Ward, Andy Miller, Margaret Sexton, Maurice Stewart, Joseph Lamarra, Thomas Lally, Joe Binnie, Evelyn & Adolf Zaccardelli, William Mullen, May Wallace, Daniel Ward.

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The SSVP will lead the Rosary for the intentions of the parish on Saturday mornings after mass in St Margaret's.

St Margaret's SSVP are also looking for donations of men's toiletries.