

priests renew their promises to the Bishop of celibacy and Obedience. The sacred Oils are blessed and consecrated for the celebration of the sacraments of the Church for the next year. If you've never been to the Chrism Mass, it's worth attending.

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00pm
Reception and presentation of Oils to the parish. Procession with SCIAF boxes.

Traditionally, the gifts for the poor are offered at this Mass. In fact, rarely in the Roman Missal do we find such a specific rubric. Don't forget to bring your wee box for SCIAF. I will invite you to bring out your wee boxes from where you are sitting, as part of the Offertory procession. Please try and bring them to this Mass. In this Mass the Institution of the Priesthood and the Eucharist are celebrated with a focus on the priest as servant of the people of God.

Night Prayer 8.00pm (Approx.)

Rather than have people go away after Mass and come back out again, I suggest we have Night prayer soon after Mass – so once the Altar is stripped and the cloths, candles books etc are removed from the sanctuary, we will have Night Prayer. Hopefully, this way more people will stay at the chapel of repose (side altar) for the prayers before heading home.

GOOD FRIDAY 30 March

Morning Prayer 10.00 am
Confessions available after Morning Prayer.

The Passion of the Christ with Kissing of the Cross and Holy Communion 3.00pm
Stations of the Cross with Veneration of the Cross 7.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY 31 March
(Please note there will be no 5.30pm vigil)

Morning Prayer 10.00 am

After Morning prayer Joanne and Louise our Candidates will make their first confession and confessions for everyone else will be available thereafter, until 11.00 am

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night 8.30pm

Since the Roman Missal envisages a fire of substance (*Rogus* = bonfire), we will try and work out the best place to have the Fire. It also must be dark. If you have never been to the Easter Vigil, it is a beautiful service and I would encourage you to come along. In fact, the three days are really one day – that is the triduum (three days), are meant to be celebrated as one event – the Paschal Mystery from holy Thursday to Easter are one event and should be celebrated in that way. It doesn't make sense to go to one or

ST BERNADETTE'S NOTICES

Meeting for parents of First Communion children

On Tuesday 27 March for children who attend St Bernadette's parish there will be meeting at 7pm in the Church for parents. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. All children who are due to make their First Holy Communion this year must be represented. Specific details about First Holy Communion will be given at this meeting.

Easter Raffle

Tickets are now available.

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two – it only makes sense to go to all three. However, life is already busy for many of you so just to encourage you to do what you can. In this Mass Louise, Joanne and Kaiden will be Confirmed and make their First Holy Communion. Please remember them in your prayers.

EASTER SERVICES

EASTER SUNDAY 1 April

Mass of the Resurrection 10am

St Thomas's

Mass of the Resurrection 12 noon

St Bernadette's

The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ continues into Easter Sunday Morning. Easter Sunday

marks the end of the TRIDUUM and is the first day of the Easter Octave. The celebration of the Triduum concludes after vespers and the great 50 days begin. 40 days of fasting yields to 50 days of feasting (well that's the theory, If you have a lot of Mars Bar easter Eggs it may take 50 days).

EAST END DEANERY

Celebrating the Church's Ministry of Forgiveness and Healing

Over the Thursdays of Eastertide members of the East End Deanery will present a series of evenings on the Church's Ministry of Healing and Forgiveness. As last year, this event will move from parish to parish for 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm each Thursday evening. We begin in St. Joseph's on the Thursday after Easter, April 5th, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Please join us. More information on leaflets as you leave the church.

Choir Practice

On Easter Tuesday (3 April) at 7.00 pm. Any members new or old most welcome.

Meeting for parents of First Communion children

On Monday 26 March for children who attend St Thomas's parish there will be meeting at 7pm in the Church for parents. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. All children who are due to make their

First Holy Communion this year must be represented. Specific details about First Holy Communion will be given at this meeting.

Easter Egg Hunt

There will be around 50 or 60 Cream Eggs secretly hidden round the chapel grounds for – the altar servers are invited to have a hunt after Mass on Easter Sunday.

First Saturday

Beginning on April 7 there will be a First Saturday Mass in both parishes. 9 am in St Bernadette's and 10 am in St Thomas.

This Mass will also allow those who are completing the Divine Mercy to get to Mass. Confessions will also be available at the First Saturday Mass.

Receiving Communion

There seems to be a little confusion about when you can receive communion.

If you arrive at Holy Mass after the Gospel you may not receive communion. If you're a few moments late that's fine but if you miss the gospel, you are welcome to come for a bless-

ing. The reason for this has always been that you need to hear the gospel before you can receive.

The idea of Word and Sacrament are crucial to understating the Holy Mass. One other little detail, please do not light candles during Mass (after communion). You may light candles before mass or after.

Fundraising Cycle around Millport for parish funds

There is a sponsorship form and sign up sheets at the back of the Church for those interested. This will help us raise some money for the needs of the parish.

Can I suggest Monday 9 April after 10.00 am Mass – leave for Millport and cycle around aiming to be home early evening. More details to follow.

INTENTIONS

Those sick at home or hospital

Elizabeth Wright, Hugh Haggerty, Amanda Newell, Anne Baillie and all the sick & housebound of both Parishes.

Recently Dead

Patricia Black, John Ness, Frances Topping, Norah Owens, Bro. Kentigern Heenan

Anniversaries

John Mangan, Stephen Mangan, Isobel Murphy, Charles Smith, Mary Smith, John Ward (34th), Peter Markey, Paul Hughes, Josephine Deighan, John Muir, Maureen Hyndman (4 yrs), John Lynch (22 yrs).

PARISH DONATIONS

17.03–18.03.2018

St Thomas's
£906

St Bernadette's
£314

Lenten Alms: Sick and Retired Priests

£265

£180