



# Parish Newsletter

St Fillan's, King St, Newport-on-Tay

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Queen St,  
Tayport



**Parish Priest: Very Rev. Monsignor Patrick McInally**

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## 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

Year: C (1) Psalm Week: 3 Liturgical colour: green

*Alleluia, alleluia! A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!*

**First reading:** *Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *103 (102) The Lord is compassionate and gracious.*

**Second reading:** *1 Corinthians 15:45-49 We bear the image of the man of dust, but also the image of the man of Heaven.*

**Gospel:** *Luke 6: 27-38. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.*

### HOLY MASS TIMES

*Our Lady Star of the Sea: Saturday Vigil: 5pm*

*Eucharistic Service: Monday and Friday 10am*

*St Fillan's:*

*Sunday Mass 10.15am*

*Weekday Masses with the Bishop. Eucharistic Services are suspended whilst we are fortunate enough to have opportunity to join the Bishop in celebrating weekday Mass in Newport. Days vary depending on the Bishop's Diary, as Diocesan Duties vary.*

*Sign up to the Whatsapp Group set up by Sam Morton to share news of when Bishop Andrew will be celebrating Mass:*  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/COZWXsnfWEZ6ZKK3IUBZLP>.

### Mgr Pat's Corner

In September, at the request of the Bishops of Scotland, I went to Quito, Ecuador, for an International Eucharistic Conference. The theme was 'Fraternity to heal a broken world'. There were several excellent speakers, but this one from Dr Rodrigo Guerra (Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America) was particularly good.

Dr Rodrigo outlined 4 main issues that are the root cause of a broken society.

1. **The imbalance between rich and poor:** this is big problem throughout the world, but especially in Latin America - regarded as among the worst offenders. A recent report by OXFAM suggested that 1% of the richest individuals own more than double the rest of the world's population.
2. **Reconciliation and Forgiveness:** the only real answer is the need to return to the call of Jesus Christ in the Gospel 'to be reconciled', to forgive past wrongs and to show pardon to those who have offended us. If we are to build 'fraternity' we need to recognise the value of each individual. But building 'fraternity' must begin within me, and within our families and communities before it will spread to a wider world, and help to heal a broken society.
3. **Migration:** the problem with migration is that people come because they suffer from many different issues, which are often overlooked. They need to be accepted, and their dignity and human rights need to be respected.
4. **Corruption and the abuse of power:** many politicians and individuals see themselves as the only

voice of truth; that what they say is what we have to believe and follow; that they are the saviours of society today. They distort the truth, and tell lies to give credibility to their philosophy.

5. As Christians, our true vocation is to be 'salt to the earth and light to the world'. We have to accept our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to work tirelessly for that 'fraternity' where we are all equals, where there is no 'us' and 'them', no divisions, where the dignity of each and every individual is respected.
6. There has to be a recognition among politicians and governments of the important place that Family, Schools and Church play in this whole process. The task of working towards 'fraternity' is not just the responsibility of Bishops and Priests, it belongs to all God's people.

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**Special Prayers** Please pray for those who have died recently, especially Harry Vincent whose life, as full of zest, energy and rhythm as his music-making, was celebrated last week. Whilst wider community may know his gigging, accordion, flute, guitar or even mouth-organ music, those who worshipped at St Fillan's over past decades will fondly remember his organ playing, keeping the congregation to time and raising spirits. Pray for his family and all those facing loss.

Pray for the Pope, who is in hospital with pneumonia, and all those who are ill, whether facing physical or mental suffering, and those who care for them and help support those who rely on the stricken ones.

*To request prayers or Priestly assistance email Mgr Pat.*

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**'FREEDOM IS PARTICIPATION'**: As you'll recall, Pope Frances has involved the whole Church in a Synodal Journey, a drive to ensure it listens and remains a living Church of Hope.

Vatican News reports on a recent webinar launched by Bishops and Media bodies, entitled *CommunicAction for Building Community*: blending the importance of communication, action and community in the Jubilee Year. The drive challenges perceptions that the Church, 'the World's oldest institution', is 'stuck in the past' and like other Institutions, in polarized societies, has lost trust. The challenge is not just to be connected, (hard enough because of differences), but to be united.

Sharing stories to build hope helps create spaces for dialogue, rather than divisive assertion of ideas that tends to foster an unhealthy culture of silence, limiting communication to social 'bubbles'.

With fresh outlook, and Synodal involvement of young Catholics, digital space is recognised as 'a new missionary page', for listening, accompanying, and helping people deepen their relationship with God and others. Instead of being 'trapping', virtual spaces should lead to authentic human relationships. It sounds radical because it recognises human experience as 'the ultimate theological space.'

The Synodal journey has already prompted change with increased participation of women and lay people in Church decision-making. The call to participate comes to all who make up the Church's body, with many ways to respond.

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### **THE MASS: How are Lay People involved at St Fillan's?:**

Meeting in the church **7pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>**

Join a group considering Church routines and Sacristy duties; and Rota-ed Roles: such as being a Eucharistic minister, a reader, a cantor, a server...There are many topics to discuss, such as music-making. Come along to find out more. Help us draw people in to grow in Faith and Service. We will be considering the Newport context specifically but all are welcome.

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### **Camino Trip to Santiago de Compostela.**

Then longen Folk to go on Pilgrimage! Geoffrey Chaucer wrote of Pilgrims setting off in April to Canterbury in the Middle Ages. It is amazing to have the chance to join Mgr Pat on a modern Autumnal pilgrimage to Europe, to the Shrine of St James, the Apostle. Details are now out! It will be from *13<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October*. A Presentation is available for anyone who would like to see what is on offer. If any one is interested contact Fiona at Cupar (07518071912) and she will give you all the details.

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Thank you for continuing to support the Food Bank. Remember also to keep an eye out for double knitting wool. Help with the Café is welcomed.