

# *St. Joseph's Helensburgh*

Parish Priest: Mgr. John A. Hughes

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**\*\*Masses: All Masses are currently suspended. St. Joseph's Church is closed at this time.\*\***

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## Fifth Sunday of Lent

### SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC MASS

As you are aware, not only has the public celebration of Mass been suspended, but all places of worship have also been closed for the foreseeable future. Our church has complied immediately with this directive. While we recognise the great pain that both of these measures have brought to parishioners, we also appreciate your understanding of the necessity for proper safeguarding for the well-being of all. Many churches, even some in our local area, have 'live-streamed' celebration of Mass. A list of these has been added to the website, under the heading 'News'.

### PASTORAL CARE FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

We wish to assure parishioners - who have to stay at home for health reasons, or who are self-isolating due to the Corona Virus, and have no family, neighbours or friends to provide support – that they can access our pastoral resources in the parish. For this crisis, the Pastoral Care Group and the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Parish Volunteers have combined their energies to try to meet any gap in provision of food items, collection of essential medicines and maintain contact by telephone. If any parishioner would like support, please phone **07954 163267**. This is the contact number for SVDP. They will deal with your request appropriately.

Anyone who feels able to help in this ministry of volunteering to help 'at risk' groups can also phone this number to register their interest. This will be greatly appreciated.

We have a remarkably caring parish community! St. Joseph has inspired us with a spirit of sensitive, practical care for Christ in one another. We can rightly celebrate this God-given charism. St. Joseph, our Patron, will lead us as he led Mary and the Child Jesus through these "deserts rough and wild".

### COLLECTIONS

During these weeks without Sunday Mass, if you would like to contribute to the support of the parish, you can set up a Direct Debit or give a cheque made out to the Parish. The Parish account is held in the Bank of Scotland; A/C no. 00821691; Sort Code: 80 08 31; St Joseph's RC Church Helensburgh, Archdiocese of Glasgow. It goes without saying that parish overheads continue, even during a period such as this. Your generosity is as always most appreciated.

### FOODBANK

Donations are very much needed at this difficult time. Please either take your donation to the rear of the Red Cross Hall in Glenfinlas St. (Mon & Frid 10am –noon and Thurs 6-8pm). There are also in-store Collection Boxes in the Co-operative and Waitrose stores in Helensburgh

### Prayer Corner

#### Our Prayers are Requested

**For parishioners who are sick.**

*We pray each week for all who are sick or housebound in our parish community, and all who are affected in any way by the Corona Virus, as well as all professionals working so hard at this time to deal with Covid-19.*

**For all who have Died Recently:** Carol Killen

**Anniversaries:** John Gaughan

***Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.***

*Items for the Bulletin should be emailed to: [sjh41lom@gmail.com](mailto:sjh41lom@gmail.com) - by Thursday, at the latest.*