

## **Christians against Poverty.**

Jesus said to his host - "*The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends or family and rich neighbours, the kind of people who will return the favour. Invite some people who never get invited out -the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.*"

As we move out of lockdown and begin to come round tables again, these words from Jesus are a real challenge. With whom do we share our time and tables? A poignant question as we reflect on the economic impacts of COVID, knowing how hard it has hit communities that were already facing the rising tide of poverty. For families carrying the burden of debt, unemployment and many facing issues of isolation, relationship breakdown and loss, life is tough.

**Christians Against Poverty** (CAP) is a UK debt counselling and anti-poverty charity that, at its heart, seeks to connect the local Church with those in most need, regardless of background. Our unique partnership between individual Churches, across a wide range of denominations, who know their local communities and our highly trained, FCA regulated, head office teams, work to enable families to journey out of debt. Debt can be all consuming. Shame and embarrassment rob people of dignity. Before CAP's help, almost 1/5 miss meals daily. Over 35% of clients say that they have seriously considered or attempted suicide because of debt before CAP got involved. Here in Scotland, our network of 24 community based debt centres offers hope to those in the most difficult situations. Through over 20 years of providing free debt advice locally, we know that there is always a solution. Lives can be rebuilt.

At CAP, we know debt isn't just a financial issue. We strive to offer people the very best support that goes the extra mile as standard. We are interested in whole person transformation. Our army of volunteers never shy to provide kindness and compassion, a friendly face, a listening ear, electric top ups or a cooked meal. Bringing families round their tables, just like Jesus called of his debt and showed him a way forward. This created space for him to heal, to rebuild his relationship, his well-being and his life. Andy is now debt free, he paid it all back, married and working as a local debt centre manager, helping others find freedom.

***Emma Jackson. National Director Scotland.***

dinner to? Who are you going to invite? [capscotland.org](http://capscotland.org) or call 0800 328 006 for free, confidential help.

6th Sunday of Easter – B – 9th of May

## **Sunday Collection.**

St Margaret Mary's = 375.68

St Bartholomew's = 422.54

Many thanks to all who have posted envelopes and donations through the letterbox!

## **Parish Pastoral Council meetings:**

Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> (7pm) St. Margaret Mary (in the parish hall)

Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup> (7pm) St. Bartholomew's (in the parish hall)

We will also look at the frequency and distribution of weekend masses.

## **Financial status:**

As you may well be aware, our financial year ends on March 31 each year. The actual report is some 30+ pages but to give an overview summary, I outline below the starting balances as of April 01 2020 and the closing balances as of March 31 2021.

We know that no fund-raising/charitable support has been possible due to the restrictions we have lived this year, and that the expense generated by the purchase of "Covid19" related products was never foreseen in any budget. However, people's generosity has been impressive. Where necessary, essential maintenance work has been carried out, but both churches still require major attention which automatically means major costs. Insurance and church levy costs (each parish) account for around £10,000 per year! Recently, St. Bartholomew's fell well short in the electrical inspection and St. Margaret Mary's is currently undergoing the same level of inspection.

But let us not simply concentrate on the economical. God is good. We have two missionary communities full of Easter hope journeying towards the power of Pentecost. No, we haven't won the lottery, but we are blessed and invited to be creative in identifying how best to support (physically- our time - and economically) our Catholic presence here in Castlemilk. "*Father may they be one as you and I are one*" (John 17)

	Opening balance:	Closing balance:
St. Bartholomew's	£38,010.49	£34,422.72
St. Margaret Mary's	£49,076.49	£28,666.22

*Recently Deceased.* - Carole Anne Roderickson, Sr. Rosaleen Sheridan, Betty Nugent, Marilyn McCann, Edward Birney, George Riley, Sadie Barnes, Margaret Alison, Henry McNeece, Kathleen Reed, Bernadette Murphy, Ella Simpson, Agnes McQuilter, Joseph Mullen, Jimmy Colrain, Sean Harte, Annie MacKintosh,

*Anniversaries / Months' Mind.* - Brian Craig, Charlie Cullen, Hugh Brawley, Betty & Carlie McGroarty, Paul Martin, James & Catherine Martin, William & Mary Liddle Alexander Lyons, John Charlton, Pat & Sadie McCourt, Pat & Eddie Friel, Bill & Dina Strain, Pat & Margaret Donegan, Kathleen Sweeney, Linda Kelly, John Bryson, Catherine Simpson, James McVay, Robert Taylor, Joseph Gallacher, Isabelle Eadie, Jackie Kerr, Gerry Glancey.

*Special Intentions* – Rita McGarvey, Craig Derwin, Peter Patrick Sowa, Mary Johnson, Sinclair Sutherland, Kirsty Alexander, Esther Nyalay Tucker, Orla Devine.

### **Global vaccine crisis sends ominous signal for climate change fight.**

The stark gap in vaccination rates between the world's rich and poor countries is emerging as a test for how the world responds to that other global challenge: averting the worst effects of climate change.

Of the more than 1.1 billion vaccinations administered globally, the vast majority have gone into the arms of people who live in the wealthiest countries. The United States, where nearly half the population has received at least one dose, sits on millions of surplus doses, while India, with a 9 percent vaccination rate, shatters records in new daily infections. In New York City, you hear cries of relief at the chance to breathe free and unmasked; in New Delhi, cries for oxygen. The vaccine gap presents an object lesson for climate action because it signals the failure of richer nations to see it in their self-interest to urgently help poorer ones fight a global crisis. That has direct parallels to global warming. Poor countries consistently assert that they need more financial and technological help from wealthier ones if the world as a whole is going to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. So far, the richest countries — which are also the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases — haven't come up with the money.

More immediately, this year's vaccine shortages in the nations of the global South could hinder their ability to participate in the United Nations-led climate talks in Glasgow set for November, minimizing their voice in critical policy decisions about how to wean the global economy away from fossil fuels. For full article see: *Justice and peace Scotland*.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May – The Ascension of the Lord (solemnity)**

## ***St. Bartholomew's – St. Margaret Mary's***

### ***The Catholic Community of Castlemilk***

***Under the care of the Xaverian Missionaries***

**6th Sunday of Easter B – May 9th**

*The Parishes of St. Bartholomew and St. Margaret Mary (Designated Religious Charity, Number SC018140) are parishes in the Archdiocese of Glasgow.*

32 Croftfoot Drive, Glasgow,  
G45 0NG  
Tel: 0141 634 2051

99 Dougrie Road, Glasgow,  
G45 9NT  
Tel: 0141 634 2051

### **Mass times.**

Publicly attended masses will be live-streamed every day: Mon/Wed/Fri at 0930am (St. Bartholomew's), and Tues/Thurs/Sat at 10am. (St. Margaret Mary's). Saturday evening 6pm and Sunday morning 10:30.

**Parish Priest** Fr. Ian Bathgate sx

**Assistants:** Frs. Eugenio Montesi sx, Willie Hattie sx, Robert Sowa.

**Deacon:** Rev. John Cairns

### **Safeguarding Coordinators:**

Lorraine Faulds 0141 384 9570

Gena Anderson 0771 939 1172

[www.saintbartholomewcastlemilk.org.uk](http://www.saintbartholomewcastlemilk.org.uk)  
twitter: @StBartsMilk

[www.saintmargaretmary.org.uk](http://www.saintmargaretmary.org.uk)  
twitter: @StMargaretMarys

**e-mail for both parishes:** [stbartholomew@rcag.org.uk](mailto:stbartholomew@rcag.org.uk)  
facebook: @stbartsG45

Facebook:

### **Upcoming Funerals.**

*Marylin McCann, St. Bartholomew's 0930 - May 10*  
*Elizabeth Nugent St Bartholomew's 11am. May 13*  
*(This is a Thursday)*

*Carole Anne Roderickson St. Bartholomew's 0930*  
*- May 14*  
*Edward Birney, St. Margaret Mary, May 21 10am.*  
*(This is a Friday)*

Online  
Mass  
from each  
parish  
streamed  
live on  
respective  
Facebook  
pages.