

## SAINT JOHN XXIII

On the day of his beatification Pope John Paul II described the impact John XXIII had made on the world. *'How many people were won over by his simplicity of heart, combined with a broad experience of people and things!. His style of speaking and acting was new, as was his approach to ordinary people and to the powerful of the world.'* (Those words could easily be applied to Pope Francis also).



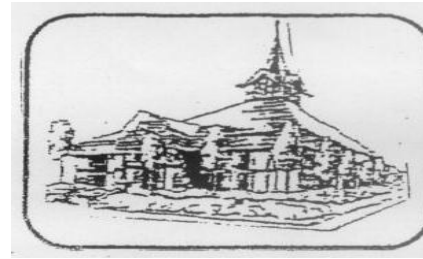
This broad experience of people and things involved close contact with his own family of tenant farmers, wide experience of the life of the diocese in which he grew up, contact with the world of Islam and of Orthodox Christianity. In all of these sometimes fraught situations he was able to maintain a natural friendliness and humour, a person who was relaxed and informal. In October 1958 he was elected pope just a month short of his seventy-seventh birthday. It was generally assumed that he would be a 'caretaker pope' who would just keep an eye on things on an even keel for a few years. Those who thought that had seriously underestimated him.

He decided to summon an Ecumenical Council. He made the first announcement to a group of Cardinals gathered in the Basilica of St. Paul. The news was greeted with total silence which can hardly have been the encouragement he was hoping for.

In his encyclical *'Mater et Magistra'* he writes that being concerned only with people's spiritual welfare is not enough; the Christian must also be concerned with their general well-being, health and education and so on.

Less than two months before his death, he published his second great encyclical, *Pacem In Terris*. *'Real peace requires mutual trust'* he said.

It is fitting that he is to be canonised by a man elected like him at the age of seventy-six who is clearly not a 'caretaker' and who will please God, also turn a new page in Church history.



## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Sun 27th April 2014 Vol.31 No 17

## SAINT JOHN PAUL II

We can only imagine that there must be quite a celebration when John Paul reached the gates of heaven. After all it has often been said of him that he was a 'maker of saints'. In his almost twenty-seven years as Pope he canonised 482 saints—that's more than the Church did in four hundred years. If we add in the number of witnesses to holiness that he beatified the number rises to 1,338. And now he is to be numbered among the saints.



The Second Vatican Council defined holiness as *'the perfection of love'*. *'Mercy, love's second name'* as John Paul liked to put it, is at the root of our journey towards holiness'. *'That mercy flowed from the Crucified Christ. In looking to him we start believing that love is present in the world and that this love is more powerful than any evil.'*

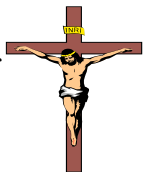
The photo of John Paul visiting his would-be-assassin in jail is an eloquent reminder of how he lived out this mercy in his life.

There can be little doubt that the Rosary was John Paul II's favourite prayer. It sustained him not least in the horrors of World War II and again during his life and ministry under Communism. We can only imagine how intensely he prayed it during the years of onerous, delicate and often dangerous tasks as Pope.

Attentiveness to the Spirit was to become one of the distinctive features of John Paul's prayer, teaching and action. The Spirit made him a man of dialogue as we saw in the famous 1986 Assisi meeting of the leaders of the world's religion.

It was the Spirit who prompted him, in the concluding days of his life's journey, to whisper: *'Let me go to the house of the Father'*

**SYMPATHY** We offer our sympathy to the Sisters Of Mercy and family of Sister Rosario who died on Thursday . Sister Rosario worked for many years in this parish. To commemorate her life there will be a special Mass on Tuesday at 7.15pm. All welcome.



**BAPTISMS** Our parish family welcomes:  
John Patrick Nixon 24 Harty Court.

**FIRST FRIDAY** Friday is the first Friday of May. The sick will be attended. Confessions will be at the usual times on Thursday. There will be a Holy Hour on Thursday from 7.45-8.45pm

### OFFERTORY PROCESSION

**6.00pm Tiernan Devine & family**

**12.30pm Grace Irvine** and her family  
If you have a First Communion child who is attending a school outside the parish and who would like to carry up the gifts at Mass please leave your name address and telephone number in the Parochial House

**Anniversaries** We pray for  
Eileen Starrett, David Brinkley,  
Paul Keogh, Henry McMullan,  
Patrick Walsh Geraldine Taylor  
Eamon Buckley, Laurence Hunter  
Bridie Phelan

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS for May

**Vigil Mass** Donal Dunne Peter King  
William McGeehan Ella Mc Callion

**9.30am** Sheila Dunne  
Tadgh Coughlan

**11.00 am** Neil Barr, Ann Sands,  
Frank & Sheila Keogh,

**12. 30 p.m.** Ann Heaney Catriona  
McFadden, Caoimhe Hegarty,  
Dominique Collins, Angela Collins

### READERS FOR MAY

**Vigil Mass** Sister Paula

**9.30am** Bill Heaney  
Jim Campbell

**11.00am** Joe Morrison  
Lorraine Conway

**12.30pm** Kathleen Corrigan  
Jackie Knox

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** 20th April  
amounted to £2482.70 and  
€274.13. Thank you .

**MASS** in honour of Blessed  
Alexandrina will be held in  
Termonbacca on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at  
7:30 pm. Everyone welcome.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY  
DEVOTIONS** will take place in St  
Columba's Church, Long Tower  
today Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 3.00pm  
Devotions and Benediction.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
available in the local area 7 nights a  
week. Contact AA at 90434848

**CELEBRATION MASS TO MARK  
THE CANONISATION OF POPE  
JOHN PAUL II AND POPE JOHN  
XXIII** You are invited to attend a  
Diocesan Mass to celebrate the  
canonisation of Pope John Paul II and  
Pope John XXIII in Saint Eugene's  
Cathedral, Derry today Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>  
April at 3.00pm. Bishop Donal  
McKeown will be the main celebrant. .  
Refreshments will be served after  
Mass. For more information: Diocesan  
Catechetical Centre 7126 4087.

**TROCAIRE BOXES** All remaining  
Trocaire Boxes should be handed in as  
soon as possible. This year the  
Government has agreed to match your  
donations £1 for £1. We appeal to you  
to return your Trocaire Box this week  
as returns have to be in the bishop's  
office by 4th May.

**THE LITTLE WAY NOVENA** St  
Eugene's Cathedral  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May.  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May:  
Mass at 6.30am and 10.00am .  
Evening Devotions 7.30pm

**LOUGH DERG** Come - be a pilgrim  
- for a day on a One Day Retreat  
or Quiet Day or for three days on  
the Three Day Pilgrimage. Day  
Retreats begin on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.  
To find out more visit our website  
or Maureen & Sharon can also help  
you tel: 071 9861518 (from NI 028  
686 32391)email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

### HOLY FAMILY PILGRIMAGE

**LOURDES: 16-21ST JULY.**

£625. Deposit £200.

Savings and Deposits Parochial House

Thursdays 8-9pm

Tel 07732468511

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Weekday Rota for May

**Mon 10.00am** Paul Kyte

Jackie Quigg

**7.15pm** Danny Kivelehan

Neill Barr

**Tues 10.00am** Sr. Anne

Sally Cassidy

**7.15pm** Doreen Rice Wray

Mark Mc Chrystal

**Wed 10.00am** Bernie Crawford

Maria Kivelehan

**7.15pm** Bronagh Sharkey

Gerry Sharkey

**Thurs 10.00am** Ella Mc Callion

Alec Bradley

**7.15pm** Matthew Woodcock

Frank Keogh

**Fri 10.00am** Brian Boyle

Chris Mc Cullagh

**7.15pm** John Garnon

Myra Merrigan

**Sat 10.00am** Brian McLaughlin

Joe Doherty

**PRECIOUS LIFE** Make your vote count for unborn  
children - . There will be a public meeting in The Tower  
Hotel Butcher St to hear more on this serious issue on  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April@7:30pm. For further information,  
contact PRECIOUS LIFE  
90278484 or [info@preciouslife.com](mailto:info@preciouslife.com)