



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

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20th January 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee



FIRST READING This reading contains a message of hope for God's people at one of the lowest moments in their history. Jerusalem lay in ruins. The city's plight reflected that of the nation as a whole. Israel, once God's bride, was now like a widow bereft of children. However, her husband, God, has not forgotten her. There will be a new wedding feast, and God and his people will be like newlyweds again. This sets the stage for the story of the wedding feast at Cana.

SECOND READING Here Paul is challenging the attitudes of the Corinthians towards spiritual gifts. Some thought that their gifts were more important than those of others and regarded gifts as given to them for their own glory. Paul tells them that gifts are for service. Though there are many 'charisms' or spiritual gifts, all come from the same Spirit, and should be used for the building up of the community.

GOSPEL The miracle of Cana is described as the first of the 'signs' given Jesus. We have to see beyond the sign to the thing signified. The water turned into wine symbolises the old order yielding to the new. St. John depicts Mary as involved at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, and again at the end of it when she is present at the foot of the Cross. Mary is thus associated with the whole of his ministry. But her role must always be seen in relation to that of her Son.

PROJECT GAMBIA

is a charity based in Mossend which was set up to support the feeding programme of St. John's School for the Deaf in the Catholic Diocese of Banjul in The Gambia, one of the only schools for deaf children in one of Africa's poorest countries where very little charities exist. As the charity is ran entirely by volunteers, 100% of donation go directly to supporting the children at the school.



You are invited to celebrate

<i>Mon</i>	6.50pm 7.00pm	Evening Prayer Holy Mass
<i>Tue</i>	11.40am 12.00noon	Holy Rosary Holy Mass
<i>Wed</i>		
<i>Thu</i>	9.20am 9.30am	Morning Prayer Holy Mass
<i>Fri</i>	9.20am 9.30am	Morning Prayer Holy Mass
<i>Sat</i>	9.20am 9.30am 6.00pm	Marian Prayer Holy Mass Holy Mass
<i>Sun</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass

“Don't carry a load in your pack”

I invite you to help me offload some of the 'stuff' that I have accumulated and certainly do not need. I have left some books, CDs and DVDs at the back of the church. They will exhibit my eclectic taste in reading as well as my dodgy taste in music and films. As I look through more and more 'stuff' I will keep adding to the tables at the back so if there's nothing you fancy this week - have another look in a week's time as there's bound to be more books, DVDs etc. added.

If you wish, you can leave a small donation in the box provided which will go to a local charity called 'PROJECT GAMBIA' set up by Mossend man, Francis Devine, and some of his friends.

Thank you.

Fr. Grant

CATHOLICS WITH SAME SEX ATTRACTION

MOTHERWELL DIOCESE has set up a **COURAGE CHAPTER** of pastoral ministry for those in our Diocesan community with same sex attraction, who are looking to live faithfully their Catholic faith. Courage aims to help members find peace through fellowship, prayer, the Sacraments, and an appreciation of the Church's teaching on chastity. For information or advice please email in confidence our Diocesan priest chaplain at Courage@rcdom.org.uk.

THINKING OF PRIESTHOOD?

Fr Brian Lamb, Vocations' Director, asks that anyone thinking about the priesthood make contact with him at Joseph's Blantyre - 01698 823896. In order to be ready to be accepted for next year's Propaedeutic Period.



CATHOLIC MEN'S SOCIETY The next meeting will be on Monday at 7.30pm following evening Mass. The meeting is open to all men over 18 years old. If you are interested in knowing more about your faith then this might be the place for you. To know more about this contact George McAleenan.

What do people die of?

The leading global killers

Cardiovascular diseases killed 17.6 million people – around one-third of all deaths.

Cancers were the second largest, claiming around 9 million (16 percent or every sixth death globally).

Next are **respiratory and diabetes** - related diseases = together they accounted for more than 39 million deaths

COMPARE THIS TO THE **56 MILLION INDUCED ABORTIONS** which occur each year worldwide!!!

Think of the waste of gifts and talents which could have contributed so much to the welfare of society if these babies had been allowed to see the light of day!

MILNE LADIES

Milne Ladies will meet after Mass, 7.30pm, on Monday 21st January. All ladies welcome.

ST. MARGARET'S ADOPTION SOCIETY - donations left at the crib amounted to £345

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

27th January 2019	Vigil	11.00am
Ministers of the WORD	Joe Nugent Robert Rennie Lena Waring	G. McAleenan Rachael Mason Yvonne Currie
Ministers of the EUCHARIST	Liz Simpson Agnes Hunter	Mary Menzies M. Rose Nelis

200 CLUB JANUARY WINNERS

Congratulations to this month's winners:

- 1st Prize (£50) No 173 Mary Burns
- 2nd Prize (£25) No 24 Isobel Clark

The next draw takes place on Sun 3rd Feb, subscriptions can be paid after both Masses that weekend. New members are welcome, cost £1/month.

The 50 worst places in the world to be a Catholic PERSECUTION REPORT 2019

'Open Doors' - the Human Rights Organization

North Korea (1) tops the World Watch List for the 18th year in a row. Persecution of Christians is getting worse. Five years ago only one country – North Korea – was ranked in the 'extreme' category for its level of persecution of Christians. This year, **11 countries score enough to fit that category.**

China (27) has risen 16 places in the list after new Regulations for Religious Affairs came into force in February 2018.

In **Myanmar (18)** tens of thousands of members of the Karen tribe – a majority-Christian ethnic tribe – have been killed and least 120,000 displaced.

India (10) has entered the top ten for the first time. The BJP-led government continues to promote an extremist militant Hindu agenda.

In **Turkey (26)** President Erdogan has been stirring up ultra-nationalistic sentiment for some time and this has caused added difficulties for Christians in Turkey. As radical Islam has been forced out of the Middle East, it has spread into sub-Saharan Africa. Almost 30 violent Islamic extremist groups are known to be active in the region. Islamic militants also have also gained strength in failed states like **Somalia (3)**, **Libya (4)** and **Yemen (8)**, where they continue to recruit, and capture pockets of territory.

The two places where Christians suffer the most violence are **Nigeria (12)** and **Pakistan (5)**. 35 of the countries/areas where persecution is the worst is Islamic. Islamic persecution is nothing new being part of the Koran but what has changed is its geographical spread. Islamic State and other Islamic militants have been forced out of the Middle East but a lot of these fighters have simply moved elsewhere, taking their violent excesses with them. Increasingly, they have moved into sub-Saharan Africa. Almost 30 violent Islamic groups are known to be active in the region: most perpetrate violence in more than one country. Some of them continue to hold expatriate Christian aid workers as hostages in Mali, Burkina Faso and other countries.

Islamic groups are also active in **Egypt (16)** which has the Middle East's largest population of Christians: the Copts, estimated at about 10% of the close to 100 million population. Islamic State in Sinai continued their threat to 'wipe out' the Copts by terrorising the community with targeted murders of respected local leaders such as doctors and vets. Other Islamist groups bombed churches and killed a bus-load of pilgrims on the same road twice within 18 months.

PARISH CALENDARS £2.50
WESTERN CALENDARS £3.20