4th Sunday of Lent

First Reading 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

The first reading refers to the edict of Cyrus, the king of Persia, permitting the exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple, which had been burned by the Chaldeans as a punishment from God for the infidelities of the Chosen People.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

In today's extract St. Paul is emphasizing the gratuitousness of the gift of faith which the Ephesian converts have received. This gift which God gave them, even when they were sinners, had united them to Christ, and has given them the right to share in His glorious resurrection and inherit heaven with Him and through Him.

Gospel Reading John 3:14-21

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

Churches to reopen for Holy Week and Easter

The Scottish Government has announced that church services can resume from Friday March 26 with maximum numbers attending liturgical services lifted to 50 (rather than 20) where the building can guarantee social distancing. Good news.

This means Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Masses can now be celebrated in church. Deo Gratias.

SCIAF Sunday -14th March

This Sunday, the 4th Sunday of Lent, is SCIAF Sunday. This year SCIAF's WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal will going towards reaching out to many vulnerable children with disabilities in South Sudan.

All donations to SCIAF's WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal, made before 11th May, will be doubled by the UK government. Your donations will help SCIAF's life changing work around the world, while match funding from the UK government will provide a lifeline to children with disabilities. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Flourish Lent Edition

The new Lent edition of Flourish is out now. This edition covers the possibility of Pope Francis making a flying visit to Glasgow to address world leaders on climate change issues at the end of the year.

Also.. The Year of St Joseph - what's it all about and how to celebrate it. There are articles by four local priests on lockdown one year on, and a special guide to living Holy Week with the scriptures from Fr Tom Kilbride. Mary McGinty joins Flourish (after many years with the Scottish Catholic Observer which has now ceased publication) with a new column, Musings with Mary, and there is the usual blend of news, reflection and articles from across the Archdiocese and beyond.

All online for now at <u>https://www.flourishnewspaper.co.uk/downloads/Flourish-March-2021.pdf</u> but back in print next month!

ST COLUMBA'S GLASGOW

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Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

Very Rev Peter Dowling SSS Fr Darren Malsen SSS Bro Gerard Kinder SSS

> SUNDAY MASSES Saturday Vigil 4.30pm 11.00am and 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES 10am and 12.30pm

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION 10.00am and 7pm

St Columba's Church

Newsletter

4th Sunday of Lent



14th March 2021

St Columba's, Glasgow Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

74 Hopehill Road, Glasgow, G20 7HH