

OUR LADY AND ST. HELEN'S

CONDORRAT.

117, Achray Road, G67 4JG

Tel. 01236-731-258

Priest: Rev. Paulinus Onyenuru OP.

Deacon: Paul McNair

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Mass times

Monday to Friday	10 am
Saturday Vigil Mass	6 pm
Sunday	10 am & 12 noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday	9:00 -9:45 am
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Confessions

Tuesday and Thursday	9:20 am
Saturday	5:20 pm

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Sunday, 30th of August, 2026.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9

The word of the Lord has become for me a reproach.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63(62)

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1-2

Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself.

Reflection: When God Places a Fire in Your Heart

Have you ever noticed that when you are truly passionate about something, almost nothing can stop you? When a dream has taken hold of your heart, obstacles and disappointments do not necessarily make you give up. Sometimes, they make you more determined. The greater the difficulty, the stronger the desire to see the dream fulfilled. Passion gives us the courage to keep going when the easier option would be to walk away.

Something similar happens with a call from God. When God places a mission in our hearts, it can become impossible to ignore. The prophet Jeremiah experienced this very deeply. He felt deceived by God and complained about the suffering that came with his prophetic ministry. He wanted to remain silent and stop speaking in God's name. Yet he discovered that God's word had become like a fire burning within him: he could not keep it in.

Jeremiah teaches us something important about vocation. A genuine calling does not mean that everything will be easy. The presence of difficulties does not necessarily mean that we have chosen the wrong path. Sometimes, the very struggles we encounter reveal how deeply God has entrusted something to us. Jeremiah was discouraged and exhausted, but the fire of God's word would not allow him to remain silent.

Jesus takes this even further when he said, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me." Following Christ is not a promise of a life without obstacles. It is a call to remain faithful even when discipleship becomes costly. Jesus reminds us that there is something greater than comfort, success or even the preservation of our earthly lives. It is fulfilling God's purpose.

When I speak about fulfilling God's purpose, I am not necessarily talking about becoming a priest or a religious sister or brother. God has given each of us a particular gift, a unique way in which we can contribute something beautiful to the world and, through it, help others to see the hand of God at work. It may be through painting, singing, writing, teaching, caring for

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others, building, research, creating, encouraging, or simply bringing joy and hope into the lives of those around us.

The question, therefore, is not simply, “What do I want to become?” but also, “What has God placed within me that He wants me to share with the world?” Like Jeremiah, discover that which makes you special. Keep the fire burning and reach your full potential.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: Colours of the day	No. 202
Offertory: Blest are you Lord, God of all creation	No. 175
Communion: The love I have for you Lord	No. 662
Recessional: Follow me, Follow Me	No. 259

Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (Tuesday), **St. Gregory the Great** (Memorial, Thursday).

Fatima Devotion Mass

The Fatima Devotion comes up on the **5th of September**, with Mass at **10 AM**. Rosary begins after Mass

Death: *John Wastle.*

Month's Mind: *Andrew Millar*

Anniversary: *Josephine Herrity, Annie McAuslanthe*

While **Fr. Paulinus OP** is away on holiday, **Fr. Harry McKay** will be available and can be reached on **07833944257**.

Hall Management and Booking Arrangements

We appreciate and thank those who have kindly accepted responsibility for helping us manage the Hall. All Hall bookings should be made through the new team. In addition, details of all **approved parish events** should be communicated to them so that the Hall diary can be updated accordingly.

The Hall Management Team is:

- Margaret Fitzpatrick – 07754 460840
- Jim Bovill – 07805 938364
- Sadie McKune – 07948 676197

40 Hours Adoration will hold from the 13th to the 15th of September.

• **Sunday 13th:** Exposition from 1.00 pm to 7.00 pm, talk by Rev. Paul McNair at 6:30 pm, concluding with Benediction.

• **Monday 14th:** Exposition from 11.00 am to 7.00pm. At 6.30 pm, there will be a talk by Rev. Kenny McGeachie, concluding with Benediction.

• **Tuesday 15th:** Exposition from 11.00 am to 7.00 pm. At 6.30 pm, there will be a talk by Mr Innocent Ofokansi, concluding with Benediction.

Collections for 23/08/2026

Offertory: **£556.04**

Gift Aid envelopes: **£373.50.**

Thank you.

National Youth Pilgrimage 2026 | Saturday 26th September | S1–35: Join the Youth Office and young people from across Scotland on a pilgrimage to Pluscarden Abbey. Discover more about the lives of monks and nuns, explore how God calls each person in a unique way, and conclude the day with Vigil Mass. Return coach from St Andrew's Cathedral (£20). 7.00 am–10.00 pm. Registration and more information: www.tinyurl.com/rcagnyp26

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