

**Our Lady & St. Helen's, Condorrat
Parish Bulletin
Week commencing 19 March 2023**

Happy Mother's Day

I would like to wish all the mothers of the parish a very Happy Mother's Day and ask Our Blessed Lady, Mother of the Church to bless you and your families.

SCIAF Sunday

Today is SCIAF Sunday and the 2nd collection will be taken up for SCIAF, the Scottish Lenten Charity. As you are aware over many years now if you are a tax payer and wish to Gift-Aid your donation to SCIAF then you must use the special SCIAF envelopes which were provided at the back of the church last weekend. As I said last weekend you need to complete the envelope because SCIAF don't know who you are. If you use the parish envelope for the 2nd collection then SCIAF cannot claim back the Gift-Aid.

S.S.V.P.

The S.S.V.P. is continuing to appeal for your help in these difficult times for families as they struggle to put food on their tables. It is looking for donations of non-perishable foodstuff to take to the "House of Bread" Foodbank which does a great job helping those less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you all once again for your wonderful and continued support.

Stations of the Cross

The SSVP will lead the Stations of the Cross on each Tuesday evening of Lent 7.00pm.

Gift-Aid

The end of another tax year approaches. We are grateful to all of you in the scheme whose contributions allowed us to reclaim over £10,000 of your tax last year from HM Revenue & Customs. New envelope sets will be available for collection after all the Masses on the weekend of 25/26 March. Those who contribute by standing order need take no action unless you wish to increase your donations, in which case you should contact your bank directly or alternatively amend it online or using your banking app.

Like all charities, the Archdiocese is feeling the effects of the current financial crisis. We fully appreciate the impact on parishioners of the ever-increasing cost of living but there is a way you can **increase your charitable giving to the parish by 25% at absolutely no additional cost to you**. If you are a taxpayer you are eligible to join the Gift-Aid scheme and the UK Government will pay us an additional 25% of your gift-aid donation. Currently fewer than 100 parishioners take part in the scheme. Other than the fact that you are a taxpayer, your tax affairs are not known to us. The scheme is completely confidential and if you would like to know more about how it operates visit <https://ourladyandsthelen.org/gift-aid>. The necessary forms can also be downloaded there.

Parish Tea & Toast

After 10.00am Mass on Friday.

Mass Attendance Last Weekend

Vigil 74; 10.00am 135; & 12.00pm 75.

Collections

Offertory envelopes	£ 544.10
Gift Aid envelopes	£ 340.00
Sick and Retired Priests	£ 490.20

Thank you for your generosity.