

OUR LADY AND ST. HELEN'S

CONDORRAT.

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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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time-A

Sunday, 15th of February, 2026.

1st Reading: Sirach 15: 15-20

He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 119 (118)

Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!

2nd Reading: 1 Cor. 2:6-10

A wisdom God declared before the ages for his glory.

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

It was said to those of old, but I say to you.

Reflection: Hidden Potentials in Human Choice

Choice is a gift. I love making my own decisions. Free will is such a great gift. It is a participation in the dignity with which God has endowed the human person. Even when circumstances restrict our movement or limit our opportunities, the interior sanctuary of the mind remains free. Within that hidden chamber, thoughts and desires are formed. It is there that creativity and moral discernment take root. Every outward action is first conceived inwardly. The seat of choice is the birthplace of destiny.

Consider saints such as Padre Pio, Saint Mungo, and Saint Margaret of Scotland. Think of that faithful person who once warmed the pews of our parish, or that kind young person you know who lives across the street. Everything you love about them began in their minds and in their choices. They had other options, but they chose to think positively and act on those thoughts. Every day, they chose love over hate, forgiveness over grudges, and kindness over cruelty. They chose to watch their words and turn away from gossip, greed, and selfishness. Holiness is the disciplined exercise of freedom in favour of the good.

Sirach 5:16 says, "If you wish, you can keep the commandments. To behave faithfully is within your power." Scripture does not deny the reality of temptation and personal struggles. Rather, it affirms something fundamental. That obedience is within the reach of every human person. God has not created us as prisoners of instinct or victims of inevitability. He has entrusted to us genuine freedom. Sirach continues: "He has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch out your hand." The imagery is stark. Fire can warm or destroy; water can refresh or overwhelm. Life and death, blessing and curse, stand before us. With freedom comes responsibility, because every act has consequences. Parents shape the first years of a child's life through countless daily decisions. A young person, standing at the threshold of adulthood, determines the direction of their future through their choices. Even the seemingly small decisions, to speak kindly, to bridle the tongue, to resist envy, quietly shape character and community.

Safeguarding holds a vital place in the life of the Archdiocese of Glasgow. Our parish is committed to promoting safeguarding awareness and embraces our collective responsibility to provide care and protection for everyone.

The word of God reassures us: “He has not commanded anyone to be godless.” God does not entice us into sin, nor does He abandon us to moral confusion. Rather, He grants the grace necessary to choose what is good, true and life-giving. God has placed within the human heart the capacity for wisdom and self-restraint. Freedom, therefore, is not license to follow every impulse. It is the strength to choose what leads to life.

I am grateful today for the gift of free will. Encouraged by the lives of the saints, I will think and act well. *So help me God.* Will you join in this short prayer?

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: A new Commandment	No. 133
Offertory: Take me, Lord	No. 638
Communion 1: Love is his Word	No. 462
Communion 2: This is my will	No. 682
Recession: God’s Spirit is in my heart	No. 297

Memorial: Day of Prayer for those who have suffered abuse (**Friday**).

The funeral of **James Whiteford Haddock** is scheduled for Tuesday, the 17th of February at 10 AM.

Death: *Liam Martin, Peter Nolan, Cecelia Wright, Irene Morrison, Patricia Cullen.*

Anniversary: *John and Mary McGhie, May Callaizzo, Theresa Hannah, Charlie Scott, Ian Gilmour, John Thomas, Georgina Egan, Tommy Mooney, Alex McCourt Senior.*

Ash Wednesday is on the 18th of February, the beginning of the Season of Lent. There will be 2 Masses: 10 AM and 7 PM.

The Second Collection next week is for Sick and Retired Priests.

Collections for 13/02/2026

Offertory: £541.53

Gift Aid envelopes: £304

Christmas Crib: £337.77

Thank you.

Nightfever Glasgow: 'Come and see! (John 1,46) Friday 27 February 2026 from 7.00 – 10.30pm in| St Aloysius’ Church, Garnethill. Nightfever is an evening of Eucharistic Adoration and evangelisation. Teams of young people (18+) head out onto the streets of Glasgow, inviting passers-by into St Aloysius’ Church to light a candle and spend a moment in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions available throughout the evening. Compline and Benediction 10pm . .Please come along and invite your friends. Volunteers needed for music, hospitality, and street outreach ministries. More details, please contact Tanya: 07907699566

St Andrew’s Foundation for Catholic Education Cardinal Winning Lecture 2026: Saturday 7 March. “Why the Way of Beauty Matters in Catholic Education” – Dr Jem Sullivan, Catholic University of America. University of Glasgow. Mass at 9:30am in the Memorial Chapel. Lecture 11am – Humanity Lecture Theatre, Main Campus, Room 255. Reserve your place <https://buytickets.at/standrewsfoundation/>

Pro-Life Mass: This month’s Pro-Life Mass falls on Ash Wednesday, 18th February. Mass will therefore be at the earlier time of 7 pm at Holy Cross, 113 Dixon Ave, G42 8ER. There will be Adoration from 6 pm. Please come along and start your Lenten journey, praying for the cause of life.

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