

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

First Sunday of Lent-A

Sunday, 22nd of February, 2026.

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9

The creation and sin of our first parents.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51 (50)

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

Reflection: The Eclipse of Sin in the Modern Age

Why does the “Spirit of this Age” seek to remove the word sin from our vocabulary? Sin is a moral sense. It implies accountability, not merely to a person or society, but to God. Softer substitutes are preferred, such as mistake, poor choice, weakness, and psychological maladjustment. These terms may describe aspects of unpleasant human behaviour, but they fall short of essential human reality.

Why all this attempt? Because the word Sin presupposes a Lawgiver. It assumes that we answer to Someone. Remove sin, and accountability fades. Remove accountability, and conscience grows dull. The larger picture becomes clear: the denial of God and the erosion of conscience.

Dr. Hobart Mowrer, former President of the American Psychological Association, warned:

For several decades, we psychologists have looked upon the whole matter of sin and moral accountability as a great incubus and claimed our liberation from it as epoch-making. But at length, we have discovered that to be free from sin is to also have the excuse of being sick rather than sinful. It is to court the danger of becoming lost. ... In becoming amoral and ethically neutral and free, we have cut the very roots of our being and have lost our deepest sense of selfhood and identity. What's ironic is that our patients who come to see us as psychologists eventually realize that we are asking the same questions they are: Who am I?

When sin disappears, identity weakens. When God is denied, the human person drifts into confusion. In the Gospel (Matthew 4:1–11), each temptation concerns Jesus' relationship with the Father: “If you are the Son of God...” The Evil One seeks to fracture our trust in God. Undermining belief in God leaves the human person spiritually disoriented.

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.

St. Paul teaches that sin entered the world through one man, Adam, and that redemption came through one Man: Jesus Christ. Grace does not merely equal sin. It surpasses it. Redemption is a free gift to us, though it cost God greatly.

This Lent, let us resist the temptation to redefine sin or dilute its seriousness. Let us examine our conscience honestly. Let us approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation without fear. To acknowledge sin is not defeat. It is the beginning of freedom. For where sin abounds, Grace abound all the more.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: God forgave my sins	No. 286
Offertory: Almighty Father, take this bread	No. 130
Communion 1: Lord Jesus Christ	No. 447
Communion 2: Yahweh is the God of my salvation	No. 745
Recession: Be still my soul	No. 166

Death: *Theresa Morton, Irene Morrison.*

Anniversary: *C. Herrity, Samuel O'Neill, Joseph Tierney, Alex McCourt Senior, May Burns, Eddie Frew.*

Stations of the Cross

During the holy season of Lent, the Stations of the Cross take place **twice each week**, and all parishioners are warmly encouraged to participate in this important devotion.

Tuesday: 7.00 PM.

Thursday: Immediately after the 10.00 AM Mass.

There will be Second Collections throughout all the weeks of Lent.

2nd Week: Sick & Retired Priests

3rd Week: Sick & Retired Priests

4th Week: SCIAF

5th Week: Sick & Retired Priests

Palm Sunday: Sick & Retired Priests

Collections for 15/02/2026

Offertory: £602.31

Gift Aid envelopes: £324

Abba's Vineyard: Adoration night. Come and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, with a Lenten theme. The evening also includes the opportunity for Confession, Mass and dinner. All are welcome to join at any point. For young adults aged 18-35, from 5-9 pm, Saturday 28th February. Address - Bl John Duns Scotus, 270 Ballater Street, Glasgow, G5 0YT. For more information and a timetable, search @abbasvineyard on social media or email: abbasvineyard@gmail.com.

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