

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter -A
Sunday, 3rd of May, 2026.

1st Reading: Act 6: 1-7

They chose seven men full of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33 (32)

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, Lord.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

Gospel: John 14: 1-12

I am the way and the truth and the life.

Reflection: A Community That Walks Together

Wherever human beings come together, even for the best of reasons, differences of opinion and moments of tension are bound to arise. We each see situations through our own experiences and perspectives, which shape the way we think and act. At times, our actions may affect others in ways we neither intend nor immediately recognize. This is part of the reality of the human community. Yet as rational and relational beings, we are also given the capacity to address such difficulties through dialogue, reflection, and a sincere search for resolution.

The first Christian community, though united in faith and inspired by the risen Lord, was not exempt from the ordinary challenges of communal life. We are told that a complaint arose because certain widows were being neglected during the daily distribution (Acts 6:1-7). The issue may not have been deliberate, but it was significant enough to create dissatisfaction and required attention. What stands out is the way the Apostles responded.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, they neither ignored the complaint nor reacted defensively. Instead, they gathered the community, listened carefully, reflected prayerfully, discerned wisely, and arrived at a practical solution. In this, we see the living practice of what we now call **Synodality**, an age-old way of the Church journeying together through listening, sharing, discernment, and decision-making. In our own time, Pope Francis brought renewed light and fresh emphasis to this ancient ecclesial practice, reminding us that **Synodality** is not an invention but the Church's original way of being.

This moment offers us an important lesson about servant leadership. Authentic leadership is not threatened by honest concerns. It does not dismiss disagreement as disloyalty, nor does it seek to suppress difficult conversations. As a Parish community, we can benefit from this. It is often easy to interpret the actions or omissions of others from a negative standpoint, to assume deliberate neglect where there may simply have been oversight. Very often, what hurts us was never intended to wound us. Before we judge, charity invites us to seek understanding.

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.

At the same time, leadership requires openness and humility. Whether as leaders of parish societies or members of the Parish Council, we are called to foster an atmosphere in which people feel free to raise concerns respectfully and to acknowledge when something has been overlooked. None of us sees everything perfectly, and all of us can fail at times to notice the needs of others.

The call to serve the People of God in any capacity is both a privilege and a participation in the ministry of Christ, who humbled Himself to wash the feet of His disciples. When we create an environment in which we listen attentively to one another and discern together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our parish community grows in mutual trust and offers a more faithful witness to the Gospel.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: Alleluia, sing to Jesus	No. 110
Offertory: Blest are you Lord	No. 175
Communion: All Heaven declares the glory	No. 117
Communion 2: Bring flowers of the rarest	No. 185
Recession: Sing to the Mountains	No. 626

Death: *Johnny Morrissey, Michael Spillane*
Anniversary: *Lily Mooney, Martha McConville, Michael Quinn.*

Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord

The **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** will be celebrated on **Thursday, 14 May**. There will be Vigil Mass on **Wednesday, 13 May at 7.00 pm**

Second Collection

There will be a **second collection on the weekend of 17 May** for the **Communication**.

Commencement of Repair Works in the Hall

Following a meeting with all parties involved in the repair of the Parish Hall, a commencement date of 25 May has been agreed, with completion expected by mid-August. During this period, the Hall will be regarded as an active construction site, and parishioners are kindly asked not to enter the area for safety reasons. Any questions or concerns regarding the works should be directed to Fr. Paulinus or any member of the Parish Council.

Celebration of First Holy Communion

We warmly congratulate our children who will soon be celebrating their **First Holy Communion**. The celebrations will take place in two groups on **Saturday, 9 May and Saturday, 16 May**, both at **10.00 am**.

As a Parish family, we look forward to welcoming our new communicants in a special way at the **10.00 am Mass on Sunday, 24 May**. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the whole parish community to celebrate with them and encourage them as they continue their journey with Christ in the Eucharist. **All new communicants and their families are warmly encouraged to attend.**

To help mark this special occasion, we invite families and friends to visit the **Parish Stall**, where you will find a lovely selection of **First Holy Communion cards, gifts, and keepsakes**. It is a wonderful opportunity to choose something spiritual and devotional.

Weekday Evening Mass: Parish Feedback

The Parish Council is mindful that many parishioners, especially families who work during the day, may find it difficult to attend weekday Masses. In response, we are considering introducing a **weekday evening Mass**. Before making any decision, we would greatly value your feedback. Your suggestions can be placed in the suggestion box, which will be made available from next week. Thank you for your commitment to parish life.

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