



St Ninian's Parish House

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Sunday 29th March 2020 – 5th Sunday of Lent Year A

Regular updates on what is happening in the parish and the archdiocese due to the coronavirus are being emailed to those who are on the Parish Distribution List (these emails come from Admin at Ss Ninian and Triduaana (via Rab Burnett). Because they are a group email some email providers block them or class them as spam so please check your junk folder if you not received them. If you wish to receive the updates you will need to be on the Parish Distribution List, and you can join by emailing:

stniniantriduaana@gmail.com

SCIAF – Give, Reflect, Act with SCIAF

Your donations, prayers and actions make a real and lasting difference to families in the DR Congo. You can learn more about them and about SCIAF's work by visiting their website www.sciaf.org.uk This year the SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE Appeal has received UK Aid Match. This means that all public donations up until 20th May to the appeal will be doubled by the UK Government.

Parish Pilgrimage: 11- 13 September 2020

We still hope to run this year's trip to Durham and Linsdisfarne so please keep the dates in your diary. There is no need to pay any deposits at this time. To fill in your spare time at the moment you may be interested to watch a programme featuring Lindsisfarne which was recently shown on TV called **Villages By the Sea** . It will be available on BBC iplayer.

One World Group

In these difficult times, the One World Group members will be praying the Rosary (Joyous Mysteries) in their homes at 7.30 pm each Monday evening. Please join us.

Following our Fair-trade Coffee morning, the proceeds were sent to Traidcraft. The following is a thank you email from them.

"Dear St Ninian's Church (FAO Catherine Smith, Treasurer)

I can't thank you enough for hosting a brilliant Big Brew this year, and for your generous gift of £310.00! I hope you had a lovely time celebrating with your family, friends and community.

Every penny you raised will support vulnerable farmers, workers and artisans around the world to get a better deal from trade. People like Thabiti, a coffee farmer from Tanzania – who can now start looking forward to a fairer return on the hard work he does every day.

Thabiti owns a small plot of land where he grows coffee, bananas, maize and beans. He has a disability in his legs, and with no support for disabled people locally, his disability limits the amount of work he can do on his farm. With three young children to support, earning enough income has always been a huge worry.

"Sometimes we fail to make profit," he says. **"I hold my stick in one hand and the plants in the other, so it's very difficult without paying for help."**

But thanks to the support of people like you, Thabiti recently joined a Traidcraft Exchange group with other disabled farmers in the area, which has really changed things for him.



Thabiti and his wife Rachel

“Being part of the group gives me comfort and really good consolation. I meet with others with disabilities and they’re my friends, we accept each other, we accept our disabilities. I value Traidcraft Exchange.”

Since joining the group Thabiti has undertaken training in practical skills such as book-keeping. He has also learned about the many ways that disabled people are stigmatised at family, community and even government level, and how being supported to earn a better living can help tackle this. ***“I think this will help us stamp out discrimination,”*** he says.

Thank you, St Ninian’s One World Group, for giving people like Thabiti the power to transform their families’ lives through trade.

With warm wishes, Denise”

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline

(24 hours): 0800 027 1234.

Safeguarding Contacts

<https://archedinburgh.org/administration/safeguarding>

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Advisor Mrs Angela Hughes 07903 619342

E: Angela.hughes@staned.org.uk

National Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Tina Campbell 0141 332 7177

E: tcampbell@scottishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Contact is Fiona Tracey.

Newsletter

Any items by Wednesday midday please to Carol Mulvenna, work – 672 0134, home 672 1223, mobile 07762 924916, email cmulvenna@btinternet.com

If you know of anyone who would like the newsletter emailed to you each week, please let me know by emailing me as above.

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### **Gospel, John 11:1-45**

There was a man named Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister, Martha, and he was ill.

It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair.

The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.'

On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will not end in death, but it is for God's glory so that through it the Son of God may be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that he was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go back to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews were trying to stone you; are you going back there again?' Jesus replied: Are there not twelve hours in the day? No one who walks in the daytime stumbles, having the light of this world to see by; anyone who walks around at night stumbles, having no light as a guide. He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is at rest; I am going to wake him.'

The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is at rest he will be saved.'

Jesus was speaking of the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep'; so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas -- known as the Twin -- said to the other disciples, 'Let us also go to die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died, but even now I know that God will grant whatever you ask of him.'

Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.'

Jesus said: I am the resurrection. Anyone who believes in me, even though that person dies, will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?

'Yes, Lord,' she said, 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.'

Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him.

When the Jews who were in the house comforting Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who had come with her, Jesus was greatly distressed, and with a profound sigh he said, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!'

But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man. Could he not have prevented this man's death?'

Sighing again, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day since he died.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?'

So they took the stone away. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I myself knew that you hear me always, but I speak for the sake of all these who are standing around me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me. When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with strips of material, and a cloth over his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what he did, believed in him.

### **Reflecting on our Faith** – *Life Everlasting*

**This week's gospel:** John 11:1-45 *The raising of Lazarus*

Adults: Christ calls us from death to new life. To what new life are you being called during this Lent?

Children: How does Jesus help you do what is good and avoid what is not?

Just a thought: Picture Lazarus' resurrection party – faces full of joy and eyes wet with gratitude – a snapshot of the Kingdom Jesus talks about. What can I do to make Lent a gateway towards building that Kingdom?

**Preparing for next week's gospel:** Matthew 21: 1-11 *Triumphal entry into Jerusalem*

**Reflecting on our Faith during this week: Obedience and Humility**

Adults: We are called to die to ourselves in love for others. How do you live that in your own life?

Children: How do you allow Jesus to live in your heart?

Just a thought: With the crowd, Jesus went from "Hosanna!" to "Crucify him!" People's loyalties are fickle, unlike God's love for us, despite our weakness.