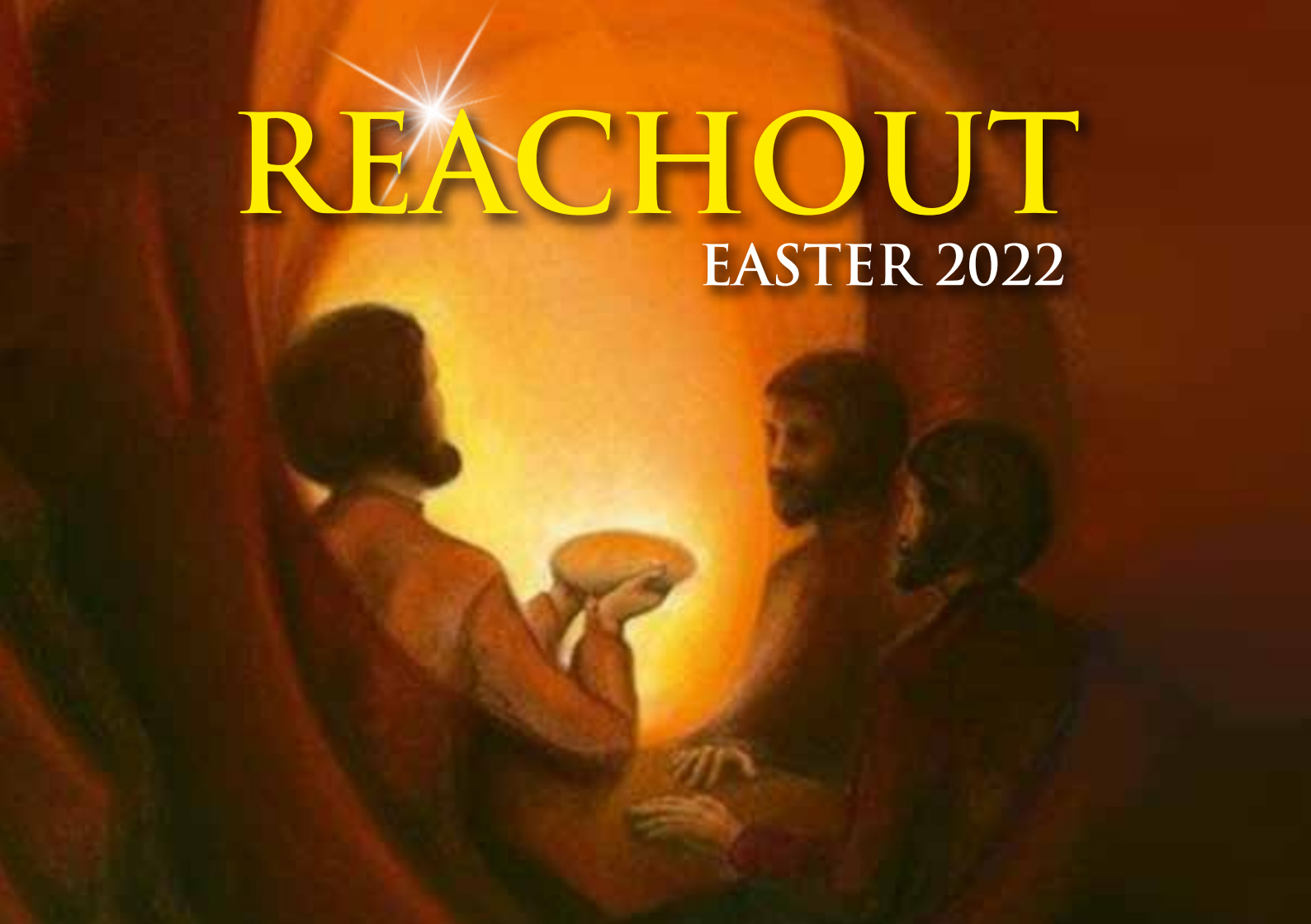


REACHOUT

EASTER 2022



As I pen this introduction to our “Easter Reachout” there is little to brighten the heart. War or rumours of war abound, political chaos is predicted, coupled with a depressed economy and the “Covid virus” still holds us to ransom. We are in need of good news !

Easter provides good news in abundance

“Christ is risen” is how the early Christians used to greet each other. It is not just a greeting. It is an expression, proclamation of the good news of Easter. The good news that God’s life in all its richness and abundance is opened for us through his Son’s resurrection. In our celebration this Easter let us open our hearts and minds to receive the new life of Easter in the peace and knowledge that the Risen Christ has overcome death and conquered every fear we could imagine.

May we all experience the joy and peace of the Risen Christ this Easter.

Monsignor James Ryan



I’ve been on the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) programme at St Andrew’s, Bearsden since September. The programme goes over all facets of the Catholic faith such as The Mass, Our Lady, The Creed, The Trinity, the Liturgical calendar and each of the individual Sacraments, helping introduce the “Enquirers” to the Faith.

It feels like we have been blessed by having such a supportive atmosphere in the programme which is run by Margaret and Kathleen who give great guidance on the subjects and speak from having lived their lives in the faith. Also lending their support and giving insight on our journey have been previous participants - Nick and Jackie - who have been through the RCIA programme and accepted into the Church. As well as the particular topic of the week we discuss the readings that will be said at Mass in the week - and we pray together.

Myself, Jackie, Rebecca and Rokas are the four participants this year and we have shared our stories of how we got to this point in our journey of enquiry. Essentially there was no real practice of faith in my home or family life growing up. It has been my wife and children who brought me closer to the faith by their own faith - as did my growing thankfulness for the blessings God has given me in them, and my growing love for, and compulsion to follow Christ.

I feel lucky that I “chapped” Father Mackle’s door that day last August in time to get onto this year’s programme. We have now gone through the Rite of Acceptance and are Catechumens so we have all made it thus far! We look forward and pray that all goes well, when we’ll be welcomed by the new Archbishop at March’s Rite of Election at St Andrew’s Cathedral and we’ll be taken into the church at the Easter Vigil. I would seriously recommend the RCIA programme for anyone curious about the faith



Jason Cole



This is our faith-Baptisms 2021

It's been two long and tough years. With restrictions being lifted, another sign of us getting back to some kind of normality is with the obligation to attend Sunday Mass having been restored.

This is my invitation to you. **Come back.** When we go to Mass, we go not because it's something God needs us to do. We go to Mass because it's something God knows we need to do.

Even if it's something you do gradually, do **come back to Mass.** Receive Jesus the Bread of Life. Live streaming has served us well. However, participating online doesn't beat our coming together to see one another, to celebrate, to pray, to worship and to sing to God- even although we're still all masked singers. Plus, many I'm sure have missed being able to have that pre or post Mass chat and catch up with friends.

Come back and invite and encourage family members, friends, fellow parishioners. No need to book. Just come along. Will be lovely to see you.

Wishing you a fruitful Holy Week and Easter.

Fr Joseph Mackle

A PICTURE IS WORTH..... A thousand words! (So Confucius said). And so is the logo of our Synod. Look at it carefully, below the sun and the shading tree walk a group of figures who themselves tell a tale.

The disadvantaged person in a wheelchair, the nun, the ordinary (marginalised?) people, the bishop who is right among his flock, not up above or at the head or preaching. All on a journey to a meeting. That is the Synod - not just the meeting but the journey there as well. Just like our life-long journey to meet God.



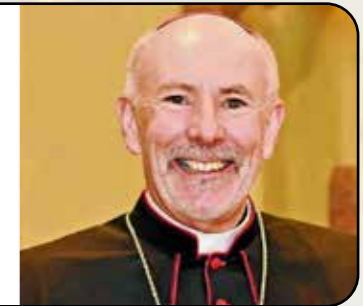
For it is on the way there that the purpose of the Synod will be accomplished. That purpose is called Discernment. A big word with a simple meaning which we can all understand and, though we may not recognize it, have all experienced it in other contexts (e.g. choosing a new car).

It is not new; St Paul had a go at it. Simply put, it is the process of judging well. Often one person will put "best judgement" better than others and this will be recognized as such by the others. We have started, with our parish meetings, and other events will follow.

And the subject? Pope Francis has set us the question "What kind of Church do we want for the future?" So let us think, talk, pray and reflect on this, and (in Winston Churchill's words) "Let us go forward together".



All of us at St Andrew's assure our new Archbishop William Nolan of our heartfelt prayers for his years ahead serving the people of the Archdiocese of Glasgow.





St Nicholas' children working on their Pope Francis Faith Awards

Here they are learning about Piety



EVER WONDERED.....?

- About the medallions worn by some of our altar servers?
- Ever noticed that their cords are not all the same colour?
- Or that the youngest servers don't wear any?
- And if you know that they identify the wearer as a member of the Guild of Saint Stephen, have you ever wondered what it is? Or what the letters "XP" inside the medallions stand for?

Founded in London in 1904 and approved by Pope Pius X in 1905, the Guild is an international organisation of altar servers. It's objectives are to encourage the highest standards of serving, to provide servers with a greater understanding of what they do, and to unite servers of different parishes. Membership is open to those who have served for two years and they wear a bronze medallion with a red cord (changed after five years for a gold cord). After ten years service a server can be awarded a silver medallion; three have been awarded to St Andrew's servers.

And the letters? They are the beginning of the Greek word for Christ. (Not, as one wag suggested, after the Pope who approved the foundation of the Guild.)

NOW YOU KNOW.... and If you are interested in becoming an altar server please ask your parents to email St Andrew's . standrew@rcag.org.uk



HOLY WEEK & EASTER LITURGIES

COME AND JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

Palm Sunday 10th April

Masses: Vigil 5pm (Saturday).
10am (live streamed) and 12noon

Tuesday 12th April

7.00pm – 8.00pm Sacrament of
Reconciliation

Holy Thursday 14th April

Mass: 7.00pm
Night Prayer: 10.00pm

Good Friday 15th April

Liturgies: 3pm and 7pm

Easter Sunday 17th April

Masses: Vigil 8pm (Saturday)
10am (live streamed) and 12noon.

St Andrew's RC Church, 29 Roman Road, Bearsden G61 2SN



0141 942 4635



standrew@rcag.org.uk



Find us on Facebook



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Come back to Mass. No need to book. Just come along.

www.standrewsbearsden.co.uk

Charity Number SC018140