

# ST COLUMBKILLES CHURCH

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Charity No. SC011041

## CLERGY

Fr Bernard Mournian (Parish Priest) Fr Pat Hennessy (In Residence)

Rev. Michael Ross (Deacon)



## **1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**28<sup>TH</sup>/29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**

**HOLY MASS** (Services marked in **red** will be live-streamed)

**Mon ~ Fri:- 10am**, 1pm

**Saturday:- 10am**; 4pm (Vigil)

**Sunday:- 9am**; 10.30am (Children's Liturgy);

**12 noon** & 4pm

## **FUNERAL MASSES THIS WEEK**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 10am - **Agnes O'Donnell R.I.P.**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, 1pm - **Brenda McMahon R.I.P.**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 1pm - **Jean Halley R.I.P.**

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA :-** Friday, 3pm

**CONFESSIONS:-** Mon-Sat from 9.30am, Sat from 3.30pm

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:-** Mon-Sat, 9.30-9.55am

**BAPTISMS:-** To arrange a baptism please contact the Church Office.

**\*\*\*Next Baptismal Preparation Course - 5<sup>th</sup> January\*\*\***

**HALL CAFÉ:-** Open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays after Mass **\*\*\*NEW AND IMPROVED MENU!!!**

**WELFARE CLINIC:-** First Saturday of the month 10-12

**\*\*\*Next clinic - Saturday 4th December\*\*\***

## **WEEKLY DONATIONS**

Please support your parish through the weekly collection, our income relies solely on the donations of our parishioners. Contributions can be made in the form of a standing order or online donation through our website, using these bank details.

Sort Code: 83-26-24

Account No: 00255006

**\*\*\*Filling out our Gift Aid form will allow us to claim an extra 25% of your donation from the taxman, at no cost to yourself! Standing order and Gift Aid forms are on our website or at the end of the pews in church. Completed forms can be put in any of the boxes at the back of the church.\*\*\***

**Please pray for the following:-**

**Sick:-** Niamh Edelsten, Helen Anderson, John McCarron, Brian Malone, Ena and Anne Nicholl, Sean Christie, Bill Corr, Kathleen Robertson, Campbell Hastings, Jennifer Milne, Manus Wellington, Susan Dickie, Andrew Cochran, Mary Donaghy, Isabella Fleming, Angie Gibb, Brian McGurk, William Freeman (Tully), Helen Cameron.

**Recently deceased:-** James O'Donnell, Joe Sheehan, Agnes O'Donnell, Nancy Cricket, Cathy Johnson, Michael Roach, Carol Tierney, Gordon Heriot and John McCafferty

**Anniversaries:-** Charlie Mount, Joseph McNab, Agnes McNab, Catherine Ann Maguire, Margaret Daly, Theresa Slattery, Helen McEwan.

**Months Mind:-** Denis McGurk

**Baptisms:-** We welcome Harriet Smith, Ava and Michael Daly to our community.

**Sanctuary flowers, in recognition of:-** Catherine Stevenson, Margaret and John Burns, Souls in Purgatory, James and Carolann Sharkey, Stephen Coutts, Paul James O'Donnell, Mary McGinley, Mags Morahan, Gerry McGinley, Jim Downey, Barry Mair, Paula Hastie, Fay Paterson, John Stephen, Marie Kelly, Lily Wilmott, James McPhillips, David and Cathie Gough.

**Last week's collection - £1780**

**Thank you for your generosity**

- **Altar server meeting:-** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm
- The Scottish Catholic magazine is available from the stall priced £2.
- Parish Calendars coming soon!

## **80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

**PARISH MISSION:-** Well what a week we have had in the life of our parish! It has been a wonderful, prayerful, grace filled week celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church building. It has been an absolute joy to see so many of you attending all the different services over the course of the week, we hope you have all enjoyed it as much as we have. Our thanks go of course to our amazing mission priests, Fr Stephen and Fr Pius. It has been a privilege getting to know them and listening to their insights into our faith through the evening conferences. May God continue to bless them in their ministry. There are so many people who have worked tirelessly, behind the scenes, to make this mission a success and we thank them all sincerely. Although there are too many to name individually we would like to offer a special thank you to Michael McGrath, who has filmed all of the mission services and put them on our YouTube channel so that those who were unable to make it can catch up online! May God bless all those involved in making the week such a success.

**ANNIVERSARY MASS WITH BISHOP TOAL:-** Our celebrations for our anniversary will continue with our votive Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, which will be celebrated by Bishop Toal followed by a reception in the hall afterwards. Everyone is welcome!

**N.B. There will be no 10am or 1pm Mass that day, however the church will be open for Eucharistic Adoration 9.30am-4.00pm**

## **ADVENT 2021 - RORATE CAELI MASSES**

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent devotion where Mass is offered, just before dawn, in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As it is a votive Mass in Mary's honour, white vestments are worn instead of Advent violet. In the dimly lit setting, we prepare to honour the Light of the world, who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As sunrise approaches, the church becomes progressively brighter, illumined by the sun as our Faith is illumined by Christ.

The readings and prayers of the Mass foretell the prophecy of the Virgin who would bear a Son called Emmanuel, and call on all to raise the gates of their hearts and their societies to let Christ the King enter; asking for the grace to receive eternal life by the merits of the Incarnation and saving Resurrection of Our Lord.

**The Rorate Caeli Mass will be celebrated during Advent at 7am in St Columbkilles on Mondays and in St Marks on Fridays. These Masses will be simple, prayerful, and illumined only by candlelight - a perfect way to begin the day and a fitting way to prepare for Christmas.**

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS DAY OUT**

Fr Mournian invites everyone to join him for a Christmas day out on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, leaving church after 10am Mass for a mystery tour followed by a 3 course lunch, with tea/coffee at Carrigans in Hamilton, returning to church about 5pm. Costs for the day is £25, transport is provided by the parish. Sign up sheets are at the back of the church; a £10 deposit is required. Please place in the envelopes provided and pop it in any of the boxes at the back of the church.

## **ST ANTHONY'S ADVENT TALKS**

At Tuesday evening Mass at 7pm in St Anthonys, the homily will be given by a guest Deacon or Priest each week during Advent. This week's guest is our own Deacon Michael Ross, his talk is entitled **'The Four Last Things in the context of Advent.'** Fr Coyle extends a warm invitation to all our parishioners to join him.

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Keep Christ in Christmas this year and help support your parish by purchasing our beautiful Christmas cards, showing our church in all its glory at Christmastime. Now on sale in the stall, priced £5, all proceeds to the Building Fund.

## **SVDP GIFT TREE**

St Vincent de Paul's Gift Tree is now live! If you are in a position to help, please take a gift tag home with you. Please return your donation, with the gift tag attached by **11<sup>th</sup> December**, to give us plenty of time to deliver your gifts. Thank you in advance for your support.

## **DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS**

We will be putting up our Christmas decorations on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December after 10am Mass. If you can spare an hour or so to help we would very much appreciate it, the more the merrier!

**Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Scotland**  
**On the Season of Christmas and the Restoration of the Mass Obligation in the Dioceses of Scotland**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is born for us, come let us adore him. Christmas is approaching. It is an occasion to renew our family life, to reach out to the lonely and to celebrate the core of our faith: Emmanuel, God with us. We have all experienced the negative impact the pandemic has had on our common liturgical celebrations and our access to the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. Now that more people are attending church, the Bishops of Scotland want to encourage all the Catholic faithful to renew their covenant with the Church and her worship. Christmas seems the right time to do this.

Christmas Day this year falls on a Saturday. It will be followed immediately by the feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday. We therefore strongly encourage you to take advantage of the celebrations of that weekend by attending Mass on both days. We have often been asked about reinstating the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of obligation. In our fluid situation, this is not an easy judgment to make. Thanks, however, to the effort and good sense of so many, our churches have proven to be safe places. So, saving any serious worsening of the situation, we believe that Christmastide provides an opportune moment to restore the obligation.

**The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation will therefore be reinstated from Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, the first of the new year.** That Sunday coincides with the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. It will be an occasion for us to join the wise men in offering worship to the Infant Jesus. In accordance with the common teaching of the Church this obligation does not bind those in ill health or those otherwise impeded from attending Mass. Nor, in the context of Covid, does it bind those showing symptoms of the virus or with underlying health conditions, or those with responsibilities for people in need of special care.

The obligation to keep the Lord's Day holy by attending Mass should not be seen as a burden. It is a summons addressed to our human freedom and to the heart of every baptised member of the Church. The obligation calls us to come to the Father together with our fellow-believers, to "listen to the word of God and to take part in the Eucharist, calling to mind the passion, resurrection and glory of the Lord Jesus, and giving thanks to God who 'has begotten [us] to a living hope, through the resurrection of Christ from the dead'" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 106; 1 Pt 1:3). Sunday Mass can reinvigorate and refresh our Christian faith, our sense of community and our desire to live as missionary disciples in the world. This is why the Church takes this obligation seriously.

It has been good to have access to the Sacred Liturgy online, and we encourage those unable to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays to continue making use of this. Of itself, though, online participation does not fulfil the obligation. Nothing can adequately replace actual presence. At the heart of our Christian life is the event of the Word becoming flesh and our incorporation through the Sacraments into his Body. It's to experience this that we come to church. Our current reflection on synodality points us in the same direction: we are a people who meet together because we journey together.

Let us therefore use the coming Christian season to return, with purified hearts and fresh fervour, to our sacramental and liturgical life. During Advent and beyond, there will be opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. And Christmas itself is more than a Day. It is a Season. Beyond Christmas Day, it includes the beautiful feasts of the Holy Family, of Mary, Mother of God, of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. In the northern hemisphere, this season falls at a dark and low time of the year. This is not by chance. It's precisely at this time, made darker still by so many current uncertainties, that we are offered divine energy and the joy of the human birth of a divine child. Christ's birth means the forgiveness of our sins and our rebirth as children of God. We sense how Mary's motherhood embraces us as well and, at the Epiphany, the star of faith lights up our hearts. As the Lord is immersed in the River Jordan the waters of our own baptism can flow in our lives with new force. We are given light and strength to live a new year in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ Hugh Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland

+ Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh

+ Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell

+ Stephen Robson, Bishop of Dunkeld

+ John Keenan, Bishop of Paisley

+ William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway

+ Brian McGee, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles

Monsignor Hugh Canon Bradley, Diocesan Administrator, Archdiocese of Glasgow

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