



Parish Bulletin of
St Andrew's, Dumfries
and
St Columba's, Annan

*Parishes of the R C Diocese of Galloway -
Registered Charity No. SCO10576*

Parish Notices

Week beginning 3rd December, 2023

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

Please note that Mass on Wednesday is at 11am and is the Requiem Mass for Catherine Donnelly.

St Andrew's: Wednesday at 11am; Friday at 10am.

St Columba's: Tuesday at 10am; Thursday at 7pm.

Weekend Masses:

St Andrew's: Saturday Vigil at 6pm ; Sunday at 10am

St Columba's : Sunday at 12noon

NB There is Mass with exposition in St Andrew's on Saturday, 9th December at 10am.

NB All Sunday 10am and Wednesday 10am Masses from St Andrew's are live-streamed.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

There is an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the period of Exposition on alternate Saturdays and also before the Vigil Mass on each weekend.

St Columba's Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume at St Columba's from this weekend.

Advent Penitential Services

The date of the St Andrew's Penitential service has been moved to Wednesday 20th December at 7pm. The St Columba's date is to be arranged.

Galloway Diocese News

The latest, Advent edition of the Galloway Diocese News is available in both Parishes from this weekend.

"Standard" Toy Appeal

The annual toy collection for local children in need will take place next weekend. Please bring unwrapped toys for children of any ages to weekend Masses on 9th and 10th December. NB This is a week earlier than the previously expected date. Thank you!

Girvan Folk Night Thanks

Many thanks to everyone from all nationalities who supported the successful Folk Night and raised £422 for Church funds.

Collections

St Andrew's collection was £499.67 and £1100 at Coffee(!). **SSVP** collected £155.74. **St Columba's** collection was £134.35 with £33.75 for SCIAF. Thank you very much.

Firstbase continues to be grateful for all donations.

Rest in Peace

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Catherine Donnelly** who died recently. We also pray for her family. Catherine's funeral will be at St Andrew's Church on Wed 6th December at 11am.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for December:

For persons with disabilities:

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusivity which values their active participation.

Parish Priest

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standrewsdumfries.org.uk

stcolumbasannan.org.uk

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3rd December , 2023

1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 3-8

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Mark 13: 33-37

Psalm Response

God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer III

Next Sunday :

2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)

The coming of the Messiah to save the world, so longed for and anticipated by the prophets, has been fulfilled by the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Tuesday:	Patrick Grant
Wednesday:	Patrick Murphy intention
Thursday:	Vicky Donnelly
Friday:	Patrick Murphy intention
Saturday:	Marie Mahoney
Sunday:	For the Parish

Please remember in your prayers

those who are sick, everyone on the family prayer ministry requests and all those whose needs are not known to us.

Libby McLaughlin	Astrida Kruste
Anne Murdy	Ted & Jean Machin
Eric Sherman	Cathy O'Neill
James Behan	Michael O'Regan

Sick and Housebound

I am available for the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. If any parishioner requires assistance or needs to talk, please call me on the Parish number.

www.virc.at This website provides the readings for the Mass in many languages, eg English. Please convey information and updates safely to anyone you know who is sick or housebound.



Choir practices for Christmas

We would like to form a St Andrew's choir for the 10pm Mass on Christmas Eve. To help prepare us, Barbara Lewis, our organist at the Saturday Vigil Mass, has offered to conduct two practices in the Church on **Sundays 3rd December and 17th December, both at 1pm**. Barbara will also play at the 10pm mass on Christmas Eve.

We are grateful for Barbara's input, and would like to invite anyone who wants to be involved to attend the practices. Christmas is a time for singing, please come along and add to the chorus.



Seniors' Christmas Dinner

It's also nearing the time for the Seniors' dinner in the hall on **Wednesday 13th December at 6 for 6.30pm**. Please find invitations to distribute to people who are eligible. They should be returned to the Parish House or to Church by **Sunday 3rd December**, when numbers will go to the Caterers. With rising costs, there will need to be some small savings made but they will be minimal and it's still guaranteed to be a grand and sociable evening! Come along if you can!



Church Shop Christmas Stock

You can now browse the Church shop's new stock of diaries, advent calendars, cards and candles either around Mass time or in the hall at Coffee on Sundays.

Advent and Christmas Dates for your calendar

Wed 6th Dec- New Abbey Advent, 7pm at St Mary's.

Sat 9th, Sun 10th Dec- Bring unwrapped toys to Mass for the Standard Toy Appeal.

Wed 13th Dec- New Abbey Advent, 7pm at C of S.

Thurs 14th Dec- St Columba's PS Carols in the Playground from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Tues 19th Dec- Annual Carol Service at St Jo's Memorial College Chapel at 6.30pm and refreshments in the hall. All parishioners very welcome.

Wed 20th December- Advent Penitential Service at 7pm at St Andrew's.

Frid 22nd Dec- Carol Service at St Mary's, New Abbey at 7pm. All welcome.

Christmas Eve- Mass at 6pm at St Columba's

Mass at 10pm at St Andrew's (Carols from 9.30pm)

Christmas Day - Mass at 10am at St Andrew's

Mass at 12noon at St Columba's

Cost of living crisis:

In response to the cost of living crisis and especially in response to the rise in energy bills, some limited funds are available to parishioners who are particularly struggling. If this applies to you, please speak in confidence with Fr Gerald.

NB There is a First Aid box in the Church Sacristy should anyone need it at any time.



St Columba's Children's Group...

will meet each Sunday during Advent, beginning Sunday 3rd of December. All Children from their preschool year and Primary are very welcome to join the group during Mass each Sunday.

Annual Christmas Fayre



Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the very enjoyable Christmas Fayre, 2023, either on the day or very kindly and generously before or after. The very grand sum of £1100 was raised. An update will follow with 2023 totals from the wonderful fundraising which has been going on through the year outwith the big events. Many thanks to all.

"The Kids" Annual Christmas Appeal

A message from Maire:



"The children in Kenya will be away from school for six weeks over the festive period and unable to have their daily porridge and lunch. The "Educate the Kids" food appeal will again help to provide a food parcel for every impoverished family over the holidays. You can help, as always, by donating a small amount after Mass over the weekends of 10th and 17th December, when there will be designated containers at the back of St Andrew's. Even £1 can make a difference. You can also donate online at www.educatethekids.com. Thank you once more on behalf of the children and their grateful families."

St Columba's "100" Club November Draw

Winner no. 43 J McElhone £30
Church funds £38.

St Andrew's "200" Club November Draw

£50 no. 62 Harry Holmes
£25 no. 101 Patricia O'Neill
£15 no. 8 Ana Price

Congratulations to all of this month's winners!

Church Cleaning Appeal


Please consider volunteering to help for one hour per month with Church or hall cleaning. Let a passkeeper know if you can!



St Andrew's Coffees/Teas on Sunday

All are welcome for Sunday teas/coffees in the hall. Please donate at least £1.50 for a hot drink and £2 for a drink and cake/biscuit if you can. All proceeds are for the Church apart from those from one team which are donated to St Andrew's Primary School.

MOOL

The MOOL charity which is based in the hall  basement at St Andrew's does a tremendous amount of good work with refugees in the region. They have asked for specific donations of training shoes for young men, walking boots and toiletries as well as all other general items of clothing. Please help if you can.

Please take a copy of the bulletin home to remind you of the times of services and events during the coming week and please take a copy to anyone you know who is sick or housebound.

