



*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 10th December, 2023**

*Mass timetable in the week ahead:*

Please note that Mass on Friday is at 10.30am and is in St Joseph's College Chapel. Hot drinks will be served afterwards in the library.

**St Andrew's: Wednesday at 10am; Friday at 10.30am (in St Joseph's College Chapel).**

**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 Teresa's on Saturday, 16th December at 10am.*

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

*Mass of the "Junior Vinnies"*

The Mass on Friday at 10.30am is part of the work of the Junior Vinnies. It will be held in the College Chapel and there will be hot drinks in the school library after Mass. All are welcome.

*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.

*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 Penitential service is on **Tuesday 12th December at 7pm**.

*Diocesan Mass timetable*

Please find a blue poster on the noticeboard and at the outside window which lists all 2023 Christmas Masses in the Diocese of Galloway. There will also be a service of readings and carols for Christmas at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, on **Wednesday 20th December at 7.30pm**. All are welcome.

*"Standard" Toy Appeal*

The annual toy collection for local children in need will take place this weekend. Please bring unwrapped toys for children of any ages to weekend Masses. Thank you!

*SSVP meeting in the week ahead*

The next meeting of the St Andrew's conference of St Vincent de Paul will be in the Church house on **Tuesday 12th December at 7pm**.

*Collections*

**St Andrew's** collection was £516.90 and £34.50 was raised at Coffee. **SSVP** collected £86.51. Thank you very much.

**Firstbase** continues to be grateful for all donations.

**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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**10th December , 2023**

**2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

Isaiah 40: 1-5. 9-11

2 Peter 3: 8-14

Mark 1: 1-8

**Psalm Response**

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

**Today's Liturgy:** Eucharistic Prayer I

**Next Sunday :**

3rd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

**2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

Every year on the second Sunday of Advent, the Church asks us to ponder the words and deeds of St John the Baptist. John reminds us of the need to prepare for the coming of Christ with self-reflection and repentance.

**Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:**

Tuesday:	Thomas Jeavons anniversary
Wednesday:	John Uphill
Thursday:	Barney Coyle
Friday:	Intention
Saturday:	Ronald Price
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](http://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 are forming 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 a second practice in the Church on **Sunday 17th December at 1pm**. Barbara will 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 practice. Christmas is a time for singing, please come along and add to the chorus.

### St Columba's Children's Group...

will meet each Sunday during Advent. All Children from their preschool year and Primary years are very welcome to join the group during Mass each Sunday.



### Seniors' Christmas Dinner

It's nearing the time for the Seniors' dinner in the hall on **Wednesday 13th December at 6 for 6.30pm**. Final numbers have now gone to the Caterers. We hope that everyone who attends will have a very warm and enjoyable evening. Thank you as ever to Fiona and the team for all of their hard work in the lead-up to and at this event!

### Annual Christmas Fayre and fundraising



The magnificent fundraising totals from the Christmas fayre and many, often unseen efforts through the year will see £1600 added to Church funds and £1200 sent to "Friends of the Holy Land" who need support this year more than ever. The Jars of Hope are adding a further £170 for the "Friends of the Holy Land". Very well done to everyone for a wonderful result from a great deal of careful work!

### 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.

### "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](http://www.educatethekids.com). Thank you once more on behalf of the children and their grateful families."

### Advent and Christmas Dates for your calendar

Tues 12th Dec– Penitential Service at St Columba's at 7pm.

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.

Wed 20th Dec– A service of readings and carols for Christmas at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, at 7.30pm.

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

### "New Look" Parish Website

From Dave Buckley: The new design of website for the two Churches went live last Sunday, 4th December. It has been redesigned by a member of the parish. Access to the website is still via the existing domain names - [www.standrewsdumfries.org.uk](http://www.standrewsdumfries.org.uk); [www.stcolumbasannan.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbasannan.org.uk) Thank you very much to Dave who did a great job of setting up the website and keeping it well-maintained until the handover. Thank you also & good luck to the hardworking, new webmaster.



### 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.

### 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.



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.

