



*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 24th December, 2023

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

There is a Christmas timetable in the week ahead. NB There is no Mass in St Columba's on Tuesday at 10am.

St Andrew's: Monday at 10am; Wednesday at 10am; Friday at 10am

St Columba's: Thursday at 7pm.

Weekend Masses:

St Andrew's: Saturday Vigil at 6pm ; Sunday at 10am; Sunday Carols at 9.30pm and Mass at 10pm.

St Columba's : Sunday at 12noon; Sunday at 6pm.

NB There is Mass with exposition in St Teresa's on Saturday, 30th December at 10am.

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

Christmas Mass timetable

Please note that Christmas Day is a Holyday of obligation. The Christmas Masses will be on Christmas Eve at **6pm at St Columba's** and at **10pm at St Andrew's** (with carols from **9.30pm**). Masses on Christmas Day will be at **10am at St Andrew's** and at **12 noon at St Columba's**.

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.

Mon 1st Jan, New Year Mass

There will be a Mass on Monday 1st January, 2024. This is the Feast of Mary, mother of God. It is no longer a Holyday of Obligation but remains a major Marion Feast and a great way to start the New Year.

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.

Church Coffee break

Those who run Sunday Coffee are having a well-earned, Christmas break and will return on Sun 7th January. Thank you!

Collections

St Andrew's collection was £693.11; Sunday Coffee raised £73.52 and £20 was donated for the Fabric fund. **Jars of Hope** donated £170 to "Friends of the Holy Land" and then went up by £47, leaving £54 in the fund. **SSVP** collected £195.29. **St Columba's** collection was £298.23 and £24.65 was donated for SCIAF. 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

Father Gerald Donnelly
27 Brooke Street, Dumfries, DG1 2JL

Telephone 01387 254281

E-mails: rcdumfriesannan@sky.com(office)

dumfries.standrew@gallowaydiocese.org.uk (Priest)



standrewsdumfries.org.uk

stcolumbasannan.org.uk

facebook.com/standrewsdumfries

facebook.com/stcolumbasannan

24th December , 2023

4th Sunday of Advent (Year B)

2 Samuel 7: 1-5. 8-12. 14-16

Romans 16: 25-27

Luke 1: 26-38

Psalm Response

I will sing for ever of your Love, O Lord.

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer III

Next Sunday :

The Holy Family (Year B)

4th Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Today the weeks and months of preparing for Christmas are almost over. Christmas Day is just around the corner. Another 24 hours and our Christmas celebrations will be under way. But it's still not too late to capture the true spirit of this feast. Who better to guide us in our quest than Mary, who is at the very heart of the Christmas story?

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Monday: Intention

Tuesday: No Mass

Wednesday: Robert Siddons

Thursday: Ronald Mitchell

Friday: Charles Lundie anniversary

Saturday: Mary and Peter McGeehan

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

Anne Murdy

Eric Sherman

James Behan

Anne Richardson

Astrida Kruste

Ted & Jean Machin

Cathy O'Neill

Michael O'Regan

Peter Richardson

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.

Christmas and New Year Masses

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



Thank God for our New Bishop!

We are delighted to announce that Pope Francis has appointed a new Bishop of Galloway Diocese. He is Fr Frank Dougan who is currently a priest in the Motherwell Diocese.

Reacting to his appointment Fr Frank said, "I am humble and more than a little nervous that Pope Francis has asked me to take on this office. I feel confident however that I will not be alone in spreading the joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I will be joining with every single person in Galloway Diocese, all of whom have a role to play, my role being just one of them."

We look forward to welcoming Fr Frank to the Diocese and we pray for his sustenance as we prepare to support him in his future ministry.



Wishing every parishioner and their family members and friends every blessing and

happiness through this Christmas season.



"The Kids" Annual Christmas Appeal

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to the £398.31 which was collected in Church for "The Kids" in Kenya's food while they are 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. The money raised is on its way directly to the charity and each £1 can buy a fair bag of rice which will be very much appreciated by the families. You can donate at any time online at www.educatethekids.com. Thank you once more on behalf of the children and their grateful families.

Street Pastors "Pilot Patrol" in Dumfries

Street Pastors are Christians who have been trained to a high standard to assist on the streets at night time in a very practical way. The teams of 3 or 4 under a team leader will listen, care for and help anyone who gets into bother while out late. We are asked to pray for them as they run "pilot patrols" in Dumfries from Sat night at 11pm until 3am on Christmas Eve.

RCIA Inquirers

Please speak with Fr Gerald if you are interested at all in finding out more about Roman Catholicism with a view to making an informed and carefully considered decision about whether or not you want to join in full communion with the Church. Your enquiry will be very welcomed.

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.



A Big, "Well Done" to p4 Crafters

A very big well done also to the St Andrew's Primary p4 Crafters who raised a further £101 for the collection for "Educate the Kids". What a fantastic effort and outcome! You have helped the families in Kenya to feel cared for this Christmas!

Church Cleaning Appeal

Please consider volunteering to help for one hour per month with Church or hall cleaning in small, friendly teams. Let Fr Gerald or one of the pass keepers know if you can sign up. Cleaning times can be flexible to fit with individual schedules and no technical skills are needed! More details are also available from Ana in the Parish Office on Fridays. Tel 01387 254281. Thank you!

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.

