



*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 21st January, 2024**

*Mass timetable in the week ahead:*

There is a normal Mass timetable in the week ahead.

**St Andrew's: Wednesday at 10am; 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,  
27th January at 10am.*

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

*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

This week we celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian unity.  
We pray for all of our Christian sisters and brothers in other  
Christian communities.

*Sunday of the Word of God*

Since 2019 Pope Francis has designated this Sunday the "Word of  
God Sunday". We reflect on the place of scripture in our lives.  
We are a people of scripture and we proclaim and hopefully live  
the Good News of the Gospel. Pope Francis tells us that  
"...devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of  
God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen  
Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to  
proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world."

*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.

*Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Minutes*

You can find the minutes of the PPC meeting on 16th January,  
2024, on the Church noticeboard. Please approach Fr Gerald or  
any member of the PPC with any matters arising.

*Meeting in the week ahead*

The **St Andrew's Conference of SSVP** will meet in the Church  
house on Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm.

*Collections*

**St Andrew's** collection was £985.60 and £50.40 was collected at  
Coffee. **SSVP** donations amounted to £129.92. The annual crib  
collection for St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society  
raised £259.30. **St Columba's** collection was £181.55 with  
£38.08 for SCIAF. Thank you very much.

*Firstbase...* and the people whom the charity supports, continue  
to be grateful for all donations.

**Pope Francis' prayer intention for January:**

**For the gift of diversity in the Church**

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the  
gift of different charisms within the Christian community  
and to discover the richness of different traditions and  
rituals in the Catholic Church.

### **Parish Priest**

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### **21st January , 2024**

**3rd Sunday of the year (Year B)**

Jonah 3:1-5. 10

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

Mark 1: 14-20

**Psalm Response**

Lord, make me know your ways.

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

**Next Sunday :**

4th Sunday of the year (Year B)

### **3rd Sunday of the year (Year B)**

Jesus calls us each day to follow him and to seek the  
kingdom of God. Each day gives us a new opportunity to  
follow Christ.

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

Tuesday:	Maria Lucchesi anniversary
Wednesday:	Ronald Mitchell
Thursday:	Taylor Smith
Friday:	Mary Duffy anniversary
Saturday:	Gertude Siddons anniversary
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
Anne Richardson	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](http://www.virc.at) This website provides the readings for the  
Mass in many languages, eg English.  
Please convey information and updates to anyone you  
know who is sick or housebound.




**Year of Prayer**

Pope Francis has designated this year a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Holy Year of 2025. A Holy Year is celebrated every 25 years. In this Year of Prayer we examine our own lives of prayer and look to ways in which we can deepen our relationship with Christ.

**Presentation Masses and Confirmation**

The P4 Sacramental Rites of Enrolment and Presentation Masses in both Churches will take place at the normal Mass times on **Sunday 28th January**. The Confirmation Masses will similarly take place at the normal Mass times in both Churches on **Sunday 4th February**. Please pray for all of the children, their families and teachers as they work hard in preparation for those milestones in their lives of faith and involvement in the wider Church.



**Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect Frank Dougan**  
 St Peter-in-Chains Church, Ardrossan  
 Saturday 9th March 2024 at 11am  
**Ceremony to take Possession of the Cathedral**  
 St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr  
 Sunday 10th March 2024 at 3pm

Entry to both ceremonies is by ticket only and details of ticket allocation and distribution will be announced nearer the time.  
 Please pray for our Bishop-Elect, Frank.

**Blue Token Appeal for School**

Tesco stores help small groups raise money for various causes. Shoppers can vote for their preferred group by placing a blue token into the box and the group with the most tokens receives £1500.

St Andrew's Primary School are currently one of the groups that can be voted for: they are raising money to help revamp the library. Please take your token at the checkout and drop it in the St Andrew's box if you'd like to support the school!

**Friends of the Holy Land update:** "Many thanks to all those who donated to our Christmas Campaign. You have gifted nearly £200,000! We are humbled by your response and are making sure your love and care is going directly where it is needed: £100,000 has already gone directly into Gaza to help those sheltering from the war, we are adding 15 new families to our Family Support Programme, we have expanded our emergency support programme and we are currently developing major projects to improve the water supply, employment and the healing of the most vulnerable."


**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.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word to resume**

Children's Liturgy at St Andrew's is due to resume after a break of several years. Two dedicated parishioners now have all of their PVG clearances and will run a first Children's Liturgy of the Word in the Church hall during a Mass on **Sunday 18th February**. Any children are welcome to go to the hall with the two leaders when Fr Gerald gives the signal after the start of Mass and they will be accompanied back into the Church before Communion. Parents are welcome to attend if they would like to meet the leaders and accompany their children at first. The children will have an opportunity to learn about the weekly Word in language which is more accessible for them. Please catch Fr Gerald or phone into the Parish Office on Fridays if you have any queries.

Please also speak with Fr Gerald or call into the office if you would be willing to have the PVG checks done with a view to helping out with the Children's Liturgy so that it can run weekly again rather than roughly monthly to fit with the commitments of the two new leaders. The dates of future Children's Liturgy sessions will be intimated in the bulletin. Please support this opportunity for children in the Parish in any way you can. Thank you.



**St Andrew's Coffees/Teas on Sunday**

All are welcome for Sunday teas/coffees in the hall after Mass on Sunday. There are tasty treats and an opportunity to meet up with family and friends for a catch-up. 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.

If you would like to help with providing the refreshments in the coming year, please speak with Fr Gerald or with members of any of the Coffee teams. The more of us there are, the easier the job!

**Fr Kyuka Education Fund**

From Jo Kemp: "We have sent £1200 to Fr Frederick in Uganda. Last year it helped two students at university, one studying Food Processing and the other Economics. For those who are new to the parish, Fr Frederick used to come every summer to provide holiday cover for our priest. Thus began our involvement with educating Fr Frederick's young relatives as his siblings had died in the AIDS epidemic. We began a fund to help Fr Frederick's family continue their studies. We paid for 6 youngsters to complete their education. Since then the Christians in Uganda have felt their values were being undermined and a university was founded. I am not sure of the details but we are now helping underfunded students on an ad hoc basis.

Many thanks to those who have contributed over the past 15 plus years to make a huge difference to the young people. Supporters pay £5 to £20 per month into the Kyuka Fund account and I usually transfer whatever we have into Fr Frederick's account in January. No money disappears in costs except for the bank transfer charge. If you feel able to join us please contact me on: 01387 850554 or e-mail [jf.kemp@talktalk.net](mailto:jf.kemp@talktalk.net). Thank you, Jo Kemp"

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.

