



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 18th February, 2024

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

NB There will be Stations of the Cross in both Churches and a slightly altered Mass schedule at St Columba's in the coming week.

St Andrew's: Wednesday at 10am; Stations of the Cross on Wednesday at 7pm; Friday at 10am.

St Columba's: Stations of the Cross on Tuesday at 11am; Mass on Tuesday at 11.30am; 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, 24th February at 10am.

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

St Columba's Lenten Tuesday Timetable

There will be Stations of the Cross at St Columba's on Tuesdays, followed by Mass at 11.30am and a Lenten Lunch at 12 noon. All are welcome. If anyone would like to volunteer to make soup for the Lenten lunches could they please put their name on the list at the back of the Church. Thank you.

St Andrew's Stations of the Cross

If any parishioner wishes to lead the Stations on any week, please let Fr Gerald know.

First Holy Communion

We pray for the candidates and their families as they journey towards First Holy Communion which will be celebrated in both parishes on **Sunday 9th June**.

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 Andrew's Parish Library

Many thanks to Darren who has maintained the small library at the back of the Church and is now needing to hand over to someone else. Please let Fr Gerald know if you can take over.

Meeting in the week ahead

The St Andrew's Conference of SSVP will meet in the Church house on **Tuesday 20th February at 7pm**.

Collections

St Andrew's collection was £533.20 and £60.10 at Coffee. **SSVP** donations amounted to £166.91. **St Columba's** collection was £211.01 with £36.20 for SCIAF. Thank you very much.

Firstbase... continue to be grateful for all donations.

**Pope Francis' prayer intention for February:
For the terminally ill**

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Parish Priest

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18th February , 2024

1st Sunday in Lent (Year B)

Genesis 9: 8-15

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1: 12-15

Psalm Response

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer II

Next Sunday :

2nd Sunday in Lent (Year B)

1st Sunday in Lent (Year B)

We come together as a community in loving relationship with our neighbour and with all living creatures. "Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary" (Pope Benedict XVI). We trust in God's compassion and mercy. Time spent in reflection during the season of Lent can help us to change and to grow in faith.

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Tuesday: Bill Paterson anniversary

Wednesday: John Gordon anniversary

Thursday: Ellen Murphy anniversary

Friday: Richard Uphill anniversary

Saturday: Peggy McCarron

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 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.

There is a Holy Year Facebook page at "Holy Year Scotland 2025" for those who would like to access updates and resources. This can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/holyyearsScotland2025>.



Lenten Lunches

Lenten Lunches continue on Fridays at St John's from 12noon. Our St Andrew's parish provides the fayre on Friday 22nd March. Please help by donating funds towards the cheese and other provisions. Can volunteer soup makers, servers for the day, bakers for the "Bring and Buy" stall and financial contributors please contact Carol at Vigil Mass or on tel 01387 264356. All proceeds are for "Christian Aid". Thank you!



St Andrew's notices:

The Parish shop has a range of cards and gifts for Easter, St Patrick's day and for Mothers' Day.

Cleaning appeal: If you can help with Church cleaning for one hour per month on a Wednesday after 10am Mass or at 1pm, please let Fr Gerald know or phone or e-mail into the Parish Office. Your help would be appreciated.

World Day of Prayer Service

The Dumfries Christian Network, of which our Church is a member, are having their annual service for the World Day of Prayer at St John's Church, Lovers Walk, on **Friday 1st March at 10.45am**. Fr Gerald will be there and all parishioners are welcome to attend with him.

Annan Churches Together (ACT) Ceilidh

Barbara Lewis and Spectrum have very kindly agreed to provide the music for an ACT Ceilidh on **Saturday April 20th at 7pm**. This will take place in Annan Old Church Hall. They will be issuing 150 tickets at a cost of £10 each. They hope this will be an enjoyable evening and all are welcome.

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 today, **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. 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.



"Right to Life" Campaign

Catherine Robinson from "Right to Life UK" was in touch as follows: "Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!"



SCIAF WEE BOX Prayer

"Loving Father, Merciful God, we worship You. You are a mighty God, far above the sin of this world, yet You choose to show compassion to each of us because You love us. We remember the country of Rwanda. Bring your comfort on those who live with trauma and suffering, and bring your healing power in their lives. Help us understand the ways of Jesus better, so that we can show love in action to our sisters and brothers across the world. Amen." Wee Boxes are at the back of the Churches.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Ahead

St Andrew's PPC will next meet in the house on Tuesday 5th March at 7pm.
St Columba's PPC will next meet after evening Mass on Thursday 24th April. All are welcome to attend.

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 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.

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.

