



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 14th December, 2025

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

NB. Mass on Thursday in St Columba's is at 10am this week. Mass on Friday is at 9.30am in St Andrew's primary school to which all parishioners are invited.

Weekday Masses:

St Andrew's: Wednesday at 10am; Friday at 9.30am in St Andrews primary school.

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

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's on Saturday, 20th December.

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 Andrews** (with carols from **9.30pm**). Masses on Christmas Day will be at **10am at St Andrew's and 12 noon at St Columba's**.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

There will be a Penance Service on Wednesday 17th December at 7pm in St Andrew's.

In St Columba's there will be the opportunity for Reconciliation after Mass on Tuesday 16th December, or any time on request.

Galloway News

The most recent edition of the Galloway News is now available.

Meeting Dates

St Andrew's PPC— Tuesday 3rd February at 7pm in the house.

St Columba's PPC—Tuesday 20th January at 10.30am.

Collections

St Andrew's collection was £560.64. **SSVP** collected £138.90. **St Columba's** collection was £179.25 with £54.68 for SCIAF. Many thanks.

First Base food bank: Please keep up your donations of non-perishable foodstuffs for the Food Bank, suggestions include coffee, long-life milk, pasta, cooking sauces and tins. They are grateful for all donations.

Rest in Peace

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Norah Scott** and **Janice Sim**. We pray for the comforting of their families at this time.

The Pope's prayer intention for December:

For Christians in Areas of Conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Parish Priest

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standrewsdumfries.org.uk

stcolumbasannan.org.uk

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14th December, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent (Missal pg 13) (Year A)

Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11

Psalm Response

Come, Lord, and save us

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer II

Next Sunday :

Forth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Third Sunday in Advent (Year A)

This Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, meaning "rejoice", is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon and sets a tone of joyful expectation for our celebration. The readings summon us to a joyful hope in the coming again of the Lord, who will turn our tears to joy as he enters our wilderness as the servant who saves.

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Tuesday: Patricia Gray anniversary

Wednesday: Norah Scott

Thursday: Intention

Friday: Norah Scott

Saturday: Intention

Sunday: For the Parish

Please remember in your prayers

those who are sick; those who are housebound; those who are named on the family prayer ministry requests and all of those whose needs are not known to us.

Please pray at this time for...

Dan and Willa McCarron	Ted & Jean Machin
May Fuller	Catherine O'Neill
Anne Murdy	Eric Sherman
Thomas Gray	Catherine Smith
Anne & Peter Richardson	Helen McMillan
All others who are ill	

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.

Surge in 'flu cases'

You may have seen recently on the news. There has been a huge surge in 'flu' cases recently. There have been no direct protocols issued from the Bishops' Conference as there were with Covid, however, please exercise health and hygiene good practice. If you have any symptoms or feel ill please do not come to Mass. Please use the full capacity of the church, there's plenty of space. If you feel uncomfortable with the sign of peace feel free to omit it. Please do not be offended if others do not want to shake hands with you. Feel free to wear a face mask in church. No one wants to miss or feel miserable at Christmas so let's help and respect each other.

Sacramental Preparation

Bishop Dougan has announced the normal practice for the the Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will no longer be before reception of First Holy Communion in (P4). It will be celebrated at a later age. He has yet to decide what age that will be and there will enter a process of consultation and discernment over the coming months. He will also publish a fuller explanation of his decision in the coming weeks.

St Mary's, New Abbey

Advent Service of Carols and Readings
The Carol Service at St Mary's, New Abbey is on **Friday 19th December at 7pm**, followed by refreshments in the house.
All are welcome.

Youth (P6-S4) Evenings

Adult leaders are needed for these events in St Teresa's, Dumfries, to supervise, ensure safeguarding at them and to cook pizza. All that's required is 2 hours per month. You will not be expected to lead the evenings, or to prepare activities for the evening – all of the preparation, planning, and promotion is done by our Diocesan Youth Office in collaboration with their S3 Junior Leaders. Could you help? Email youth@rcdg.org.uk for more details or to volunteer.

On Sunday 21st December, 5-7pm at St Teresa's, the next cluster meeting will focus on 'Advent & Christmas: Preparing to welcome Christ'.

RC Diocese of Galloway Youth and Young Adults

Please see the noticeboard and the Diocesan social media for information about Young Adults' events on 7th and 12th December and about the Gen Hope in June, 2026 (S1-S3)!

St Columba's Round-Up

"100" Club: Many thanks to the "100" Club team for their years of service. They are needing to hand it over to someone new. Please do volunteer to take on this worthwhile endeavour if you can.

Other parish services: Your help would also be much appreciated with reading at Mass or with helping to count collections. We all need to pull together to manage St Columba's for every parishioner. Please do what you can!

NB There is a First Aid box and a Defibrillator in the Church Sacristy should either be needed at any time.



St Andrew's Choir Practices

Practices will be Sunday 14th December at 1pm, with the final practice on Sunday 21st December. Come along if you enjoy singing, no special skill needed! All are very welcome.

St Columba's School Christmas Church Service

Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with Christmas carols and a re-enactment of the Nativity.
On Tuesday 16th December at 10am at St Columba's Church, Scott Street, Annan

St Joseph's College Carol Service

The **Christmas Carol Service** will be in the College Memorial Chapel at 6.30pm on **Tuesday 16th December**. There will be refreshments in the school afterwards and all are welcome!

Christmas Concert in St Columba's on Saturday 20th December, 7.00pm.

There will be an evening of classical Christmas music in St. Tickets cost £10 (which includes refreshments). Donations of wine are welcome and tickets can be delivered to St Andrew's if needed. The programme will be presented by local artists including the cellist, Alex McQuiston. Please come along!

International Migrants Day Open Event



Thursday 18th December 2-7 pm
Stalls with crafts, cakes and bric-a-brac
Wreath making sessions 3-5pm
All welcome at The Depot

FESTIVE GIFT IDEAS



'The Depot' Festive Gift Campaign

In these trying times The Depot is launching its Festive Gift Campaign to help us support those who find themselves far from home. Small acts of kindness make this world a better place and they hope that you will consider adding them to your gift list this year.

DIOCESAN SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay up to date with all the latest news and events from across the Diocese and follow us: **@rcdgalloway** on Facebook, X, or Instagram, and check out the website: www.rcdg.org.uk.



St Andrew's Coffees/Teas on Sunday

All are welcome for Sunday teas/coffees/juice in the hall after Mass on Sunday. There are tasty treats on offer. 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.

