



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 Priest

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Parish Notices

Week beginning 28th December, 2025

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

NB. Mass on Wednesday is the Requiem Mass for Pat O'Neill. There is Mass on Thursday morning in St Andrew's at 10am and there is no Mass in St Columba's on Thursday.

Weekday Masses:

St Andrew's: Wednesday at 10am; Thursday at 10am; Friday at 10am.

St Columba's: Tuesday 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 on Saturday, Saturday 3rd January.

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

First Saturday Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima

This will be said next Saturday, 3rd January at 5.15pm at Our Lady's altar. All are welcome.

Justice and Peace

There will be a second collection for the work of the Justice and Peace commission at Masses next weekend.

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.

Congratulations!

Many congratulations to Erin Walseth who was confirmed and received first Holy Communion last weekend !

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 £1002.10 with £144.40 for two Sunday coffees. **SSVP** collected £169.10. **St Columba's** collection over two Sundays was £287.78 with £78.84 for SCIAF and £28.02 at the School Nativity Mass. December "100" Club raised £54. 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.

Rest in Peace

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Pat O'Neill** who has died. We pray for the comforting of Pat's family at this time. The Requiem Mass for Pat is this Wednesday, 31st December at 10am.

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.

28th December, 2025

The Nativity of the Lord (Missal p40) (A)

Sirach 3: 2-6. 12-14

Colossians 3: 12-21

Matthew 2: 13-15. 19-23

Psalm Response

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer I

Next Sunday :

Feast of the Epiphany (Year A)

The Nativity of the Lord (Year A)

Today, as we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, we reflect upon our own families and ask God's blessing upon them. We also reflect upon our place in God's family.

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Tuesday: Mary Harvey

Wednesday: Pat O'Neill

Thursday: Pat O'Neill

Friday: Norah Scott

Saturday: Norah Scott

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'

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 since 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 this time so let's help and respect each other.

Sacramental Preparation

Bishop Dougan has announced that the normal practice for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will no longer be for 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. The Bishop will publish a fuller explanation of his decision in the coming weeks.

Next week's bulletin has been prepared in advance. Any new notices and updates will appear on 10th/11th January.



Wishing every parishioner a warm, holy and blessed Christmas and new year!

Bishop's Christmas Message 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we celebrate the great Feast of Christmas and also to the end of our Jubilee Year, the word that unites both things is **Hope**, a hope that is not an aspiration, but a sure and certain thing rooted in the presence and love of God. Pope Leo spoke of this in an Advent angelus address:

"Sisters and brothers, how much the world needs this hope! Nothing is impossible to God. Let us prepare ourselves for his Kingdom, let us welcome it. The little child, Jesus of Nazareth, will lead us! He who placed himself in our hands, from the night of his birth to the dark hour of his death on the cross, shines upon our history as the rising Sun. A new day has begun: let us arise and walk in his light!"

The message the angels give the shepherds is the same message they bring to us: Today a Saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord. As I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas, let our prayer be that the Light of Christ will dispel the darkness of hurt and despair in those who are struggling, and that the hope that only Christ can bring will be felt in the hearts of all people.

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. Could you help? Email youth@rcdg.org.uk for more details or to volunteer.

RC Diocese of Galloway Youth and Young Adults

Please see the noticeboard and the Diocesan social media for information about Youth and Young Adults' events in the Diocese in the course of 2026.

Fr Gerald Quiz Challenge

Fr Gerald challenges all parishioners to have a go at this puzzle from his Donnelly family Christmas quiz.

What would come next in this logical sequence?

(NB you don't need to have a comprehensive grasp of football detail to crack this one.....)

A small donation to the fabric fund might secure the solution!.....

Specifically, what would come next in this sequence?



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 Columba's "100" Club

"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 if 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 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.

