

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGICAL ACT	INTENTION
Sunday 10 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	5:00pm (Sat)	St Peter in Chains	Vigil Mass	Canon McAllister (Anniv.)
	9:30am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	James Close (Anniv.)
	11:30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	Angelo & Marlene Torres (Wedding Anniv.)
	5:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	For the People
Monday 11 December (<i>St Damasus I</i>)	10:00am	St Peter in Chains	Holy Mass	Margaret Lynch (RIP)
	12:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Funeral Mass	Margaret Gracie (RIP)
Tuesday 12 December (<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>)	7:00pm	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Greta McNeil (RIP)
Wednesday 13 December <i>St Lucy</i>	NO	MASS	CELEBRATED	TODAY
Thursday 14 December <i>St John of the Cross</i>	7:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	Allan Moore (RIP)
Friday 15 December	10:00am	St Peter in Chains	Holy Mass	
Saturday 16 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	10:00am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Private Intention
	5:00pm	St Peter in Chains	Vigil Mass	
Sunday 17 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9:30am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	For the People
	11:30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	Bobbie Robertson (RIP)
	5:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday - St John & St Columba - 6:30pm - 6:50pm
 Thursday - Our Lady of Lourdes - 6:30pm - 6:50pm
 Saturday - St John & Columba - 10:30am - 11:00am
 - St Peter in Chains - 4:30pm - 4:50pm

Rosary & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday - St John & St Columba - 6:30pm - 7:00pm
 Thursday - Our Lady of Lourdes - 6:30pm - 7:00pm
 Saturday - St John & St Columba - 9:30am - 10:00am
 Sunday - St John & St Columba 9:00am - 9:30am
 Our Lady of Lourdes 4:30pm - 5:00pm

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Priest - Fr Andrew Kingham (email: frandrew.kingham@stened.org.uk)
 Parish Office & Presbytery – 67 Aberdour Road, Dunfermline, KY11 4QZ Telephone 01383 722202
Parish Deacon - Rev Pat Carrigan (email: obl.columba@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary – please email the Parish Priest

Parish Assistant – Dean McGuire (email: mhparishnewsletter@gmail.com) newsletter submissions to be received by 12 noon on a Thursday.

Parish Safeguarding Officers - Michael McCourt (*PiC*); Lisa Quinn & Karen Parker (*J&C*); Andrew Millar & Christopher Nwachukwu (*OLoL*)

Marriages & Baptisms

Arrangements for weddings, for which six months notice is required, as well as Baptisms should be made by appointment with the Parish Priest.

The Anointing of the Sick & Hospital Visitations

The Anointing of the Sick should ordinarily be arranged prior to any prolonged hospital visit. Those who require the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at home, should contact the Parish Priest to arrange a visit. In cases of emergency where you or a family member require the pastoral assistance of the Catholic Chaplain, please request this from the nursing staff at the hospital.

Funeral Arrangements

For funeral arrangements please make contact with Fr Andrew.

Names for sick list

Names can only be added by the person themselves or by a member of the family. Please advise the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

Please collect an envelope from the back of the Church. When complete these can be given to the Priest or put through the Presbytery door at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please print the name of the person in block capitals for ease of legibility.

The Most Holy Trinity is a Parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. A Charity registered in Scotland Number SC008540

*The Catholic Parish of the
 Most Holy Trinity
 Parish Newsletter.*

**Sunday 10 December 2023
 Second Sunday of Advent (B)**

Reflection - Prepare a Way

Repentance and forgiveness console God's people and prepare the way for the Lord to enter our hearts. The magnificent first reading from the prophet Isaiah today looks forward to the appearance of God. Great preparations take place for his arrival - hills are lowered, valleys filled in, a straight highway is made in the desert. The joyful message of God's approach is proclaimed from the mountain tops and shouted in the streets.

How will this God show himself to his people? Not as a warrior-king with a frightening display of military power or with thunderbolts in his hands, but as a shepherd-king: feeding his flock, gathering the lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading the mother ewes to rest. God's coming liberates and frees his people through tenderness and forgiveness.

The Gospel presents John the Baptist as one who comes preparing the way for the Lord by proclaiming 'a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'. According to Mark, all Judea and the whole of Jerusalem come to John for baptism and to hear the proclamation of forgiveness – a moment of real conversion. John says that another will come, more powerful than himself, who will baptise, not with water, but with the Holy Spirit.

Our Advent readings help us realise God's profound love for us and his presence within us through the Holy Spirit. Knowing that God will always treat us with love and tender care helps us to turn again towards him and to trust in the depth of his mercy. Our Advent journey is showing us how to prepare our hearts for a fresh discovery of God's presence in our lives; how to recognise the hidden presence of Jesus among and around us; how to turn around and face towards God with faith, hope and love; and how to be the living presence of Jesus in our moment of history.

The candles of the Advent Wreath remind us of the growing light and warmth of God's love made visible in Christ.

The Season of Advent

The word "advent" means appearing, arrival, to come. Advent is the Church's time of preparation for celebrating God's gift of his Son. Our liturgy will gather the great Advent themes of hope, expectation and preparation. During Advent we recall Christ's coming at Bethlehem and we look forward to his second coming at the end of time. Advent is a season of joyful expectation.

The predominant colour during Advent is purple. Unlike Lent, Advent is not a penitential season. The purple colour represents hope, expectation and healing. It is one of the royal colours. We are preparing to welcome the King, the "sun of justice" who "will shine out with healing in its rays". (Mal 4:2 NRSV, 3:20 Jerusalem)

The custom of the Advent Wreath began in Germany in the 16th century. It symbolises the many years that the people of Israel waited in darkness for the coming of the expected Saviour. The light of the wreath grows steadily during our Advent prayer.

Advent has two parts. The first two Sundays focus on preparing for Jesus' return at the end of time. The second two Sundays focus on preparing to celebrate the anniversary of Jesus' birth.

The Gospels of the Sundays in Advent have four great movements: 1. Stay Awake! 2. Prepare! 3. Rejoice! and 4. Receive!

Advent is a journey from **Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!** to **Emmanuel. God-is-with-us!**

The Parish Clergy

Parish Priest:

Fr. Andrew Kingham

Parish Deacon:

Rev. Pat Carrigan

Contact details can be found on the back page.



St Peter in Chain's Church, Inverkeithing



St John & St Columba's Church, Rosyth



Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Dunfermline

Scripture Readings & Responses

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 40:1-5,9-11

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord— Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 84

R. *Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.*

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **(R)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **(R)**

SECOND READING

2 PETER 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The Word of the Lord— Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LUKE 3:4.6

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

The Gospel of the Lord— Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

This Week’s News & Events

St John & St Columba 200 Club - November

1st prize Stella Fitzgerald, 2nd prize Dorothy Brogan Snr, 3rd prize Pauline Livingston. Congratulations to this months winners. If you are interested in joining the 200 club, which raises funds for the church. Please speak to Lisa Quinn after Mass.

Advent Rosary

The Advent Pro-Life Rosary continues on Monday (11 December) at 7:45pm and includes a reflection from Fr Gerard Hatton (St Patrick’s, Cowgate). Join people from across the Archdiocese to pray for the unborn, mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/archprolifeevents

Advent Talk Series

Canon Hugh White continues his Advent talk series ‘Time with God’. This takes places each Monday, and can be found on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel at bit.ly/ArchYouTube

Edinburgh Jesuit Centre: Marking the Advent Time

Fr Adrian Porter SJ will explore the prayers, customs and traditions of the Advent liturgy beginning at 7pm on Monday 11 December at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston Street, Edinburgh EH3 9DJ. This is a free, one-hour session.

Donations for Holy Land

Archbishop Cushley is encouraging us to consider making a donation to Friends of the Holy Land in Advent. He said: “It is a non-political Christian charity and the donations will be used to provide aid and support for our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land at this difficult time.” A donation page has been set up for the Archdiocese at bit.ly/archholylnd. Find out more about its work at www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/about-us

Parish Crib Collection

Our parish crib collection will be donated this year to Friends of the Holy Land. A non-political Christian charity which supports our Christian brother and sisters in the Holy Land at this difficult time. Please be as generous as you can!

Our Lady of Lourdes St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Lourdes are collecting non-perishable food and Christmas gifts. Please kindly label gifts with information (boy/girl, teenage boy/girl, and age the gift is most suitable for). We would be grateful for supermarket vouchers, which gives people more choice. Please hand vouchers as well as donations, to a member of the SVDP at the back of the church. Thank you for your assistance and generosity in previous year’s, and in anticipation of this years collection.

Mass Times for Christmas

Christmas Mass times for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord will be as follows: Sunday 24 December (Christmas Eve), Vigil at 5pm in Our Lady of Lourdes: Vigil at 7pm in St Peter in Chains. Monday 25 December (Christmas Day), Holy Mass will be at 9am in St John & St Columba’s and 11am in Our Lady of Lourdes. Please feel free to share this information with family, friends and the wider community, who may wish to join us at this wonderful time of the year. Mass times for parishes within the Archdiocese can be found at www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/

St Paul’s Bookshop, Edinburgh

If you are in Edinburgh shopping and are looking for Christmas gift ideas, cards, bibles, rosary beads, holy images, calendars and lots more, visit St Paul’s Bookshop at St Mary’s Cathedral in Edinburgh (beside John Lewis). It is open seven days a week from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Lourdes Hospitalité Carol Service

The Lourdes Hospitalité Committee is hosting a Carol Service at 3pm today (10 December) at St Margaret’s Church, Main Street, Davidson’s Mains, Edinburgh, EH4 5AD. All are welcome to come along and join the festivities. There will be refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

Sunday 3 December 2023 <i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	<i>St Peter in Chain’s</i> <i>Inverkeithing</i>	<i>St John & St Columba’s</i> <i>Rosyth</i>	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> <i>Dunfermline</i>
Offertory Collection	£150.35	£90.80	£396.15
Spec. Collection -Catholic Ed.	£176.48	£133.04	£311.15
Standing Orders	£158.75	£364.63	£100.50
Bank Account Details	RBS A/C No: 00600297 Sort Code:833300	RBS A/C No: 00114865 Sort Code: 832339	RBS A/C No: 00249131 Sort Code: 833300