

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGICAL ACT	INTENTION
Sunday 24 December 4th Sunday of Advent	5:00pm (Sat)	St Peter in Chains	Vigil Mass	Maureen Green
	9:30am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Jim Norman (RIP)
	11:30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	For the People
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	5:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Vigil Mass	Eddie Lamond
	7:00pm	St Peter in Chains	Vigil Mass	Eva Gibbons (RIP)
Monday 25 December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9:00am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Maureen Green
	11:00am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	For the People
Tuesday 26 December St Stephen	7:00pm	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Clare Pennock
Wednesday 27 December St John	NO	MASS	CELEBRATED	TODAY
Thursday 28 December The Holy Innocents	7:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	Anne McBride
Friday 29 December (<i>St Thomas Becket</i>)	10:00am	St Peter in Chains	Holy Mass	Scott & Sharon Grant
Saturday 30 December Christmas Weekday by Date	10:00am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	David Swan
	5:00pm	St Peter in Chains	Vigil Mass	Michael & Elizabeth McHale (Spec Int.)
Sunday 31 December The Holy Family of, Jesus, Mary & Joseph	9:30am	St John & St Columba	Holy Mass	Moira McCrae (Sick)
	11:30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	Martin Wallace
	5:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Holy Mass	For the People

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 24 December 2023
 Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)**

Reflection - Receive Your Lord

The great Christmas feast is almost here.

As always in Advent, what is promised in the first reading is brought to fulfilment in the Gospel reading. We began Advent with the cry, ‘Come, Lord Jesus’. We will end it with the joyful shout, ‘God is with us!’

In the first reading King David wants to build a house (temple) for God, but God says that, instead, God will build David and his descendants into a great house. God is not about building temples to himself and it’s not dwelling-places made of wood or stone that God wants. God is about building a dwelling-place in human flesh. God is about building a people among whom and in whom he can live.

In the Gospel, Mary accepts God’s invitation to make herself into a dwelling place for God by receiving Christ and God makes his dwelling-place in her human flesh. Through her God has come to live permanently in humanity.

That is what we, too, are about – making ourselves into a living dwelling place for Christ. The great gift of Jesus to the world is not meant to be frozen in one moment of time. Through us, that Gift is made present in every moment of history so that through us Christ is able to continue to touch, to hold and to heal the world.

(Reflection shared with permission from Carmelites website Ocarm.org)

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

2 SAMUEL 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.’ Nathan said to the king, ‘Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.’ But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: ‘Go and tell my servant David, “Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.”’

The Word of the Lord— Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 88

R. *I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (**R**)
2. ‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages. (**R**)
3. ‘He will say to me: “You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.” I will keep my love for him always; with him my covenant shall last.’ (**R**)

SECOND READING

ROMANS 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord— Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LUKE 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LUKE 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. He went in and said to her, ‘Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.’ She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, ‘Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God’s favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?’ ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you’ the angel answered ‘and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.’ ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord,’ said Mary ‘let what you have said be done to me.’ And the angel left her.

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

This Week’s News & Events

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/

Christmas Message

I should like to take this opportunity to wish you and those you love a very happy and holy Christmas. May the Child of Bethlehem bring you peace and joy.

Father Andrew

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!

New Year’s Day Mass

What better way to bring in the New Year and start 2024 by attending Holy Mass. On 1st January, Mass will take place at 11am in Our Lady of Lourdes. Everyone from all three churches is encouraged to come along!

Criminalising of Prayer in Scotland

A new bill proposes criminalising prayer in designated 'buffer zones' around abortion centres in Scotland, including inside private homes within a 200m zone. Please respond to the government consultation which ends on 20 December (<https://bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey>). Please also write to your MSP to express your concerns. Visit <https://rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones> for more information on what you can do to stop this disproportionate and intolerant law being introduced. This includes help with responding to the consultation and writing to your MSP.

Feast of the Holy Innocents

Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents at midday on Thursday 28 December at St Margaret’s Chapel, The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. Complimentary refreshments and social afterwards. Register at bit.ly/archprolifeevents

Save the Date

The Archdiocesan Music Day is on Saturday 27 January 2024 at The Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. It is for those who contribute to the liturgy in their parish through music and/or singing, as well as for anyone interested in finding out more about sacred music. Details to follow soon.

Explore God’s Will

Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the first one takes place on Sunday 28 January, 4-7pm at St Columba’s, 9 Upper Gray Street. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. The series continues same time/venue: 25 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 12 May and 22 June. To register email religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

Diploma in Catechetics 2024

Explore the richness and depth of our Catholic faith with the Diploma in Catechetics from the Archdiocese, led by Sr Miriam Ruth Ryan RSM. Tune in each Thursday at 7:30pm for an expert-led Zoom Webinar. Includes guided readings, one-to-one support and a retreat. The course begins on Thursday 25 January 2024. Visit bit.ly/archdiploma2024. If you have any questions, please email smiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk.

Sunday 17 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	£214.50	£168.44	£551.93
Special Collection		£67.11 (Building Fund)	
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