

30<sup>th</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A



**PARISH CONTACTS**

**Parish Priest**

Fr Jamie Boyle Tel. 01786 473749

Email: [frjamie.boyle@staned.org.uk](mailto:frjamie.boyle@staned.org.uk)

**University Chaplain:** Fr Federico Dundas SOCSJ

Email: [fdundas@socsj.org](mailto:fdundas@socsj.org)

Parish Website [catholicstirling.org](http://catholicstirling.org)

Facebook: [St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicParishStirling)

**FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL**

**Co-ordinating Chaplain**

Canon Pat Boylan

Tel. 01324 823310 / 07731763228

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tues-Thurs - 10am-3pm**

Phone:01786 473749 Email:[admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk](mailto:admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk)

**St Mary's Church**, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES (SMY) 01786 473749

**Church of the Holy Spirit**, McGrigor Road, Stirling, FK7 9BL (HS)

**Church of St Margaret of Scotland**, Drip Road, Stirling, FK9 4UA (SMT) 01786 474883

**Please note:** Fr Jamie's day off is a Monday and the office is closed. Therefore, any messages left will not be picked up until Tuesday.

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, is really the Church's New Year – and the readings are full of promise and invitation.

Jeremiah speaks of a "virtuous branch" who will bring honesty and integrity. God hasn't forgotten his people; his promise still stands. Paul prays that our love "increase and overflow" – not just that we get through Christmas, but that we grow in holiness.

And then Luke's Gospel reminds us that even when the world feels shaky and uncertain, we don't need to be afraid. "Stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand."

Advent isn't about panic or pressure. It's about slowing down, watching, staying awake to God. Maybe this week we can make one small, concrete act of hope – a prayer, a kindness, a



**Response to the psalm:**

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia**

Show us, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

**R. Alleluia**

## PARISH NEWS

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:** David Anderson, John Barrett, Irene Bett, Mary Bett, Bobby Brown, Derrick Bruce, Mary Burns, Anne Chadband, Donald Copland, Scott Coubrough, Patsy Docherty, Margaret Doherty, Patricia Doherty, Mark Christian Fernandez, Ava Gordon, Robert Graham, Sarah Hart, Lusia Koloczek, Romie Lesista Jnr, Kevin Mackin, Rosie Mangan, Sally Martin, Beth Meldrum, Joe Meldrum, Jessie Mitchell, Margaret Neilson, Annie Theresa Nevin, Margaret O'Rourke, Catherine Philomy, Theresa Pierce, Cheska Mary Rose, Jeannette Simpson, Annmarie Stokes, Tom & Tony Stokes, Anna Woods, Eman Guerrero, Vanesa Mazo, Bernadeth Mellina, Ruby & Carolanne Quinn.

**Hospital Stay:** If you or your loved ones are admitted to Hospital, please let the Parish Office know and we will arrange for the Hospital Deacon to visit with Holy Communion and to provide spiritual support.

**Sick and Housebound:** Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to receive Holy Communion and we will co-ordinate with the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Team to arrange this for you.

**Weekly Sunday Collection** *(Note: Combined total across all 3 Churches - Many thanks for your continued generosity!)*

Date	Plate Collection	Standing Orders <i>(weekly pro-rata)</i>
16 <sup>th</sup> November	£1477	£1200

### **St Margaret's Children's Liturgy Sunday Mass 11.30am:**

- 30th November
- 14th December

### **Advent Candlelit Masses Wednesdays 7pm:**

3<sup>rd</sup> December – Holy Spirit

10<sup>th</sup> December – St Mary's

17<sup>th</sup> December – St Margaret's

In addition to the normal schedule, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available after each Candlelit Mass and also extended after morning mass on 20<sup>th</sup> December to 11.30am. Please note there is no separate Reconciliation Service.

**Parish Prayer Network** "The closer one approaches to God, the simpler one becomes. And the simplest way is to pray for others." (St Theresa of Avila)

**Coffee (or Tea) and a Chat** The SSVP are hosting a coffee and chat/social afternoon on November 28th. Drop in to St Margarets Hall to join us at 2-4pm. All welcome and lifts are available. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Lourdes Coffee Morning** Please join us for our Lourdes Coffee Morning each Thursday after Mass in St Margaret's Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**Join Aid to the Church in Need for Carols for Peace,** a beautiful evening of music, stories, and prayer as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Thursday, 4th December, St John the Baptist, Uddingston, 7:30pm - 9:30pm. Free event. Reserve your free ticket at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FNIM>. For more information, please contact the ACN Scotland office at [scotland@acnuk.org](mailto:scotland@acnuk.org) or call 01698 337 470

**The young adults Christmas ceilidh** will be on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> of December at St. Margaret's church hall. We will have a caller (someone joining us to lead the ceilidh dancing) from 7pm. This is a formal dress event

**Diploma in Catechetics** Explore the richness of the Catholic faith in 2026 by taking the Diploma in Catechetics. The popular course is run by the Archdiocese and takes place at 7:30pm each Thursday on Zoom, starting on 22 January. Be quick, places limited to 100. Cost £220. Register **at [bit.ly/diploma2026](https://bit.ly/diploma2026)**

**Masses for the Solemnity of St Andrew** St Mary's Cathedral on Monday 1 December, to celebrate the Solemnity of St Andrew, our National Patron, whose feast day this year is transferred from 30 November (Sunday). The Apostle's relics are preserved in the National Shrine of St Andrew at the Cathedral. Mass will be at 10:00am, and with Archbishop Cushley at 12:45pm. Public veneration of the relics follows both Masses. At 7:00pm there is a Holy Hour with sung Vespers and Eucharistic Adoration.

**Christmas Nativity Scene** Volunteers from the parish are planning to hold a display of the Christmas nativity scene in Thistles Shopping Centre on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December between 10am and 4pm. In previous years this was organised by the Legion of Mary. We're looking for additional helpers to support this initiative. If this would be of interest then please speak to Stuart Young or Fraser McNair or leave your details with the parish office.

**Nativity Blessing & Carol Concert** Archbishop Cushley joins religious leaders from across the city of Edinburgh for this annual event at Assembly Hall Courtyard on Mound Place, Edinburgh, before a Blessing of the Nativity Scene on The Mound backed by music from the Salvation Army Band. Sunday 30 November, 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

**SCIAF Advent Carol Service** An Advent Carol Service, in partnership with SCIAF, takes place at Sacred Heart Church, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, on Sunday 30 November at 4:00pm. Readings and carols sung by the Edinburgh Jesuit Church Schola Cantorum.

**Advent Rosary for Life** Begins this Monday at 7:45pm to pray for unborn children, their mothers, and all pro-life intentions. Each session is on Zoom and lasts about 30 minutes. Following the Rosary there is a short reflection from a guest speaker: Deacon David Harper (1 Dec, Diocese of Motherwell), Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (8 Dec, March for Life UK), Fr Jamie McMorris (15 Dec, St Margaret's, Edinburgh), and Archbishop Leo Cushley (22 Dec). Register at [bit.ly/rosary25](https://bit.ly/rosary25)

**Advent Retreat** Saturday 6 December, 10:00am-7:00pm & Sunday 7 December, 3:00pm-5:30pm, St Margaret Mary's Church, Boswall Parkway, Granton, Edinburgh, EH5 2JQ. Led by Fr Bart Parys, SVD. All welcome, including families and individual worshippers. Registration is essential. Visit [retreat.light-lifescotland.org.uk](https://retreat.light-lifescotland.org.uk)

**Advent Walking Retreat** The walk starts in Culross in Fife (birthplace of St Mungo) and finishes at the National Shrine of St Margaret, Dunfermline. There will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Adoration with Benediction followed by 5:30pm Mass. To register for this free event and for times please email Deacon Pat Carrigan at [obl.columba@gmail.com](mailto:obl.columba@gmail.com)

**Christmas Carol Service** Organised by the Archdiocesan Lourdes Committee. St Margaret's Church, Davidson's Mains, Edinburgh, EH4 5AD, Sunday 7 December at 3:00pm.

30<sup>th</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A

**Schedule for This Week: 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am before weekday Mass except Fridays when is after Mass.

Sundays: Year A Weekdays: Year 2	<b>St Mary's</b> (SMY)	<b>Holy Spirit</b> (HS)	<b>St Margaret</b> (SMT)	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Confession</b> and by Appt
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>5.30pm (Sat Vigil)</b> ▪ Jean, Victor and Billy Begley (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b> Laura Cooper (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b> ▪ People of the Parish	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ Susan McCabe (RIP) SMT  <b>5.30pm</b> People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b> ST ANDREW – Solemnity	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Joan & Thomas Quinn	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ John O'Donnell (R.IP)	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> St Francis Xavier	No Mass	7:00pm Alan Rennie (RIP)	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Margaret Brown Taylor (RIP)		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Judith McQuillian		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Pepe Lai (RIP)	<b>St Modan's</b> <b>8.30M</b> Sp Int. Niki Maran	10.30am- 11.00am after Mass
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Marion Bell (RIP) Birthday Remembrance	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mas
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>5.30pm (Sat Vigil)</b> ▪ James McIntosh <b>10.15am</b> Patrick Cavanagh (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b> ▪ Laura Cooper	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ John Paul Stokes  <b>5.30pm</b> ▪ People of the Parish.		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass

**Please submit any items for the Newsletter by Wednesday Noon. Many Thanks!**

To add a name to either the Prayer List or the Book of Remembrance complete the appropriate form (which you will find at the back of the Church) and pass to the Parish Office