

ST ANTHONY'S & ST MARK'S

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Parish Clergy: Fr Charles Coyle
Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 25TH DECEMBER 2022



FOODBANK

Thank you for your continued support of the foodbank; last week we were able to support **48 families**. This is a list of items we are in particular need of at our Food Bank: **Coffee, Jars of pasta sauce, tea bags, tins of meat / chilli, curry (ready meals), tins of potatoes, spaghetti, tins of rice pudding / custard/ fruit, toilet rolls, UHT Milk**. As it is almost Christmas, if you could add a selection box / chocolates / crisps as an extra treat for our families it would be appreciated. Items can be brought to any Mass or to the Church House at St Mark's. Thanks again.

CANON HARRY ALLISON

On the **3rd of January the 7.00pm Mass in St Anthony's** will be celebrated for the repose of the soul of our beloved Canon Allison, marking the 10th anniversary of his death. The Mass will be followed by a reception, where we can gather and share our memories of this great man, at the Burnside Hotel.



THANK YOU AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS

I wish you and your families a Happy and Holy Christmas. Thank you for the many gifts and cards which have been handed into the house. I am extremely grateful. Thank you also to the many, many people who work tirelessly all year in service of the community. May God bless you for your kindness and dedication.

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMASTIDE

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

Preceded only in importance by the celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the Church has no more ancient a tradition than the celebration of the Christmas Season: from Jesus' humble birth in Bethlehem; the announcement of his birth to the Shepherds by Angels; the revelation to the Magi and their subsequent adoration of the child; his Baptism in the River Jordan and the Father's declaration of Jesus as "Beloved Son" and the beginning of his public ministry. The other feasts of Christmastime (St Stephen, St John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God) all have an intimate connection to the Lord's manifestation.

VIGIL MASSES

Jesus is the fulfilment of the history of his people, and is the climax of a long story of promises kept and God's covenant fidelity

(Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm: 88; Acts: 13:16-17.22-25; Matthew 1:1-25)

- 4.30pm** Carol Service and Nativity Play **at St Anthony's**
5.00pm Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the LORD **at St Anthony's**
8.30pm Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the LORD **at St Mark's**

MIDNIGHT MASS

Jesus is the promised Messiah, the revelation of the glory of God in the world and the light in its darkness. But the glory is revealed in poverty and simplicity, rather than in splendour or state. The poor, who know suffering and its darkness, are the first to see it.

(Readings: Isaiah 9:1-7; Psalm: 95; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14)

- 11.30pm** Carols **at St Mark's**
12.00midnight Midnight Mass of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the LORD **at St Mark's**

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY

DAWN MASS

God has entered the world and a new chapter in human history begins. The first responses are the purest: amazement, wonder and praise of God. The news must be shared.

(Readings: Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm: 96; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20)

- 10.00am** Dawn Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the LORD **at St Mark's**

DAY MASS

The one born signals the coming of the divine into the human. God has come among his people, into his creation. Thus, creation is blessed and humanity raised to a new dignity.

(Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm: 97; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18)

- 11.30am** Day Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the LORD
at St Anthony's

MONDAY 26TH DECEMBER

THE FEAST OF ST STEPHEN

St Stephen has the title of Protomartyr, the first to die a martyr's death for Christ. He was one of the seven 'men of good reputation' chosen in the Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7) to serve the practical needs of the community so that the Apostles could devote themselves to prayer and preaching. They are seen as the first deacons. Almost at once, though, Stephen is involved in preaching, and it makes such an impact that he is seen as a threat by the authorities and he is put to death..

(Readings: Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; Psalm: 30; Matthew 10:17-22)

At St Mark's

9.00am-9.50am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am

Recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

10.00am

Holy Mass for the Feast of St Stephen

TUESDAY 27TH DECEMBER

THE FEAST OF ST JOHN

St John was one of the three Apostles, along with his brother St James (the Greater) and St Peter, whom Our Lord took with Him on special occasions. Jesus nicknamed him and James 'Boanerges' (Sons of Thunder). He may be the "Beloved Disciple" of the Fourth Gospel who was present at the crucifixion and to whom Jesus commended His Mother; with St Peter he ran to the tomb where "he saw and he believed". The Book of Revelation and three letters in the New Testament are attributed to him. He suffered exile to the island of Patmos and other punishments for preaching Christ but, by tradition, he did not die a martyr's death.

(Readings: 1 John 1:1-4; Psalm: 96; John 20:2-8)

At St Anthony's

6.00pm-6.50pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm-6.50pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation available

6.30pm

Recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary **at St Anthony's**

7.00pm

Holy Mass for the Feast of St John

followed by the Novena to St Anthony

7.30pm

Meeting of the SVDP in **St Anthony's House**

WEDNESDAY 28TH DECEMBER

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

The Feast of the Holy Innocents arises from the description of King Herod the Great's murder of many children under 2 years old to be sure the 'infant King of the Jews', accounted for by the magi, would be no threat to him (Matthew 2:16-18).

(Readings: 1 John 1:5-2;2; Psalm 123; Matthew 2:13-18)

At St Mark's

9.00am-9.50am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am

Recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

10.00am

Holy Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents

10.00am-12.00noon

Food Bank at St Anthony's Hall

12.00noon-2.00pm

Food Bank at St Mark's Hall

6.00pm-6.50pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

7.00pm

Sunday Readings meeting in St Mark's House

THURSDAY 29TH DECEMBER

(Readings 1 John 2:3-11; Psalm 95; Luke 2:22-35)

At St Anthony's

9.00am-9.50am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am-9.50am

Recitation of the Luminous Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

10.00am

Holy Mass for Thursday in the Octave of Easter

1.30pm

Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Maurice Rochford R.I.P (Church TBC)

FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

A favourite theme for Matthew is how Jesus fulfils scripture. This is not as a replacement for, or a negation of, what we call the Old Testament. Rather, in Jesus the promises made in the past are once more fulfilled, but now in the person of Jesus himself. We must recognise the difficulties and trials the Holy Family faced. This is a vulnerable family in whom God's promises reach their conclusion; they did not live a charmed existence.

(Readings: Sirach 3:2-6.12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15.19-23)

At St Mark's

9.00am-9.50am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am-9.50am

Recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

10.00am

Holy Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER

(Readings: 1 John 2:18-21; Psalm 95; John 1:1-18)

St Anthony's
9.00am-9.50am
9.30am
9.30am-9.50am
10.00am
11.00am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary
Sacrament of Reconciliation available
Holy Mass for Saturday in the Octave of Christmas with a Blessing for families
Sacrament of Baptism of Margot Frances Green at St Mark's

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER

Mary, Mother of God: *This is our Lady's greatest title. It is fitting that we celebrate it in Christmastide. She is also our Mother. Jesus shared her with us from the Cross. She gained this title by saying 'yes' to God's plan. We will also gain from obeying the Will of God in our lives.*

(Readings: Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 66; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21)

At St Mark's

4.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation available
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
11.00pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

SUNDAY 1ST JANUARY 2023

10.00am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God **at St Mark's**
11.30am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God **at St Anthony's**
4.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation available
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God **at St Anthony's**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Christmas Masses: Enez Anderson, Judy & John Banks, The Banks family, Davie Blake, Peter & Agnes Browne, Greg & Maureen Butt, Michael & Annette Daly, John Paul & Jacqueline Daly, Gerry & Josephine Dunn, Catherine & James Dunnery, Mary Gaffney, Selina Gillespie, Nora Houston, Angela McCluskey, Celine McGuinness, Henry & Bridie McLaughlin, Irene McLaughlin, Bernadette Mehigan, Mr Preston of St Mark's Primary School, Willie Robertson, Teachers & Staff of Cuthberts Primary School, The Swinton Family and their friends and relatives, Dr Tierney, John & Kathleen Weir

Those celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism: Margot Frances Green

Those who died recently, especially: Mary Rose Crozier, Aileen Dunne & Maurice Rochford, Julia Rowe, Margaret Roy, Iain Stewart, John Sword,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially: Josephine Brady, Michael Connolly, James Devlin, James Donnelly, Francis & Mary Forley, Giovanna Ionta, Catherine & Patrick McCarry, Agnes McGinn, Mary McGinn, James & Isabel McLaughlin, Margaret & Patrick McKell, Anthony Millar, Mary O'Farrell & George Walsh

Please pray for all sick and housebound of the Parish: Isobel Clark, Isa Daniels, Michael Dooley, Patsy Harkin, Helen Hunt, Baby Finn McGuinness, Michael McGuire, Baby Hope McKenna, Henry McVey, May O'Donnell & Margaret Rice

CHARITABLE OFFERINGS FOR 2022

On your behalf the Parish are making the following charitable contributions this Christmas

Votives Candle Stands

Our Lady: for the Sisters of the Gospel of Life: £2045.35
St Anthony: St Anthony's Parent Partnership: £1178.7
St Mark: St Mark's Parent Group: £682.70
Sacred Heart: HCPT: £736.17

Fundraising Boxes

Hospice: £22.15
Retired Priest & Students: £32.57
SCIAF: £81.12*
Holy Souls: £54.14
Missio: £13.83
Justice & Peace £10.33

*We subsidised the "Water for a Village for SCIAF" by £104.13 to make it up to 2 villages.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR THE 18TH DECEMBER:

Plate collection including Gift Aid envelopes: £1815.82

Gift Aid to Bank: £182.00

Total: £1997.82

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT £280.13