



St. Mary's R. C. Church
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Newsletter

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5th 2021

My dear parishioners,

During this second week of Advent, on Wednesday 8th December, we will celebrate one of the beautiful feasts of Our Lady, the great Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It is a mystery of our Catholic Faith and one of several points where Our Lady was treated in a privileged way by God, emphasising her unique place in his plan of salvation. As a doctrine of the Church it was only promulgated in 1854, but had been a strong belief for centuries. It was a Scottish theologian, our own Blessed John Duns Scotus (1266-1308) who was one of the greatest champions of this dogma. Mass on Wednesday will be at 12 noon to enable more people to attend the liturgy; please join us if you are free.

Early appearance of the crib: you may be wondering at the early appearance of the crib this year; pupils from St. Mary's Primary are making class visits to the church and this enables us to gather around the crib to prepare to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

Donations at the crib will be donated to St. Margaret Adoption Society. Thank you.

Christmas Cards are now available in the parish stall at St. Mary's and at St. Paul's; some Fairtrade cards are also available there for purchase.

Request for Christmas Gifts for Children: we have been asked once again to provide a Christmas present for a child of primary school age. Thank you to everyone who has taken a gift tag; please bring the gift along to the church and it will be passed on. *Thank you.*

A Message from Fertility Care Scotland: Family Planning-God's Way-Nature's Way: the Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation is 99% effective in avoiding pregnancy with no side effects. This method is also highly effective in helping couples achieve a much-wanted pregnancy. For an information pack or details of a teacher in your area, please tel: 0141 221 0858, or E-Mail: info@fertilitycare.org.uk; website at www.fertilitycare.org.uk

Support for those living with cancer: 'My Light' is there to support you whenever you need it, wherever you are. Whether you've just started treatment, you're living with cancer or supporting a loved one, access **My Light** for advice, blogs, information articles and helpful videos, tailored to every stage of your cancer journey. For more help and advice: 0141 212 0505, email: Info@beatsoncancercharity.org, www.beatsoncancercharity.org/my-light.

The Holy Ghost Fathers' Charity Shop in Carfin will now be open Monday to Saturday from 10am-2pm. Donations of good quality clothing and bric-a-brac will always be gratefully received.

I offer here the schedule for the days ahead:

Saturday December 4th: Vigil Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm and at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday December 5th: Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am and at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday December 6th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday December 7th: Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Wednesday December 8th: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception; Mass at St. Mary's at 12 noon

Thursday, December 9th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Saturday December 11th: Vigil Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm and at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday December 12th: Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am and at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Thank you for the gifts enclosed in your November Remembrance Envelopes; these gifts came to a total of £1,500 and this was shared with Jesuit Refugee Trust, International Refugee Trust and Aid to the Church in Need. As we offered thanks for our deceased relatives and friends and their kindness to us, we reached out, in their memory, to those who are struggling to find a home and a secure future. *Thank you.*

Please remember in your prayers:

All who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Canon Joseph Clements

Recently Deceased: Margaret Gemson, Geraldine McCarthy, Alice Campbell, Winifred Brass, John McGhee, Eugene Morrison

Special Remembrance: Mabel Lyons, John Fitzpatrick Jnr, Cornelius (Neil) McMurray, Essie and David McDonald, James and Patricia Connor, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*