

St Andrew's Church Annual General Meeting 2017

Liturgy Group Report

The weekend Masses, the Christmas and Easter Liturgies and special parish celebrations form the core of the work of the Liturgy Group. Liturgical events which the Group assists with include:

The Christmas and Easter Liturgies	St Andrew's Day Mass
Services of Reconciliation	Funerals
Education Sunday	Confirmation and First Holy Communion
Annual Mass for the Recently Deceased	Advent Big sing and Peace Vigil

Developments

- *Pope Francis and Caritas Award Programmes*

Pupils from St Andrew's Primary have enrolled in the Pope Francis Programme with pupils from St Joseph's involved in the Caritas Award Programme.

- *Musical Accompaniment at Mass*

Anne Murdy provides the organ accompaniment at our 10 am Sunday Mass. Christopher Watt plays at the Vigil Mass Anne and Christopher play at the Christmas and Easter liturgies and lead the practices for them. They also play at other parish events.

- *Music Practices*

Music practices are held on a regular basis in the church hall to prepare for major liturgies at Christmas and Easter, learn new hymns and musical pieces, and continue our development of different Mass settings. There are also practices for Cantors to standardise practice and learn new psalms.

- *Recruitment*

There is always a need for new recruits in all of the Mass ministries. If you feel you would like to participate as a singer, musician, welcomer, Eucharistic minister, reader or altar server, please contact Father Gerald, or the coordinator of the relevant Mass ministry.

Embracing Change – Impact on Liturgy

- *Christmas 2016*

Masses are on a rota with St. Columba's, Annan. The Vigil Mass and a morning Mass were celebrated at St Andrew's while Midnight Mass (at 8 pm) and a morning Mass were celebrated at St Columba's.

- *Easter 2017*

Holy Thursday - the Mass of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at St Andrew's.

Good Friday - The Celebration of the Passion was held at 3 pm in St Andrew's and 5 pm in St Columba's.

Holy Saturday - The Easter Vigil Liturgy was celebrated at St Andrew's

Easter Sunday - Morning Masses were said at both parishes.

Coordinators

A vote of thanks to the team of Coordinators for all the hard work they put in during the year and to Fathers David and Gerald for their leadership, ideas, drive and enthusiasm which ensure we stay on course. Music Coordinators choose the music which is used each week. Coordinators for the weekend Masses are:

Saturday Vigil: Eucharistic Ministers - Diane Brittain, Readers - Mary Buckley, Music - Kevin Jones, Welcomers - Jim Hairstains and Edwina Cummings

Sunday 10 am: Eucharistic Ministers - Sean McKay, Readers - Yvonne Copland, Music - Kate McKay, Welcomers - Ben Woods, Altar Servers (Saturday Vigil and Sunday 10 am.) - Edwina Cummings

Departures and Arrivals

September of last year saw the departure of Father David to Ayr and the arrival of Father Gerald as our new Parish Priest. Our best wishes and prayers went with Father David for his sterling work in his eight years with us. We all benefitted from his warmth, good sense, firm leadership and good sense of humour and he added greatly to the quality of our liturgy through his knowledge, skills and experience.

We welcome Father Gerald as our new Parish Priest. A number of us have fond memories of him from his time in St Teresa's. He has settled in well and is giving clear direction to the Liturgy Group.

Kevin Jones, Liturgy Group, May 2017