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The Parishes of St Andrew's, Dumfries, and St Columba's, Annan

Parish Priest

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Parish Bulletin

19th/20th March 2017

Third Sunday in Lent

(Year A)

Today's Liturgy

Preface of third Sunday of Lent Eucharistic Prayer III

Readings

Exodus 17:3-7 Romans 5:1-2. 5-8 John 4:5-42

Spoken Psalm Response

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Readings for Next Sunday

Fourth Sunday in Lent 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

Spoken Psalm Response

The Lord is my shepherd: There is nothing I shall want.

Pope Francis' intention for March

The pope asks us to pray for and remember all persecuted Christians around the world

Times of Mass and Services 20th—26th March 2017

There are a number of changes to Mass times and arrangements this week

Monday (feast of St Joseph)

Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am Mass in St Columba's at 10 am

Tuesday

Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am

Wednesday

Mass in <u>St Columba's</u> at 10 am (funeral) Stations of the Cross in St Andrew's at 7 pm

Thursday

Mass and Stations of the Cross in St Columba's at 11.15 am followed by Lenten lunch

Friday

Mass St Andrew's at 10 am

Saturday

Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Mass in St Teresa's at 10 am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass in St Andrew's at 6.00 pm Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am Mass in St Columba's at 12 noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After morning Mass on Thursday and Saturday, and on request at any other suitable time

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

After Mass on Thursday and Saturday morning

First Friday of the month

Eucharistic Service at 10 am in St Columba's followed by tea/coffee

First Saturday of the month

Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima at 5 pm in St Andrew's

Fr Gerald's Mass intentions this coming week

Monday: Nando Lucchesi, Tuesday: Catherine Mitchell, Wednesday: Mona Shandley (intention), Thursday: Peter McGinn, Friday: Anna Bradley, Saturday: Marion and Charles McLaughlin 50th Anniversary, Sunday: For the Parishes

When you ask Fr Gerald to say a Mass for you or your intentions please give him a written note of the name of the intention with your offering.

What's happening?

Special Collection

On the fourth Sunday in Lent, next Sunday, we always have a special collection for the work of SCIAF. Please give as generously as you can to this collection especially since SCIAF has launched an urgent appeal to help get food and water to thousands of people being affected by famine and hunger in East Africa. The situation will get worse in the Spring and Summer months and many lives will be lost unless food aid going to the region is massively increased.

On your behalf we have already sent £300 to SCIAF from the Jars of Hope and if you want to help you can visit www.sciaf.com.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 3rd-10th July.



There are booking forms in the sacristy. Please give additional thought if you or a member of your family would consider going "Assisted Pilgrim". as Galloway Lourdes Hospitalite exists look after the assisted pilgrims in Lourdes. For more information on Assisted Pilgrims contact Ms Janie Agnew on 07739399222.

Pilgrimage to Rome 10th—17th September 2017

If you would like to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome, (with a day trip to Assisi) booking forms are available from Alba Tours Ltd, 40 Chestnut Grove, Motherwell, ML1 3JF. The cost is £925 for a 7 night, half board in Rome at the Hotel Olympic. Please see the notice for more information.





Feasts of St Joseph
Because Sunday is the 19th of March, the Feast of St Joseph has been moved to Monday 20th. There will be Mass in St Andrew's and St Columba's at 10am. This is not a Holyday of Obligation.

Mass times

There are a number of changes to Mass times and arrangements this week—please see the front page for details.

Celebration of First Holy Communion

To complete Christian Initiation is First Holy Communion. This is a parish occasion and it will be celebrated in St Andrew's and St Columba's on Sunday 11th June when the worshipping community gathers together.

Communion to the sick and housebound or hospital in-patients

Fr Gerald will visit as many of the sick and housebound as possible in the week ahead.

If there is anyone you know of who would appreciate or need a visit at home, who is unable to get to Mass, please let me know. This applies to short term illness or temporary inability to get out to Mass.

Deacon Willie Hiddleston does a great job informing the priests of parishioners who are in hospital, but if you know of someone in hospital again please let me know. I would rather be told twice about someone than not at all.

Thank you as always to those who bring communion to the sick and housebound, it is greatly appreciated.

Not In Our Name abortion up-to-birth Bill—update

On 13 March the Diana Johnson - Reproduction Health (Access to Terminations) Ten Minute Rule Bill received enough votes to be presented for a second reading on 24th March. As this was a Ten Minute Rule Motion it is very unlikely that it will be given further time by the Government to be debated in Parliament. It is even less likely that it will become law.

Nearly 28,000 people signed the petition in opposition to the Bill. Many thanks to those of you who signed the petition.

First Base Agency Food Bank



There is a basket to accept your donations of non-perishable foodstuffs for the Food Bank run by The First Base Agency (<u>www.first-base.org</u>). One item each every week will make a huge contribution to this project.

Saint Andrew's

Lrnt 2017



This year's Lenten Lunches in aid of Christian Aid are held in St John's Church Hall, Lovers Walk, every Friday until 7th April from 12 noon -1.30 pm. St Andrew's

will host the lunch on 7th April when we will need donations of cheese etc. and soup makers.

As before there will be a sales table but as some of the churches have had to drop out we need even more help than before. Donations of baking and craftwork will be welcome, but no bric-a-brac or books please. If you can help in any way please call Carol on 264356. Please come along and support this cause, raising much needed funds for Christian Aid.

Stations of the Cross

We will have Stations of the Cross at 7 pm on Wednesdays in Lent.

Church Shop

The church shop has lots of cards for Mother's day and cards and gifts for Easter. It is open before and after Mass at weekends.

St Andrew's Nursery

The niursery are holding a "Bobby Drive" (beetle) on Saturday 25th March from 3 to 5 pm, in the Church Hall. Free admission, Refreshments available. Good family fun on a Saturday afternoon. All welcome.

Meetings

The *Ladies Circle* meets on Tuesday 21st March at 7.30 pm. The guest speaker will be Gerry Lynch *Parish Pastoral Council* meets this Wednesday 22nd March in the church house after Stations of the Cross.

Collection Envelopes

There are still a few collection envelopes to be collected. Please take yours home.

Weekly Collection

Last week's collection came to £726.04.. The Jars of Hope fund increased by £41 to £401 from which £200 was sent to SCIAF, leaving £201. Thank you.

Educate the Kids



One of our parishioners, Moira Crawford, is travelling to Kenya at Easter to visit the children we've met and sponsor, and to help in the school and orphanage. At Mass on 25th and 26th March we will ask parishioners, who wish, to

donate £1 to support the children, the school (Jolanabe) and the orphanage. Moira will report back on how the money is spent on your behalf.

She is also collecting children's shoes, socks and underwear to take out. These should be in good repair but do not need to be new. There will be a box in the porch from next Sunday.

Saint Columba's

Lent 2017

Every Thursday during Lent we will have Stations of the Cross followed by Mass at **11.15am** followed by a Lenten lunch in the Ninian room at St Columba's.

Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC will meet on Tuesday at 7 pm.

Weekly Collection

Last week's collection came to £357.58 and the SCIAF door collection was £33.71. The Jars of Hope fund was £270 from which £100 was sent to SCIAF, leaving £170. Thank you.

St Columba's Primary School News

Can you help?

Mr McIntyre Head Teacher is looking for volunteers from within the parish of St Columba's to give a little time to help children with reading and simple number work. Anyone interested can contact the school and ask to speak with Mr McIntyre 01461 202752. This follows on from his appeal during Catholic Education Sunday Mass.

Margaret Moffat R.I.P.: We pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Moffat. The Vigil Reception will be in St Columba's on Tuesday 21st March at 6 pm and the Requiem Mass is on Wednesday 22nd March at 10am. May she rest in peace.

'Catholicism The Pivotal Players'.

The series covers six figures who have shaped the Church and changed the course of civilisation. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for details. The films will be shown in St Andrew's church hall on Thursdays at 7.00pm and there will be an opportunity for discussion and sharing after each film.

The series continues on Thursday 23th at 7pm in the hall with the fourth film: Blessed John Henry Newman - the Convert. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for details

End of Term Mass

St Andrews Primary School's end of term Mass will be held at the school on Friday 31st March at 10 am. Hospitality will be offered after the Mass and all will be made very welcome.

Sunday Coffee

Anne Murdy and friends are doing the coffee again on Sunday morning with home baking to raise funds to help the helpers get to Lourdes. Your support is appreciated.

The Season of Lent

Lent is a forty day journey. We travel with Christ to Jerusalem to be with him in his suffering and death in order to be with him in his resurrection to glory. In the course of our Lenten journeys we are called to three disciplines; prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We make each of these a feature of our Christian lives during Lent. It is a season also when we think of SCIAF. There are Lenten materials - "The Wee Boxes" are still available. Please take one and bring one to anyone you visit or to your place of work.

Reflection for Lent

Go forth in peace,
for you have followed the good road.
Go forth without fear,
for he who created you has made you holy,
has always protected you,
and loves you as a mother.
Blessed be you, my God,
for having created me.

St Clare of Assisi (1194—1253)

My Day by Day

There are still one or two of these popular little booklets, with a prayer and reflection for every day in Lent at the back of the church. Please take one if you can use it.

The season of Lent

Jesus is the fountain we thirst for and the one who brings everlasting life to all.

LOVE LIFE LIVE LENT TRANSFORM YOUR WORLD

Powering our Common Home

SCIAF are working with the Church on Zambia to find long term solutions to poverty and hunger. Your donations are helping poor families learn cheaper new ways of farming so that they can grow more food—whatever the weather.



SCIAF Wee Box

There are still some Wee Boxes left. Please take yours home with you today and help the charity transform thousands of lives

Something extra for Lent?

In scripture we are told: There should be prayers offered for everyone - petitions, intercession and thanksgivings - and especially for kings and others in authority, so that they may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right. *Timothy* 1-4

There is a need to pray for parts of God's world where his peace does not reign.

There is a need to pray for world leaders and governments, in our own county and others.

We also have our own parish and our own needs.

We will meet on Friday mornings after Mass in St Andrew's for a short time of prayer.

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick and all those whose needs are not known to us, especially...

Amalia Tamburrini Gavin Russell Fr Ted Holmes May Pratt Gavin Russell Elspeth McIvor Michael Clark Norah MacDonald Joan Jeavons Sandra Dobie Eileen Rome Rosa Maria Santos Please let Fr Gerald know, in person or by email, of anyone you want to be included and they will be added in the weeks to come.

and everyone on the family prayer ministry prayer requests. If you wish yourself or a loved one to be prayed for please let Fr Gerald know and please also let him know if anyone can be taken off the list because they are better.

Please take a copy of the bulletin home to remind you of the times of services and events during the coming week, and please take a copy to anyone you know who is sick or housebound.