



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

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Parish Bulletin

25th/26th March 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Year A)

Today's Liturgy

Preface of fourth Sunday of Lent
Eucharistic Prayer IV

Readings

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.

Readings for Next Sunday

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

Spoken Psalm Response

With the Lord there is mercy
And fullness of redemption

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 27th March—2nd April 2017

Tuesday

Mass in St Columba's at 10 am

Wednesday

Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am
Stations of the Cross in St Andrew's at 7 pm

Thursday

Mass at 10 am in St Columba's Primary School
Mass and Stations of the Cross in St Columba's
at 11.15 am followed by Lenten lunch

Friday

Mass St Andrew's Primary School at 10 am
followed by refreshments

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

Tuesday: the Coll Family, *Wednesday:* Dorothy and Tommy Holmes (Golden Wedding),
Thursday: Margaret Moffat, *Friday:* Margaret Adamson, *Saturday:* Margaret Moffat,
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?

SCIAF Sunday

On the fourth Sunday in Lent, SCIAF 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 even more you can visit www.sciaf.com.

Remember too the WEE BOX; This is a major source of funds for the charity and every penny goes towards helping others.

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 as an "Assisted Pilgrim". 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.



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.

Embracing Change

Embracing Change is the name given to the process in the Diocese of Galloway to manage the fact that the number of active priests is reducing and the age of the ones remaining is increasing. Many parishes who had three, two or one priest in the past now have no resident priest. There is clustering of parishes. The sense of Parish identity exists even when there is no resident priest. Worship among parishioners is possible even without a resident priest, Eucharistic Services, other devotions and, perhaps further down the line, lay-led services such as Vigil Receptions before funerals. This requires prayer, training and a realisation of the situation. There have been initial steps with a meeting recently in Kirkcudbright of parish representatives who will continue to see what Embracing Change means for our deanery of St Andrew's or our part of the deanery, Dumfries and East of Dumfries.

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.

Galloway Diocese News

Pick up your copy of the latest Galloway Diocese News as you leave the church today. Full of interesting features and photographs of the beautiful new stained glass window in St Margaret's Cathedral and a feature on the very unusual and very striking Stations of the Cross there too. The next edition - at Pentecost - will have photographs of all the Confirmation services held recently



Thank God for Mums!

Happy Mother's day to all the mothers in the Parishes -hope you all got breakfast in bed this morning and will be treated to a nice meal later ...

First Base Agency Food Bank



FEED THE HUNGRY

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

Saint Andrew's

Lenten Lunches



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 Wednesday.

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.

Meetings

St Vincent de Paul: The next meeting will take place in the Church House at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 29th March.

There will be a meeting of the **liturgy group** at 6pm on Thursday 30th April in the parish house to look at the arrangements for Holy Week and Easter.

Collection Envelopes

There are still a few collection envelopes to be collected. Please take yours home today; they begin on 9th April.

Weekly Collection

Last week's collection came to £1830.51. Over the last two weeks parishioner gave ££167 to the St Vincent de Paul. The Jars of Hope fund increased by £17 and now stands at £218. 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 next Saturday and Sunday 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 is a box in the porch for this purpose.

Saint Columba's

Lent 2017

This Thursday will be the last Stations of the Cross and Mass at 11.15am; it is followed by a Lenten lunch in the Ninian room at St Columba's.

Weekly Collection

Last week's collection came to £342.45 and the SCIAF door collection was £85.13. The Jars of Hope fund stands at £170. Thank you.

End of Term Masses

There will be Mass on Thursday at 10 am in St Columba's Primary School to celebrate end of term and Mass on Friday will be the end of term Mass at St Andrew's Primary School at 10 am. Hospitality will be offered after the Mass and all will be made very welcome.

Next week's bulletin

Next week's bulletin will be prepared in THURSDAY so please get your articles for inclusion by Thursday morning at the latest. Thank you.

Golden Wedding Anniversaries



Congratulations to Tom and Dorothy Holmes who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Monday 27th March 2017. They were married at St Andrew's Church, on 27th March 1966 by Tom's brother, Fr Joseph Holmes and have been blessed with four daughters and eight grandchildren.

Congratulations also to Marion and Charles McLaughlin who celebrate a couple of days earlier; they were married on 25th March 1966.

'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.

Week five of The Pivotal Players series will be shown on Thursday 30th at 7pm in the hall. This week we have G.K. Chesterton - The Evangelist.

The season of Lent

Light and darkness; sight and blindness; forgiveness of sin and the fullness of life. All these are Lenten themes, and are to be found in the Gospel for today, with which we continue our Lenten journey.

Reflection for Lent

'I trusted in God ... and suddenly in that moment all my pain left me.'

Julian of Norwich (1342—1461)

Something extra for Lent?

There should be prayers offered for everyone - petitions, intercession and thanksgivings - and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right.

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.

Seeds of Faith



Jesus taught us that faith is a seed and that your Kingdom grows from small beginnings. He also showed us how your word is also a seed falling into whatever type of soil we offer it.

May we not be a people of stony hearts, of shallow souls, or choked by the thorny cares of life.

May we rather have a depth in us which all your word to take root and flourish.

Mass of Chrism

In St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30 pm. There will be a bus from St Columba's and St Andrew's. If you would like to go please put your name on the list THIS WEKEND as we need to know what size of bus to hire.

Lenten Penance Services

There is an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in each on the parishes of the deanery.

All Services begin at 7pm.

Tuesday 28th March - Holy Trinity Lockerbie

Tuesday 4th April - St Teresa's Dumfries *No Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 5th April - St Andrew's Dumfries *No Stations of the Cross

Thursday 6th Dumfries - St Columba's Annan

Holy Week

Tuesday 11th April: Mass of Chrism St Margaret's Cathedral at 7.30pm

The Triduum will be celebrated in St Andrew's, Dumfries

Holy Thursday, 13th April: Mass of the Lord's Supper St Andrew's 7pm

Good Friday, 14th April: Liturgy of the Passion St Andrew's 3pm

Liturgy of the Passion in St Columba's at 5pm

Stations of the Cross in St Teresa's at 5 pm

Saturday 15th April: Easter Vigil St Andrew's 9pm

Easter Sunday 16th April: Mass in St Andrew's at 10 am

Mass in St Teresa's at 11.30 am

Mass in St Columba's at 12 noon.

There is also a celebration of the Triduum in Holy Trinity Lockerbie at the same times.

***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.