

Parish Ministers' Rota
24th December 2017 (Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B)

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
5 pm Vigil St Aidan's	See Rota at back of Church	See Rota at back of Church
9.30am St Mary's	R.Smith (B), R.Heaney (A)	C.Cairns
11 am St Aidan's	See Rota at back of Church	See Rota at back of Church
4.30 pm St Mary's	There is no 4.30pm Mass	There is no 4.30pm Mass

TODAY'S READINGS

Today we are invited to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. We depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John. The Gospel passage combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, John's Gospel contains no birth narrative. Instead, John begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. Jesus is presented as the fulfilment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognised. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognise Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians.

It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

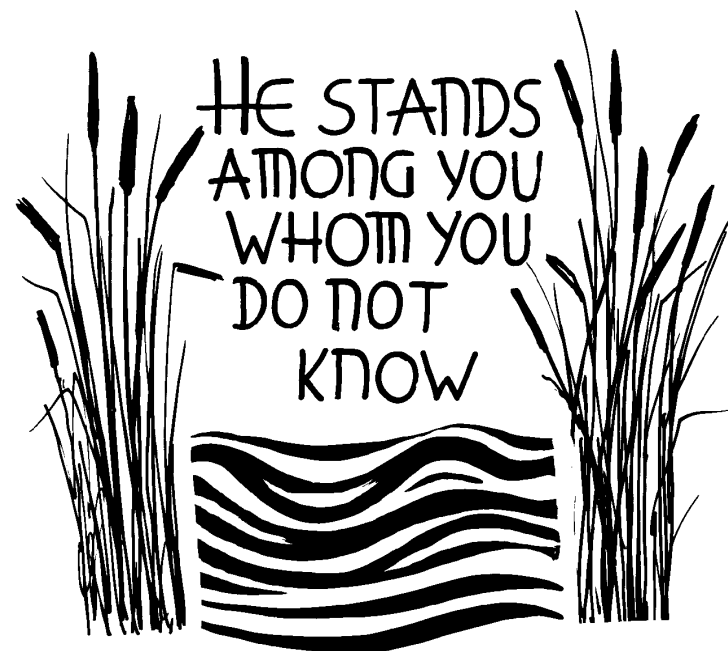
First Reading:	Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11
Response to the Psalm:	My soul rejoices in my God.
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, Alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!
Gospel:	John 1:6-8.19-28

St Mary's and St Aidan's

Year B

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY

17th December 2017



"I am not the Christ."

Parish Priest: Rev. Liam O'Connor
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'St Mary's Cleland and St Aidan's Wishaw'

Scottish Registered Charity No: 11041

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT YEAR 2.

There are no Feasts, Solemnities or Memorials this week.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Gerard O'Neill, Jim Nolan, David Beck, Mary Theresa McCormick, Cathie Bryce, Cathie McConnachie, Cecilia Moore, Lynne Watters, Mary Kelly, Ellen Dunn, John Lochrie, Anne Roarty, Bernard Gallacher, John Friary, Catherine Grant, George McKinney, Bridget McNally, Mary Lambert, Peter McGhee, Rose O'Donnell and Elaine Farrell Cleary who are sick.

Annie O'Kane and Kathleen Kennedy who have died.

The Month's Mind and Anniversaries of:
Father Charles Vallely, Susan Fox, Susan Frame, Luke Devine, Michael & Maria Devine, Ann McCrum, Mary & William Brady, Jimmy & Annie Delaney, Mary Felvus, The Kearney Family, Catherine Lafferty, Jane & Edward Kearney, Jim Nolan, Peter, Mary & Chris Lynch, John Devlin, Betty Lavery and James Divers.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CRIB APPEAL

This year we are collecting new warm clothing such as jackets, gloves, hats and socks for families in need (children and adults) in our local area. Any gift is greatly appreciated. Please leave your gift at the crib anytime up to Thursday 28th December when they will be uplifted by the Children's Liturgy and given to Wishaw Social Work Dept.

ST AIDAN'S ROTA FOR CHRISTMAS

The rota of Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for next Sunday and Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day is in the Porch. Please add your name beside the Mass(es) you will be attending.

ST AIDAN'S CHURCH CLEANING
Friday 22nd December 10am.
MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN

All notices for the Bulletin, including intimations, should be received by Wednesday evening.

ST AIDAN'S HIGH SCHOOL
invites you to our
PENSIONERS' CHRISTMAS CONCERT
&
AFTERNOON TEA

Tuesday 19th December 2017 at 1.30pm
Phone 01698 352555 (school)

ALTAR SERVERS' PRACTICE

There will be a practice for the Christmas Vigil Mass and Christmas Day 11am Mass in St Aidan's Church on **Monday 18th December at 4pm.**

LIST OF ST AIDAN'S HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS RECEIVING EUCHARIST AT HOME

Would all Eucharistic Ministers at St Aidan's who take the Eucharist to housebound parishioners please supply a note to Fr O'Connor (or send it to the parish email address aidanswishaw@gmail.com) giving details of the Mass after which they make their visit and the name and address of the parishioner(s) visited.

SOCIETY OF THE INNOCENTS

The Society is holding its annual Mass on Thursday 28th December 2017 in St Patrick's Church in Coatbridge at 10 am.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY SENIORS' DINNER

ST AIDAN'S CHURCH HALL
FRIDAY 19th JANUARY 2018 at 7pm

The SVDP are organising a 3 course meal followed by entertainment for the Senior Parishioners on the above date. Please add your name and choice of main meal on the poster at the back of the Church. Should you no longer be able to attend after booking your place, please phone Michael (07519284489) as soon as possible as all meals ordered must be paid for by the SVDP.

WISHAW GENERAL CHAPLAINCY

Contact Fr Ricklan Mallya, RC Chaplain, either by phoning the hospital (361100) or St Bernadette's (263945).

PARISH OF ST MARY'S AND ST AIDAN'S MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday		Weekday	
St Aidan's:	5pm Vigil Mass	Monday:	St Mary's 10am
St Mary's:	9.30am Mass	Tuesday:	St Aidan's 10am
St Aidan's:	11am Mass	Wednesday:	St Mary's 10am
St Mary's:	4.30pm Mass	Thursday:	St Aidan's 10am St Mary's 7pm (<i>Latin Mass</i>)
		Friday:	St Mary's 10am
		Saturday:	St Aidan's 10am
		St Mary's 10am	St Aidan's 11am
First Friday of the Month (during term time)			
Confessions:	After weekday Masses in relevant church.		
Saturday:	4.30pm – 4.50pm and after Vigil Mass in St Aidan's.		
Thursday Evening:	6.30pm – 7pm in St Mary's before Latin Mass		
		Baptisms	
St Aidan's Church	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of the month at 12 noon		
St Mary's Church	1 st and 3 rd Sunday of the month at 12.30pm		
To arrange please contact:	Fr O'Connor	Tel: (01698) 860254.	

ADVENT ROSARY AND BENEDICTION

Rosary and Benediction will be on today in St Mary's beginning at approx **5.10pm** immediately after **4.30pm Mass.**

ADVENT CONFESSION

Saint Aidan's
Tuesday 19th December, 5.30pm-7pm
St. Mary's
Thursday 21st December, 5.30pm-7pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday 24th December
Normal Sunday Mass times but the 4.30pm Mass at St. Mary's is cancelled

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

St. Aidan's 7.30pm St. Mary's 10pm
Monday 25th December
St. Mary's 09.30am St. Aidan's 11am

Catholics are obliged to go to Mass on both the 4th Sunday of Advent (24th December) and on Christmas Day (25th December). The Vigil Masses on Christmas Eve do not count for your Sunday Obligation.

ST MARGARET'S CHILDREN & FAMILY CARE SOCIETY

As you know, it is the practice in all our parishes that monetary donations are collected at the crib each year for the above society.

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Centre has been in existence since 1955 working with birth mothers who have placed their child for adoption.

CAFÉ LINDISFARNE

CAFÉ LINDISFARNE will be serving hot filled rolls, toast, cakes and tea and coffee. Proceeds from the café will help support the Parish in all its activities.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

NEXT SUNDAY – 24th DECEMBER

The CAFÉ will be serving tea/coffee, mincemeat pies and shortbread.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING SAINT MARY'S

The coffee morning will resume in the new year, thanks to all who have helped and supported this new parish social initiative.

200 CLUB WINNERS

No:	160	E. Hamilton	£70
	148	A. Chambers	£20
	010	A. McKenna	£10

Subscriptions are now due for 2018.

£12 per year or £1 per month for each number you have. £100 in prize money is paid out each month. The more numbers taken, the more the Parish receives.

Stuart and Andrew collect the money during the Café each Sunday but many people prefer to pay on an annual basis.

Numbers are available.

SVDP HELPLINE

If you require the services of the SVDP you can contact a member by phoning **07561843580**