

LITURGY FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

The voice of God goes out to all the world;
his glory speaks across the universe.
The Great King's herald cries from star to star;
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

Give glory to the mystery revealed,
the voice of God, his image and his Word:
his word of peace, the image of his grace:
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

The Lord has said: Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from light:
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor;
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held,
the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
and prisoners laugh in light and liberty:
with pow'r with justice, he will walk his way.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem; Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival. .

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response:
*Sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.

Give thanks to the Lord,
give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name.

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

Rejoice in the Lord always 590

HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, in the highest.
Blessed is he, O blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

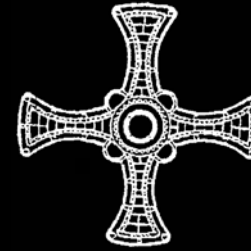
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory, until you come in glory.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Come, O Divine Messiah! 216

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Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Father Stephen G McGrattan

Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Presbytery, 28 Dailly Road, Maybole, KA19 7AU
Telephone: 01655 882145 Fax: 01655 882173 Email: info@olasc.org.uk Web: www.olasc.org.uk

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil at 6.30 pm
Sunday at 10.00 am

Weekday services

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 9.00 am
Thursday at 7.00 pm
Friday at 9.00 am

Sacrament of Confession

After Vigil Mass and when requested

Sacrament of Baptism

Forms available at the back of the church

Sacrament of Marriage

At least six months notice is required

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 17th December

The gospel today tells us that a feeling of great expectancy had grown among the people. John the Baptist used this to point attention away from himself to the coming ministry of Jesus, who would baptise with the Holy Spirit. John knew that the Messiah was very near and he wanted everyone to be ready to receive him.

As we draw nearer to the season of Christmas, we too have a feeling of expectancy. The celebration of the birth of Christ has a special place in our hearts – it is a time of joy, of new birth, new hope for mankind. Through our Baptism, we are God's family and as such we get ready to celebrate this family occasion with great reverence and thanks.

It is this truth which makes Christmas special. The other side of Christmas – the glitter and magical world of celebrating together and giving presents is good too, but must not override the real cause of joy. That is why our spiritual preparation in advent is so important. The birth of this Baby changed the destiny of humanity, and understanding that, is what enables us to face the future with expectancy and confidence. The Messiah is very near and we will be ready to welcome him when he comes.

Items for inclusion in this newsletter should be given in writing to David Kiltie
(882644 or david.kiltie@virgin.net)

Last week's collection £450.
Thank you.

ALICE'S GOOD WORK RECOGNISED



Alice Mackie, with the XL Club of Carrick Academy, made a DVD about the concerns of the volume of traffic flowing through Maybole and the advantages of a by-pass being built.

Cathy Jamieson MSP was so impressed by the DVD that she invited them to Holyrood where they met First Minister Jack McConnell and Tavish Scott, the Transport Minister.

Alice and another pupil also showed the DVD to Maybole Community Council and members of the By-pass Committee. The Community Council rewarded the member of the XL Club for their efforts by asking Cathy Jamieson to present them with a certificate. Alice is pictured here holding her award.

A new singing group was launched at the United Service of Lessons and Carols in the Town Hall last Tuesday. MUSIC (Maybole United Schools in Chorus) sang with good Christmas cheer.



HALL DIARY

Thursday 21st December
5-6 pm Tae Kwan Do class 6-8pm Residents Association Youth Club

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Ellen Hawkes and Eileen Hamilton wish all parishioners a very happy and blessed Christmas. They will not be sending out Christmas cards but will instead make a donation to charity.

There will be a service of carols beginning at 11.30 pm on Christmas Eve followed by the Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord at midnight. On Christmas Day Mass will be at 10.00 am.



**Do not be afraid of going slowly,
Be afraid only of standing still.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Primary 1, 2 and 3 Nativity Play: Wednesday 20th December

After a morning performance in St Cuthbert's primary school, the children will perform their Nativity play in Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Church at 7.00 pm. Please come along.

Red Riding Hood Pantomime Thursday 21st December

St Cuthbert's Primary pupils will perform their Christmas pantomime in St Cuthbert's Primary at 1.30 pm and again at 7.00 pm. Entry is by ticket only: please contact the school for tickets (882349).

Mass of Thanksgiving for Mrs McEwan's retiral: Friday 22nd December

To thank God (and Mrs Helen McEwan!) for her years of service in St Cuthbert's Primary there will be Mass in Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Church on Friday 22nd at 9.00 am. Tea and coffee will then be served.

SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS DINNER



The Seniors' Christmas Dinner for parishioners and their spouses will be held in the parish hall on Sunday 17th December from 2.00 - 4.00 pm.



CALLING SINGING CHILDREN

Children and young people please come to the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party at 3.00 pm until 3.45 pm to sing Christmas songs and carols. Then please come to Fairknowe Nursing Home on Christmas Eve at 3.00 pm to sing again for the Christmas service.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MUSIC GROUP: The music group will meet on Monday at 7.00 pm. The group will meet again to practice for Christmas on Saturday 23rd December at 11.00 am.

GALLOWAY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will be led by Bishop John Cunningham from 2nd-9th July 2007. If you would like to go please speak to Fr Stephen who can give you a booking form. Applications for sick pilgrims to be taken are to be communicated to Janie Agnew on 07739 399222. See poster at the back of church.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: There will be no parish council meetings in December. The next meetings will be on Sunday 7th January at 5.30 pm for the youth and 7.00 pm for the adults.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: The Maybole Council of Churches Christmas card which has been delivered to each home in Maybole advertised the Christingle service at St Oswald's Church on Christmas Eve as beginning at 5.30 pm.

This time is wrong: the service will begin at 5.00 pm. It is a lovely service for children. All are welcome.

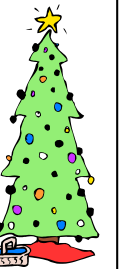
A YEAR END RETREAT: Maybe at Christmas you would benefit from some space for personal reflection. Fr Jim McManus of the Redemptorist Fathers with Miss Marie Hogg will lead a retreat at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull, Perth from 27th-31st December 2006. The name of the retreat is "Healing in the Spirit: A Spirituality of True Self Esteem". Details are available from the monastery (01738 624075) or by email copiosa@aol.com or on the website www.kinnoullmonastery.org.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC OBSERVER CHRISTMAS ISSUES: The issues of 22nd and 29th December will be combined to form one Christmas and New Year issue. This will be in full colour and will have 50 pages. This special double issue will cost £2.00 instead of the usual 80 pence.

PLEASE LEAVE A BABY GIFT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE



At this time of year in the parish we collect baby gifts to give to mothers in need after bringing the best gift—the gift of human life—into this world. A representative from the 'Society of the Innocents' will be invited to receive and pass these gifts on in the New year. Gifts can be left under the Christmas tree, left in the sacristy or handed to Fr Stephen.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE THAT COUNTS THIS CHRISTMAS WITH A SCIAF REAL GIFT



So far, Scots have snapped up over £120,000 worth of gifts, benefiting thousands of families in Africa, Asia and Latin America. However, with over 840 million people going to bed hungry every night, there is much still to do with SCIAF hoping to raise a further £380,000 to reach their target of £500,000.

There is a SCIAF Real Gift to suit everyone from £13 for chickens to £557 for clean water for a village. Loved ones here receive a beautiful certificate which they can treasure and which explains how their gift will benefit others. Meanwhile 100% of the cost of the gift is directed to the related area of work, helping thousands of families.

You can help SCIAF reach even more families, buy a Real Gift on-line at www.sciaf.org.uk/realgifts or call on 0141 354 5555. Remember to order by 15th December to receive your certificate in time for Christmas. Catalogues are available from the back of the church.

MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

Please contact Alex Kelly (882970) if you are unable to minister at a Saturday Mass and Nancy Flanagan (882458) if you are unable to minister at a Sunday Mass. All ministers are asked to gather in the sacristy five minutes before Mass for a moment of prayer together.

3rd of Advent	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	PROCESSION OF GIFTS	SERVERS
16th Dec	Alex Meek	Eileen Hamilton	Nancy Flanagan John Malone	Jim Hawkes David Malone	Waugh family	Paige & Kyle Campbell Phoebe McDowall
17th Dec	Jim McDermott	Eamonn Nolan	Betty McCaffery David Strang	Dennis McCaffery Tony Kerrigan	Kiltie family	Ali Roy, Kieran Porte, Rhiain Collins, Chloe Brownlee

4th of Advent	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	PROCESSION OF GIFTS	SERVERS
23rd Dec	Youth	Youth	Doreen Donald Nancy Flanagan	Youth	Youth	Patrick & Roisin McCallum Phoebe McDowall
24th Dec	Elizabeth Meek	Eileen Hamilton	Ellen Hawkes Marian Davidson	Chic McDermott Jim Campbell	By invitation	Louis Simpson, Ross Malone, Ali Roy, Rhiain Collins