

LITURGY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Come, O Divine Messiah

216

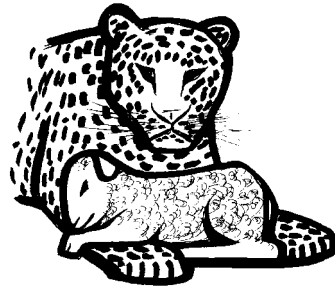
PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the vipers lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.



that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response:

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blest for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blest in him,
all nations bless his name.

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so

PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

Word made flesh

743

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

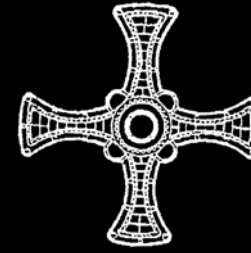
When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory, until you come in glory.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel

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Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **Father Stephen G McGrattan**

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Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm. Sunday 9.30 am

Weekday Mass this week

Thu 9 am

Celebration of the Word and Eucharist

Tue, Wed, Fri 9 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

Mass intentions this week:

Sat: Archie Scobie (RIP)

Sun: Gary Megraw (RIP)

Thu: Sophia Corbett (RIP)

PARISH PRAYER

Lord our God,
we the people of Our Lady and Saint Cuthbert's Parish
offer ourselves to you to be your people in this place,
to be your Church in this community,
to be agents of peace and forgiveness and love.
Help us to face what the future holds,
and to make new beginnings in your name.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord, make me a better person: more considerate toward others,
more honest with myself, more faithful to you.

Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it
I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others.

Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to enter priesthood
or religious life may have the generosity to answer your call,
so that those who need your help may always find it.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER 2007

The voice of the Baptist resounds down the centuries "Repent, for the kingdom of God is close at hand!". The kingdom was very close because Jesus was already in their midst. John was the great prophet sent ahead of Jesus to prepare a path for him by calling people back to God. He was a powerful preacher – even Herod whom he upbraided, liked to listen to him. Today John's words might sound harsh to our ears, but they were meant to shake people out of their complacency so that they would recognize the One who was to baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Today Jesus is still in our midst, though many still fail to recognize his presence. As we receive him in each celebration of the Eucharist, we are strengthened to witness just like John. In a world often oppressed by fear and the primacy of material prosperity, witness to the message of Christ is needed as much as ever. Celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas is a special opportunity to prepare the way for him in our own hearts, and so send out a message of hope to our world.

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

Last week's collection £542.70
Thank you.

MAYBOLE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Pupils from St Cuthbert's Primary sing carols and Christmas songs to set the mood at last Saturday's Christmas Bazaar in the Town Hall.



ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

There will be an advent penitential service in Our Lady and St Cuthbert's on Monday 10th December at 7 pm. This provides us all with an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession before Christmas. The children in primary four will receive this sacrament for the first time. Because of the penitential service there will be no celebration of Mass on Monday.



Penitential services in other parishes take place at 7.00 pm:

All Ayr in St Margaret's	Thursday 13th December
St Ann's, Mossblown	Thursday 13th December
Our Lady & St Meddan's Troon	Sunday 16th December
St Quivox, Prestwick	Monday 17th December
Sacred Hearts', Girvan	Tuesday 18th December

"**THERE is a purpose of marriage between William Burnes, Bachelor, residing at Alloway, in the Parish of Ayr, and Agnes Broun, Spinster, residing in Maybole, in the Parish of Maybole, of which proclamation is made...**" so began the original banns for the approaching nuptials of Robert Burns parents on 15th December 1757.

On Saturday 15th December at 12.30pm at the Collegiate Church at the bottom of Kirkwynd, there will be a re-enactment of the wedding to commemorate the 250th anniversary. Then the bridal party will be piped up to the Castle to celebrate the marriage with song, dance and wedding fare that would have been typical of an 18th century wedding in rural Scotland. Members of the local community are invited to attend. This is our Youth Mass event this weekend. Young people are asked to meet at the Collegiate Church, join in the re-enactment, then on to the Castle for a Hog Roast lunch. Mass begins at 5.30 pm.



If you haven't done so, please remember to take your Advent Extra and your Galloway Diocese News.

ST CUTHBERT'S RECIPE BOOK: St Cuthbert's Primary pupils will sell recipe book they have made up from family recipes at Masses next weekend. Cost £2.

ADVENT EXTRA: This bright publication offers articles, prayers and children's activities to help us journey through Advent to be ready for the birth of Christ at Christmas. It is a good resource to help us focus on what the Advent and Christmas season is really about.

DIOCESAN CAROL SERVICE: The Diocesan Carol Service will take place in St Margaret's Cathedral on Wednesday December 19th at 7.30 pm. This event will be a mixture of congregational and choral singing and set in a prayerful atmosphere of candlelight.

HEALING IN THE SPIRIT RETREAT: 27-31 December directed by Fr Jim McManus CSsR and Miss Marie Hogg. In the peace and quiet of St Mary's, hundreds of men and women have found inner peace, the gift of renewed faith and the healing of the inner hurts of a life time, during this time of retreat. A perfect way to bring your year to a reflective and prayerful close. Treat yourself or a loved one to this special time, "the best holiday ever", as one grateful retreatant put it. It could be defining moment for you or them. Contact 01738 624075 or copiosa@aol.com for more information.

YOUTH PANTOMIME: The youth trip to the pantomime before the youth Mass on 15th December has been changed. The reason for this is that there is a weekend of events to mark the 250th year since Robert Burns parents were married in Maybole. Fr Stephen and the Parish Council think the Burns' events that weekend should be supported. So, young people, our youth event will be to go to the reenacted wedding of William and Agnes Burns — Robert's mum and dad — in the Collegiate Church at 12 pm for a 12.30 pm start. We will then be piped round to Maybole Castle for a Hog Roast lunch. The Youth Mass will follow at 5.30 pm.

DRUMS: Because of a lack of space, the drums that were at the back of the church are available to a good home. They need two cymbals and sticks to complete the set. Otherwise they are in fine working order. A donation to parish funds would be requested.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS: Will not meet in December. The next meeting will be Monday January 8th at 2.00 pm.

ADVENT FAITH SHARING GROUP: Five parishioners

attended last Wednesday's Advent Faith Sharing Group. The group will next meet on Wednesday in the hall at 7.00 pm. All are welcome. Please come along to spend some time talking about our Christian faith — in this way we will be more prepared to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

RCIA GROUP MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday 14th January after 7.00 pm Mass in the parish house.

CONGRATULATIONS to Tony and Fiona Toye on the baptism of their son Ryan; and to Paul and Kelly Skilling on the baptism of their son Callum.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS DINNER: The annual parish Christmas lunch for senior citizens will take place in the church hall on Sunday 30th December at 2.00 pm. The lunch is for parishioners and their spouses. **Because of the popularity of this Christmas lunch and the limited number of people we can cater for using the parish hall facilities, those attending the lunch strictly must be parishioner or the spouse of a parishioner.** Please put names on the list at the back of the church.

CATHOLIC DIARIES: 2008 diaries, personalised to Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, are now available at the back of the church for £1. They have Mass times for this parish and contact telephone numbers for all the local parishes. They'd make an ideal stocking filler.

MUSIC MINISTRY DAY: A music ministry day is being held on Saturday 19th January 2008 at St Andrew's Church hall, Dumfries, from 10 am (for a 10.30 am start) to 3.30 pm. The main part of the day will be spent looking at music for Lent and Easter, led by Les Hendren (Bourtrees Hill). We will also enjoy a talk and discussion on 'What is Lent?' led by Fr Stephen Motroni. Cost £10. Booking forms are available from your parish musician.

CHILDREN OF FAITH GROUP: Will take place on Sunday 16th December, from 5.30 – 6.30 pm. This group for young people to talk about their faith in a fun way is open to all secondary age pupils. Come along and see how God can work in **your** life!

HALLKEEPER REQUIRED: Thank you to Jim McDermott for all his work keeping the parish hall over many years. Jim has retired from this parish post and we are looking for someone to take his place. If you would like to do this, or for more details please contact Fr Stephen on 882145.

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

Please arrange a substitute 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.

	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	ALTAR SERVERS	MUSIC
Sat 8th Dec 2nd of Advent	Matthew Reilly	Eileen Hamilton	Doreen Donald Maureen Hay	Jim Hawkes Alex Kelly	Kieran Porte, Ross Malone, Paige & Kyle Campbell	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 9th Dec 2nd of Advent	Stuart Green	Jim McDermott	Margaret Kiltie Eileen Hamilton	Chic McDermott Cindy McEwan	Jonathan Lewis, Chloe Brownlee, Connor Men- zies, Sam Currie	Maria Newlands Choir
Sat 15th Dec 3rd of Advent Youth Mass	Maeve Murphy	Owen McDowall	Danielle Connolly Gillian Thomson	Alice Mackie Jason McKay	Patrick & Roisin McCallum, Paul Strang, Rhiain Collins	Youth Choir
Sun 16th Dec 3rd of Advent	Nancy Flanagan	Sacramental Preparation Par- ent	Irene Hewitt Jim McDermott	Dennis McCaffery Tony Kerrigan	Amy Malone, Connor Menzies, Ali Roy	Maria Newlands Choir