

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Sunday 9.30 am)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

How lovely on the mountains 346

PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

Be still for the presence of the Lord 165

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

HOLY, HOLY

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Blest be the Lord; blest be the Lord,
the God of mercy, the God who saves.
I shall not fear the dark of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day.*

He will release me from the nets of all my foes.
He will protect me from their wicked hands.
Beneath the shadow of his wings I will rejoice
to find a dwelling place secure.

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night,
nor stand alone before the light of day.
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down,
no evil settle in my soul.

Although a thousand strong have fallen at my side,
I'll not be shaken with the Lord at hand.
His faithful love is all the armour that I need
to wage my battle with the foe.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come. Lord Jesus, come in glory!

LAMB OF GOD

After verse: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer;
through this bread and wine we share,
may we be your sign of peace ev'rywhere.

COMMUNION HYMN

One bread, one body 538

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ be our light 439

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SECOND READING

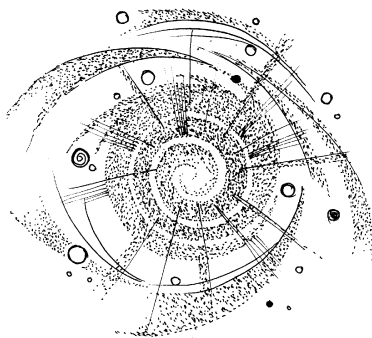
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and the moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'



DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GET FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

You can give £20 to the building of a health clinic in Badagry Nigeria, and give someone a card saying that this is what their Christmas gift is really achieving.

Badagry is a port town in the South-West of Nigeria very close to the Benin border. It has a population of around 250,000 people. Sadly it has no hospital.

A Franciscan Sister has for many years operated a maternity unit from a disused school given to her by the Diocese of Lagos for this purpose. In 1996 the Sisters bought a piece of land on the outskirts of the town in the hope that they might one day be able to build a clinic where they could provide maternity care and also attend the many "street children" and those orphaned by AIDS.

By 2007 they had still not been able to start the building so it was in October of that year that the staff and pupils of Queen Margaret Academy, Ayr, decided to raise the money to do so.

Queen Margaret Academy enrolled the help of all its associated primary schools and local parishes. By July 2008 £35,000 had been raised. Pupils and staff from Scotland travelled to Nigeria to lay the foundations. Fundraising continued throughout the next school year. By May 2009 the building had reached roof height.

£20,000 will complete the building and also a small outside kitchen and shelter where food will be given daily to those most in need.

Cards are now available at the cost of £20 from the back of the church. This could be a real gift for a loved one — the knowledge that lives of those in great need are being saved.



Parish of Our Lady & St Cuthbert

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **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
Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, Maybole, a parish of the R C Diocese of Galloway. Charity number SC010576.

Sunday Masses

Sat Vigil 5.30 pm; Sunday 9.30 am
Teas in the hall after Sunday Mass

Weekday Masses

Mon, Thu 9.00 am

Celebration of Word and Communion

Tue, Wed, Fri 9.00 am

Mass intentions this week:

Sat: The faithful departed
Sun: The faithful departed
Mon: Janette McIlaney (RIP)
Thu: Annie Kerr (RIP)
Next Sat: Tammy McFagan (RIP)
Next Sun: Betty McGarry (RIP)

Sacrament of Baptism

Forms available at the back of the church

Sacrament of Confession

After Vigil Mass and when requested

Sacrament of Marriage

At least six months notice is required

Useful numbers: Sacred Hearts, Girvan: 01465 713331
St Paul's, Ayr: 01292 260197
St Margaret's, Ayr: 01292 263488

Church and hall bookings (Tom McCahill): 01655 882884
St Cuthbert's Primary, Maybole: 01655 882349
Queen Margaret Academy, Ayr: 01292 268379

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2009

The season of advent is a time of prayerful reflection to celebrate the great mystery of the first coming of the Son of God, as a babe in an obscure town in Judea. It's a time to reflect more deeply on the cosmic consequences of that first coming for one day that humble and hidden Babe of Bethlehem will return in a way that will affect everyone ever born.

This Sunday's gospel calls us to be aware of that return of the Son of God. Heralded by world-wide upheavals, the earth and sky will be shaken before his almighty power. None of his glory and majesty will be hidden. For those who have believed and obeyed him, often scorned and victimised in the world, this will be a day of liberation. We are called to realise that the second coming should not cause fear in our hearts, but rather the same joy and thanksgiving that we feel in preparing to celebrate the season of Christmas.

Podcast on today's Gospel reading at www.gallowaypodcasts.org.uk

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

Last week's collection: **£522.51.**
Building Fund: **£320.00.** Thank you.

ST CUTHBERT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL'S PARENT COUNCIL is seeking donations for a Christmas hamper to be raffled to raise funds for the children's Christmas parties and celebration of the birth of Our Lord. Parishioners are being asked to give donations of Christmas goodies (crackers, chocolates, nuts etc) to help make a fabulous Christmas hamper and the raffle will be drawn during the children's Nativity performance at the church on December 9th at 7.00 pm.

Donations can be handed in to both the school and church (and put in the coloured box under the Christmas stall at the back of the church) and will be accepted from now until Thursday, November 26th. Please help support the school and children and help make Advent/Christmas 2009 a season to remember. Many thanks in anticipation of lots of lovely goodies.

EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: To mark the beginning of Advent, there will be a liturgy in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr at 5.40 pm for 6.00 pm on Sunday 29th November. The celebration will include the sung Evening Prayer of the Church, moments of quiet adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction. (The 5.40 pm start time is to teach the congregation the sung psalms, canticles and responses before the celebration begins). Please make an effort to come along to mark the beginning of a new year in the liturgy of the Church and the beginning of our preparation for the coming of Our Lord.

ST ANDREW'S DAY DEANERY CONFERENCE: On St Andrew's Day, Monday 30th November, there will be a celebration of Mass in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr at 7.00 pm. The priests of the deanery will be there and parishioners from all the parishes in the deanery are invited to the celebration. After Mass there will be a short deanery conference in the Cathedral hall, and the life of the Church in our deanery will be discussed. This will give us the chance to talk about the challenges and opportunities in our Church at this time and share ideas and resources to help us serve in the best way we can in our parishes. From this meeting we hope to get a better understanding of the needs of the local church and how we can respond to these needs. Although this event is open to everyone, representatives from each parish council in the deanery are asked to be present. This is an important event in the life of our deanery: please make a special effort to come along.

CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR SENIOR CITIZENS: The Christmas Dinner for parishioners who are senior citizens will take place on Sunday 20th December at 2.00 pm in the parish hall. Please add your name to the list on the notice board.

CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR YOUNG PARISHIONERS: Young parishioners of primary 7 age and upwards are invited to a Christmas dinner after the youth Mass on Saturday 19th December. Dress is formal. There will be a disco after the dinner and the event will finish around 10 pm. Add your name to the list on the notice board **before Sunday 6th December.**

INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON CREATING AN ALL-THROUGH 5-18 DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL AT QUEEN MARGARET ACADEMY, AYR: Recently, both South Ayrshire Council and Bishop Cunningham have written to parents and guardians of children in St. Cuthbert's Primary, St. John's Primary in Ayr, St. Ann's Primary in Mossblown, St. Ninian's Primary in Prestwick and Queen Margaret Academy in Ayr asking to respond to an 'Informal consultation on creating an all-through 5-18 denominational school at Queen Margaret Academy.'

The Parent Council will hold a meeting for all parents of St Cuthbert's pupils, as well as any other interested person, on Wednesday 2nd December at 7pm in St. Cuthbert's Primary school to discuss this response as it is very important that everyone has a full understanding of some of the issues related to this consultation and how St Cuthbert's Primary's future could be affected.

SCIAF is calling on parishioners to join The Wave, Scotland's largest ever climate change march, on **Saturday 5th December, at 10.30am in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow.** Climate change is already affecting many of the poor communities in developing countries that receive SCIAF support. A special service with Cardinal O'Brien will be held at St Leo the Great Church, 5 Beech Avenue, Dumbreck (next to the park) beforehand at 10am. Cardinal O'Brien will then attend and lead the family-friendly march, which is expected to attract thousands of people. The Cardinal will also be a key speaker at a rally in Kelvingrove Park at the end of the march. Visit www.sciaf.org.uk for more information.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS: Christianity has lasted 2,000 years through the efforts and prayers of millions, and the work of the Spirit. As Christians, we

have a duty to become evangelists for Christ. You can do this in a simple way like placing a **'Keep Christ in Christmas'** sticker when sending Christmas cards and other correspondence. The stickers are available at the back of the church at the low price of £1.50 for 100. Proceeds to help street children in Colombia through 'Let the Children Live!'



Also, religious Christmas stamps are now available from Maybole Post Office. The limited stock will not be replaced when they are sold. Get to the Post Office fast if you are looking for religious stamps. Alternatively, you can order them online at www.royalmail.com.

CATHOLIC DIARIES customised for our parish are now available free of charge at the back of the church. They include useful local contact details, information about the Sacraments, and all the feast and saints' days of the Church's year. They make good stocking fillers too!

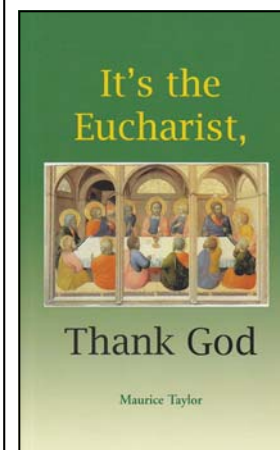


THE ADVENT ISSUE OF THE GALLOWAY DIOCESE NEWS reports on St Matthew's Academy, Saltcoats project to support and extend a secondary school in Mzuzu, Malawi. Pupils travelled there earlier in the year to meet the pupils of their twin school. As well as other regular articles there is a special pull out calendar for 2010. Please take one copy per family.

EXPOSITION DURING ADVENT: There will be an extra opportunity during Advent to pray before the Blessed Sacrament in church. After Mass on Monday the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for half and hour of prayer. Please make an effort to use this quiet and prayerful space to rest in the real presence of Jesus. This week Mass on Monday is at 9.00 am.

DIOCESAN CAROL SERVICE led by Bishop Cunningham, will take place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 16th December. All welcome!

A NEW BOOK BY BISHOP TAYLOR: "IT'S THE EUCHARIST, THANK GOD"



Bishop Taylor's new book about the Mass combines teaching and memoir. He himself describes it as "a miscellany, a collection of different items on the Mass." He continues, "It is a principal aim of this book

to consider how faithfully we nowadays, more than forty years on from the Second Vatican Council's teaching on the liturgy, observe that teaching and, specifically, its teaching on the Mass. How aware and how appreciative are we of what we should be doing when we gather in worship?"

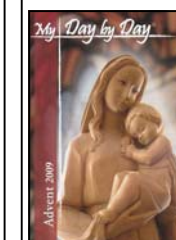
The early chapters describe the theology and practice of the Mass as set out by the Council and the documents that followed it. Then follows a reflection on the recent developments concerning the Tridentine Mass and an account of the Bishop's time as chairman of the International Commission of English in the Liturgy. A translation of the missal, which had taken 16 years to complete and which had been approved by both the UK and US bishops, had to be jettisoned when the whole basis of liturgical translation was changed in 2001 by the instruction *Liturgiam Authenticam*. The inside story of these events has not been told before.

The book is available at the back of the church for £8.50.

TO HELP YOU PRAY THIS ADVENT

Advent is the season when we recall, deep in our hearts, that God became a little child for us. To receive this true message of Christmas in our lives it is important to prepare by learning about and praying what it means for God to become vulnerable that we may be saved.

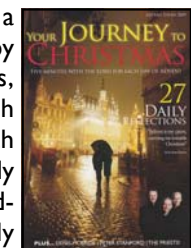
There are resources available to help us do this. First of all the daily prayer podcasts, recorded by people from the parishes of our deanery, can be downloaded every day from www.gallowaypodcasts.org.uk. The include the reading of the day and a 'thought for the day' style reflection by priests and parishioners.



My Day by Day is a booklet which has the Mass readings for each day during the season of Advent and the days after Christmas. It is designed to give you the scriptures of the month

to use in prayer. For each day there is a thought and a space for you to write your own notes and reflections. There is no charge for this booklet which is available at the back of the church.

Advent Extra is a colourful publication by the Redemptorists, who led our parish mission in June, which guides us on our daily journey through Advent. As well as daily reflections there is an interview with the singers 'The Priests', as well as articles by Denis McBride and Peter Stanford. Again these are free of charge. Please take one per family.



Please remember those members and friends of our parish family who are sick:

Margaret Manning, Helen Henderson, Nancy Baird, Margaret Murray, Catherine Ward, Moira Sillars, Lee-Anne McLean, John Hagan, Bill Close, Vera O'Neil, Valerie Connolly, Reginald and Helen Beans, Hugh Rodger, Jessie Doherty, Anne-Marie Keane, Jean Milligan, Marie Murray, Joseph Hernández, Billy Torbett.

In our bidding prayers at Mass the community prays for all the sick listed here. If you know of someone whose name should be added to (or taken from) this list please email or speak to Fr Stephen.

IN TALKING WITH YOUR CHILDREN,

have you neglected to raise the call to Church ministry? The process of answering God's call begins in childhood. Throughout adolescence and adulthood, the attitudes assumed in childhood begin to influence the course of one's life. A vocation or a talent will not grow to fruition unless it is nurtured in childhood and adolescence by a parent.

Often children talk about what they want to be "when they grow up": doctors, lawyers, athletes, nurses, movie stars, teachers, carpenters. They may talk about these roles, but do they ever talk about being a priest, sister or brother? You are the hand of God — encourage your children to consider Church ministry and priesthood.

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

	READER	PRAYER BEFORE MASS & BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	ALTAR SERVERS	MUSIC	SUPERVISOR FOR YOUNG LIT	BELL RINGER	COUNTERS
Sat 28 November <i>1st of Advent</i>	Gillian Thomson	Margaret Boyce	Jim McDermott Maureen Hay	Alex Kelly Kate Spratt	Owen, Connor, Phoebe, Ronan	Nicola Lawrence		David Malone (Jnr)	Nancy Flanagan Chris Connolly Betty McCaffery
Sun 29 November <i>1st of Advent</i>	Ellen Hawkes	Tom Dowman	Elizabeth Meek Cindy McEwan	Chic McDermott Tony Kerrigan	Niall, Zak, Brody, Blair, Darra	Maria Newlands	Roddy Wright	Laura Kiltie	
Sat 5 December <i>2nd of Advent</i>	Margaret Boyce	Alex Meek	Margaret Reilly David Malone Jnr.	Kate Spratt David Malone (Snr)	Amy, Emily, Ciera, Patrick	Nicola Lawrence		Robin Donald	Jim McDermott Irene Hewitt Wilma Valdrighi
Sun 6 December <i>2nd of Advent</i>	Zak Roy Rebecca Campbell	Ronan McDowall	Betty McCaffery Margaret Kiltie	Jim McDermott Cindy McEwan	Liam, Brittany, Deáglan, Dara, Jack	Youth Choir		Laura Kiltie	