

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Saturday Vigil)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

How lovely on the mountains 346

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be

laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry 541

HOLY, HOLY

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us. (2)
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O come, O come Emmanuel 503

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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 7.00 pm; Tue, Thu 9.00 am

Celebration of Word and Communion

Wed, Fri 9.00 am

Mass intentions this week:

Sat: Tammy McFagan (RIP)
Sun: Betty McGarry (RIP)
Mon: Fr Frank Goodall, CSSR (Ann)
Tue: Annie Kerr (RIP)
Thu: Brian O'Donnell
Next Sat: Janette McIlaney (RIP)
Next Sun: Tammy McFagan (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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2009

We can reflect on St Luke's precise timing of the appearance of the Baptist. Knowing that details of the Roman empire and the pontificates of Annas and Caiaphas could be confirmed historically, Luke planted the story firmly in time, because a most significant event in humanity's existence was taking place. The stage is set with people, whom secular history will record, but who will be known more widely as participants in the unfolding story of Jesus.

Caesar may have been sovereign lord of the whole of the Roman Empire, but it is the true Sovereign Lord who causes him to initiate a census resulting in Jesus being born in Bethlehem. God was then, and still is, very firmly in control. We reflect that history is still ongoing. It is now our turn to prepare a place for the Lord. What part will we play in this ongoing saga of the redemption of mankind?

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: **£536.55.**
Thank you.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES

You will have the opportunity to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confession) on the following dates and places, always at 7.00 pm:

Tue 8th December: St Margaret's, Ayr

Sun 13th December: St Meddan's, Troon

Mon 14th December: Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, Maybole or St Quivox', Prestwick

Tue 15th December: St Paul's, Ayr

Thu 17th December: St Ann's, Mossblown or Sacred Hearts', Girvan

Examination of conscience leaflets, one for younger people (green) and another for adults (yellow) are available in the porch. Please make use of them to help you celebrate the sacrament well.



Parents, please bring your children who have already made the Sacrament of Reconciliation to this service. It is important to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness frequently and, by bringing your children to the service, they will have a better chance to learn this.

The primary 4 boys and girls will receive this Sacrament on Monday 14th for the first time. Please pray for them.

COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON POSSIBILITY OF MOVING ST CUTHBERT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL TO AYR

South Ayrshire Council have proposed bringing together the Catholic primary schools of Maybole, Prestwick, Mossblown and Ayr, together with Queen Margaret Academy, on one school campus at the present Queen Margaret site for pupils age 5 to 18 years.

The Council want to know what you think about this and you can reply using the consultation paper which is distributed inside the bulletin this week. Alongside the consultation paper there is a letter from the Bishop detailing some of the issues surrounding the consultation.

This is only a proposal and no decision has been made to close or rebuild schools. It is important to remember this and that our local primary school is and will continue to be open for business as usual.

Should schools in the Catholic sector be rebuilt, this would not take place for many years and so such a proposal will affect young children and children not yet born, as well as some who are in education already. For this reason it is important that the whole community have their say on this matter and not just parents of children at school.

Please complete an informal consultation form and return it to the parish, school or Council by 12th December. The form can be completed online at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/consultations/qma.aspx

DIARY FOR DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

Sun 6th at 5.00 pm	Junior Parish Council
Mon 7th at 7.00 pm	Smithstone House Advent Series
Mon 7th at 7.30 pm	Meeting of helpers for Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner
Tue 8th at 7.00 pm	Reconciliation at St Margaret's, Ayr
Wed 9th at 7.00 pm	Nativity Play in the church
Sat 12th at 10.00 am	Coffee morning in the hall
Sun 13th at 7.00 pm	Reconciliation in Troon
Mon 14th at 7.00 pm	Reconciliation at Maybole
	Reconciliation at Prestwick
Tue 15th at 7.00 pm	Carol Service in the Town Hall
Tue 15th at 7.00 pm	Reconciliation at St Paul's, Ayr
Wed 16th at 7.00 pm	Diocesan Carol Service, Cathedral
Thu 17th at 7.00 pm	Reconciliation in Mossblown
	Reconciliation in Girvan
Sat 19th after Mass	Young parishioner Christmas dinner
Sun 20th at 2.00 pm	Senior Citizens' Christmas dinner
Thu 24th at 11.30 pm	Carols & Christmas Midnight Mass
Fri 25th at 10.00 am	Christmas Day Mass

JUNIOR PARISH COUNCIL: There will be a meeting this evening, Sunday 6th, at 5.00 pm in the parish house.

MEETING FOR HELPERS AT SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS DINNER: Will those who usually help prepare/serve at the Christmas dinner please come to a short meeting in the parish house on Monday 7th after evening Mass.

ADVENT SERIES: A time for reflection on Monday 7th and 14th December from 7-9 pm at Smithstone House, Kilwinning. For more details phone Fr Motroni on 01294 552515.

ST CUTHBERT'S NATIVITY PLAY: This will be performed by the children of primaries 1, 2 and 3 in the church on Wednesday 9th December at 7.00 pm. Please come along.

PRIMARY SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING: This will take place on Saturday 12th December from 10 am-12 noon in the parish hall. We appeal for donations of home baking please. On that day the Christmas hamper draw will be made. Please make sure you have a ticket!

TOWN CAROL SERVICE: Maybole Council of Churches annual Carol Service will take place in the Town Hall on Tuesday 15th December at 7.00 pm. Please come along.

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!

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.**

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.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS READING: Why not buy a CTS booklet from the rack beside the door at the back of the church to help you set aside time for your spirit before Christmas. A selection of Advent/Christmas titles are available.

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!

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

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 an 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 7.00 pm.

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.

RETREATS: Advent Retreat: A time of gentle quiet and reflection and an opportunity to hear again God's Word and, like Mary, to ponder it and treasure it in your heart. **Year End Retreat:** Would you like some time and space for reflection as this year ends and another one begins? Then perhaps this retreat is for you. It is called "Healing in the Spirit: a Spirituality of True Self-esteem", and will take place at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull,

Perth, from 27th-31st December 2009.

The retreat is led by Fr Jim McManus, CSsR, and Miss Marie Hogg. For more details on both these retreats please contact The Secretary, St Mary's, Kinnoull, Perth, PH2 7BP; or phone 01738 624075. You can also find more information at www.kinnoullmonastery.org or by emailing stmaryskinnoull@btconnect.com.

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. **Daily prayer podcasts** can be downloaded every day from www.gallowaypodcasts.org.uk. They 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. These are free of charge. Please take one per family.

FR JOHN WALSH, a retired priest of Galloway diocese who lived in Prestwick during recent years, died on Tuesday 24th November aged 84 years. May he rest in peace.

150 CLUB: November winners £25 John Ward (no 29); £15 Jim Crawford (no 122); £10 Doreen Donald (no 70).

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, Edward Purvis, Rena McCrindle.

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.

A STUDY COMMISSIONED by the Knights of Columbus revealed that 75% of Catholic young people who had seriously considered a vocation to priesthood or religious life felt they were never encouraged to pursue that goal.

Do you know someone who would make a good priest? Why not tell him so? Your encouragement may be all he needs.

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 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	
Sat 12 December <i>3rd of Advent</i>	Owen McDowall	Ellen Hawkes	Angela Kirkpatrick John Malone	Jim Hawkes Robin Donald	Emily, Connor, Phoebe, Ronan	Nicola Lawrence		David Malone (Jnr)	Doreen Donald Robin Donald
Sun 13 December <i>3rd of Advent</i>	Elizabeth Meek	Eileen Hamilton	Jim McDermott Irene Hewitt	Chic McDermott Jim Campbell	Rachel, David, Rebecca, Aidan, Dominic	Maria Newlands	Gerry Murphy	Laura Kiltie	