



PARISHES OF

ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS

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1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 28TH NOVEMBER 2021

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|---|--|---|--|
| Saturday 27 th November | Broxburn 5.30 pm Vigil Mass Rose Kelly Smith RIP | Winchburgh 9.30 am Mass Canon Alistair Mason Doyle 3.00 pm Vigil Mass John Ferguson 'Fergie' | Mass of Our Lady |
| Sunday 28th November | 9.30 am Mass Eileen Valentine 5pm Mass Frank Kelly AV | 11.30 am Mass People of the parishes  | 1st Sunday of Advent |
| Monday 29 th November | 9.30 am Mass Jim McDougall | No Mass | Feria |
| Tuesday 30 th November Feast of St Andrew | 1.30pm School Mass Niall Sweeney 6.30pm Mass Michael Rowberry | 9.30 am Mass Monsignor Peter Smith 62 RIP 11am School Mass Special Intention |  |
| Wednesday 1 st December | 9.30 am Mass Cathy Cameron | No Mass | Feria |
| Thursday 2 nd December | No Mass | 9.30 am Mass James O'Hara AV | Feria |
| Friday 3 rd December | 9.30 am Mass Annie & George Linton AV | 6pm Mass Mrs Elizabeth Bath AV | Feast of St Francis Xavier |
| Saturday 4 th December | 5.30 pm Vigil Mass Patrick Devanney (Grandfather) RIP | 9.30 am Mass Catherine McAuley 1 st AV 3.00 pm Vigil Mass Angela McDowell RIP | Feast of St John Damascene |
| Sunday 5th December | 9.30 am Mass Jordan Derek Gavin 5pm Mass Brendan Larkin AV | 11.30 am Mass Maggie Foody RIP |  Second Sunday of Advent |



Confessions

Broxburn – Saturday 6.15pm, Sunday 5.45pm,

Winchburgh – Saturday 10.15am

Theme: "Come on – Christ is Coming"

This new Church year, the Gospel readings on a Sunday will mostly be from St Luke's account of the conception, birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The first part of Advent, from now till the 17th of December, we focus on the 'second coming' of Jesus Christ. The fancy word for it is the 'eschaton', the end times when Christ Jesus comes to carry us safely from the disintegration of the natural world as we know it. This is when the solar system changes and the balance of creation on earth collapses. Jesus does not leave us under any illusion about the 'end times'. Who knows exactly when this dramatic event will take place. However, the important point at stake is to be spiritually ready at all times, like the night watchmen on the bridge of a ship, viewing distant horizons and reading the signs of the times. Jesus doesn't want to lose us, but am I foolish enough to lose sight of Him?

Reflection: "Advent by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI"

"In Advent, the Mass frequently repeats and assures us, as if to overcome our natural diffidence, that God comes; He comes to be with us in every situation of ours, He comes to dwell among us, to live with us and within us; He comes to fill the gaps that divide and separate us; He comes to reconcile us with Him and with one another; He comes into human history to knock at the door of every person of goodwill, to bring to individuals, families and peoples the gifts of fellowship, harmony and peace. This is why Advent is par excellence the season of hope in which believers in Christ are invited to remain in watchful and active waiting, nourished by prayer and by the effective commitment to love".

SHARED PARISH NEWS

'The New Church Year'

The Catholic Christian Calendar, the New Year, begins not on 1st January but rather on the 1st Sunday of Advent. We should then see this sacred new season as a time of new beginnings for us. The 'old Church year is past'. Jesus is inviting us to enter into an enlightened way of being in faith. Now's the time to confront our personal faults and failings, our bad habits and practices. Now's the time to resume a state of readiness and be truly awakened to the call of the Gospel. If we have been a liar, to be truthful, if we've been greedy, to fast, if we've been immoral, to become pure of heart and mind, if we've been dishonest, to restore our integrity, if we've been uncharitable or intolerant, to be compassionate. Never underestimate the grace of making a good confession.



The World Synod called by Pope Francis

This Sunday is the first of several opportunities to express your own thoughts, ideas, concerns and potential changes the Catholic Church in Scotland and throughout the world should consider in the near future. All parishioners are invited by the Holy Father to make their own submissions. This Sunday, 28th November, after the 11.30am Mass in Winchburgh and the 5pm Mass in Broxburn, you, the Parishioners, are invited in small groups to pray, discuss, listen and share before making key points to a 'notetaker' who will then pass on the submissions to the Archdiocese for onward transmission to Rome. The two key questions for Module 1 are:

1. What does sharing in the Parish mean?
2. How can we support and encourage parents whose children are leaving the faith?

Please learn to think 'outside the box' with Christ centred imaginative and creative thinking. God Bless you all.

St Andrews Day Celebrations – 30th November

It is time that Scotland made more spiritual recognition of our Patron Saint. It should be a National holiday and a time to come for Mass, praying for the faith in our country. Mass in Winchburgh 9.30am and Broxburn 6.30pm. The schools will also be marking the day. It is also a good opportunity to go to our St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh on 30th November and pray before the relics of St Andrew. There is a mass there at 12.45pm. St Andrew of Scotland, pray for us.

Death of Margaret Hill (Boylan) RIP

Dear Margaret died peacefully at home early on Wednesday 24th November, in the company of her family. She was a devoted Catholic mother and keen member of St Philomena's Parish. We mourn her passing and wish her eternal rest in the kingdom of heaven.

Forthcoming Wedding

Please pray for Dawn Cannon and David MacKay who are due to exchange their marriage vows on Saturday 4th December at St John Cantius and St Nicholas Church in Broxburn.



We wish them every blessing in their married life together and pray for their beloved families.

The Parish Timetable for Advent

1. Every Tuesday at 6pm join the Advent Family Rosary to Zoom, with Advent Reflections. Link 725-827-1735. Passcode 850988.
2. Pick up a copy of the Advent Daily Reflections from the rear of the Church – once handled it should be taken.
3. Come for Confession in Advent. Winchburgh on Saturday after 9.30 am Mass, Broxburn after evening Mass on Saturday 6.30pm or Sunday at 5.45pm.
4. Join the Ecumenical Service for Lessons and Carols at Uphall South Church on Sunday 28th November at 7pm.
5. Come Carol Singing at Uphall Open Door at 11am on Saturday 11th December.
6. Join the Archbishop at St Andrews Square, Edinburgh, for the dedication of the Churches Nativity at 3pm on Sunday 28th November (today).
7. Come to the Advent Service of Lessons and Carols at St Philomena's, Winchburgh, on Sunday 19th December at 3pm.
8. Pick up an Advent Calendar from the Church stall and make sure you install a Christmas Crib in your home by 18th December.
9. Come to silent Eucharistic Adoration before Mass begins.



Primary 3 – Sacramental Preparation

Fr Jeremy will meet with the parents one more time before Christmas on Sunday 5th December after the 9.30am Mass in Broxburn and the 11.30am Mass in Winchburgh. The theme will be 'How Catholics celebrate their Faith'.

Joint Parish Pilgrimage to Poland in 2022

There is a provisional plan (COVID permitting) to have a Pilgrimage to the shrine of St John Cantius in Cracow, Poland, in September 2022. (19th to 23rd). The visit would include the beautiful city of Cracow, the Shrine of St John Cantius, the Shrine of St Faustina of Divine Mercy, the Marian Centre of Our Lady of Czestochowa and enjoy the beauty, culture and hospitality of beautiful Southern Poland. There will be a planning meeting on Monday 17th January at 7pm in the rear of the Church in Broxburn. We look forward to this event very much. It is a good opportunity to strengthen our Scottish/Polish collaboration.

Parish Finances

The income for the month of October was as follows in both parishes (including Standing Orders):

Broxburn Parish - £ 11,404.51 Winchburgh Parish - £4601.53

Thank you for your level of giving. It is only due to your giving that the parishes are able to function, along with your voluntary help and service. A copy of the Broxburn Accounts is in the church porch.

Broxburn Church Steeple Project

Adams Napier, Building Surveyors, have now come back with a detailed survey of the steeple – the work that is Immediate, Urgent, Necessary and Desirable. The total cost, not including professional fees and VAT is in excess of £102,000. A small 'taskforce' will be set up to examine the project in detail so we can plan to do it in stages and also raise funding by grants and parish donations. Our total parish funds now sit around £60,000 which, taking into account day to day parish running costs, leaves us far short of the budget. The urgent repairs alone could cost in excess of £30,000. If you would like to help with the project, please see Fr Jeremy.

Raffle Donations

For our upcoming Christmas Raffle any donations of bottles would be gratefully received. Prizes for the raffle include 1. Christmas Hamper 2. Bottle Hamper 3. Beauty Hamper 4. Picnic Hamper 5. Large Panda 6. Ornamental Doll.

Food Delivery to the Nuns

In the run up to Christmas our **final run** to the nuns will be on the 19th December, therefore if we could ask you to please give any long-life food like cereals, packets, tins, also looking for gloves hats scarves or warm coats as the colder weather is approaching. Please leave in porch before the 19th December. Thank you for all your help in the last 2 years.



Vestry Hour (for all general pastoral enquiries)

Winchburgh Parish – Monday 29th November 6pm. 01506 891310.

Broxburn Parish – Thursday 2nd December 7.30pm. 01506 852040

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/7258271735?pwd=VG9QTVDUUFY0dHFRZENVRXRJeFB1QT09>

Toccata Ladies Choir – A Merry Little Christmas

Toccata Ladies Choir are singing at St John Cantius & St Nicholas Church in Broxburn on Sunday 12th December from 7.30pm – 8.30pm, tickets are £5 available at the church door.

www.toccataladieschoir.co.uk for more information.



Saints Days this coming week

St Andrew – 30th November: Apostle and Martyr. Brother of St Peter. Both Galilean fishermen who were among the first to be called 'Apostles'. Crucified in Greece at Achaia. He went with St Philip to evangelise the 'Gentile' (non-Jewish) communities. Played a key role in the feeding of the 5,000.

St Francis Xavier – 3rd December: Born in 1506 as a Basque. After studying theology in Paris, he joined St Ignatius of Loyola in forming the new Jesuit Order. At the age of 36, travelled to India to be a Missionary and went on to Japan. He died out in the Far East aged 46. His uncorrupted body is still to this day on display at the Cathedral Church in Goa, Western India

St John Damascene – 4th December: 7th Century Christian – defended the faith against the Moors. Became a monk in Jerusalem. He promoted the teaching of the Assumption of Our Lady and defended the veneration of Holy Images.

The Teaching of the Catechism

'Homosexuality' – Para 2358 - 'The number of men and women who have deep-seated homosexual tendencies is not negligible. They do not choose their sexuality; they must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination for their regard, should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfil God's plan in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord's Cross, the difficulties they may encounter'.

'The Role of a Bishop' – Para 1594 - 'The Bishop receives the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders which integrates him into the episcopal college and makes him the visible head of the particular Church entrusted to him. As successors of the apostles and members of the college, the Bishops share in the apostolic responsibility and mission of the Whole Church under the authority of the Pope, successor of St Peter'.

40 Hours' Devotion - The launch of the 40 Hours' Devotion is at St Mary' Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Sunday 28 November from 1pm. Full details at www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk A full parish schedule for the 40 Hours' Devotion is at bit.ly/40hoursschedule

Advent talks: Faith, Hope & Love -Find out more about the season of Advent and the virtues of Faith, Hope and Love in a series of online talks held each Monday in Advent. Hosted by the Archdiocese, the first takes place on Monday 29 November 7:30pm-8:00pm, led by Canon Hugh White. No registration required, simply use this link each week to join: bit.ly/AdventTalk (or webinar ID: 891 8951 4801)

Advent: Rosary for Life -Join parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese each Tuesday throughout Advent to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. Begins this Tuesday (30 November) at 7:45pm and includes a reflection from Fr Kevin Douglas. Event on Zoom, register at bit.ly/30NovRosary

The Archdiocese is recruiting -The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh is looking to recruit a full-time Religious Education Adviser (Primary Schools). Details at bit.ly/vacancy_2021

Nativity Blessing/Carol Service -Archbishop Cushley will bless the Nativity Scene at the Nativity Blessing & Carol Service, which takes place in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh at 3pm on Sunday 28 November. All welcome to attend and sing carols with St Columba's Choir and the Salvation Army Brass Band.

Answers to last week's quiz

1. *Trevor Howard*
2. *5 wise, 5 foolish*
3. *Just outside Banff, Morayshire.*
4. *William Whiting 1842.*

This week's quiz

1. Who was John the Baptist's parents?
2. Which punk group released an anarchic version of 'God Save the Queen' in 1977?
3. Who blew up Eilean Donan Castle in 1719 because it housed a Spanish garrison in the Jacobite uprising?
4. Which English football team has the nickname of the 'Black Cats'?

Next Week's Readings: 28th November: – First Reading: Bar 5:1-9 **Psalm:** Ps 125

Second Reading: Phil 1:3-6.8-11 **Gospel:** Luke 3:1-6

St John Cantius and St Nicholas' and St Philomena's parishes are of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, a charity registered in Scotland SCO08540

