



PARISHES OF

ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS

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Parish Priest: The Very Rev Jeremy C Canon Bath

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19th December 2021



Saturday 18th December	<u>BROXBURN</u> 10.30 – 16.30 Exposition 5.30pm Vigil Mass Margaret Brady RIP 18.30 – 20.00 Exposition	<u>WINCHBURGH</u> 9.30am Mass Billy Mullen RIP 3.00 pm Vigil Mass Joe Dean AV	Eucharistic  Adoration
Sunday 19th December	9.30 am Mass Charles Canon RIP 10.30 – 16.30 Exposition 5.00 pm Mass Deceased Hughes & O’Leary Families 18.30-20.00 Exposition	11.30 am Mass Monsignor Peter Smith RIP (Glasgow) 3pm Ecumenical Carol Service	4 th Sunday of Advent Eucharistic  Adoration
Monday 20.0 th December	9.30 am Mass Grace Brogan	No Mass	Advent
Tuesday 21 st December	No Mass 6pm Rosary	9.30 am Mass Deceased members of Finnigan Family	Advent
Wednesday 22 nd December	9.30 am Mass Sean O’Donnell RIP	11am School Mass Canon Alastair Mason Doyle	Advent
Thursday 23 rd December	9.30am Mass People of the parishes	9.30am Mass James O’Hara Snr & Jnr RIP	Feast of St John Cantius
Friday 24th December Christmas Eve	5.30pm Vigil Mass Fr Frank Doherty RIP 9.30pm Carols 10pm Midnight Mass Dr Julian Bath RIP	5.30pm Vigil Mass Raymond Devlin RIP	
Saturday 25th December	9.30am Mass Billy Linton	11am Mass Nan & William Smith	
Sunday 26th December	9.30 am Mass Deceased Byrne Family RIP 5.00 pm Mass Raymond Mac Donnell RIP	11.30 am Mass Brown & Finnigan Families RIP 	Feast of the Holy Family

Confessions Broxburn – Saturday 6.15pm, Sunday 5.45pm, Winchburgh – Saturday 10.15am

Theme: 'Response'

The response of God to the plight of the world is measured, definitive and beyond human reckoning. The leaping of the last great prophet, John the Baptist, in the womb of Elizabeth is a sign of expectant joy to the world. The meeting of two pregnant woman in Judah is more significant to God's response to the world, than what is going on in the Temple of Solomon. Humanity flounders in its shameful response to ungodliness by offering up the bodies of dead animals in ritual sacrifice. Meantime God is being made incarnate in a small town in Palestine. The expectation of God is that we respond in eager and energetic faithful love to the Messiah born to us. Let us delight in expressing the name 'Emmanuel', which means 'God is with us'.

Reflection: 'The Greatness of God' (Thomas a Kempis)

"Behold, you are the Saint of Saints, and I am the scum of sinners. Behold, you lower yourself down to me, who am not worthy to look up to you. Behold, you come to me; you wish to be with me; you invite me to your banquet; you desire to give me heavenly food, even the bread of angels to eat, no other, indeed, than yourself, the Living Bread, who did come down from heaven and give life to the world.... Oh, how admirable is your work, O Lord! How mighty is your power! How infallible your truth!"

SHARED PARISH NEWS

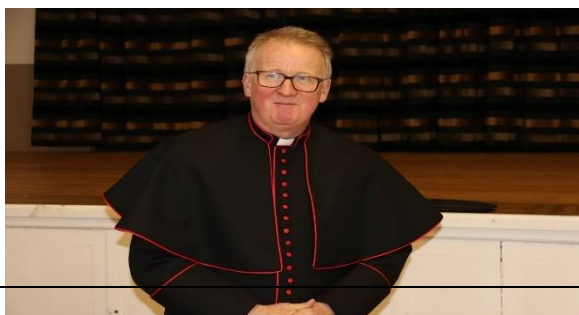
Forty Hours Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Blessed Sacraments, the Body and Blood of Jesus, continued in the Sacred Host is exposed in the 'Monstrance for personal prayer and reflection. Now is the opportunity, away from the crowded 'Shopping World', to come and enter into quiet, reflective prayer before the Sanctuary of Our Blessed Lord. The theme of the '40 Hours are the words of Jesus from John's Gospel, Chapter 6 verse 35, where he declares to the world, 'I am the Bread of Life, no one who comes to me will ever hunger; no one who believes in me will ever thirst'. This is a chance to reflect on that truth and consider Jesus' real presence in relation to my life on earth in these challenging times. All covid protection measures apply during 40 hours please. Track and Trace, wear masks, sanitise and 2 metre distancing. The opening times are as follows – **Friday 17th December 10 am- 8pm, Saturday 18th December 10.30am - 16.30 break for Mass, 6.30pm-8pm, Sunday 19th December 10.30am – 16.30. break for Mass, 6pm- 8pm. Each day closing with Night Prayer and Benediction.**





BIG Thank You

It was lovely to have a most enjoyable day on Tuesday 14th December in the Cathedral for the induction of the new Canons. Canon Jeremy is very grateful for all the prayers, kindness and support from Canon John and the two parishes that he serves. Thank you to everyone who helped with the arranging and to Julie and Roza for making the cakes and also Katrina and Mary for the soup and lovely spread in the Hall, and to all the parishioners who came to celebrate with Canon it was a very special day - one to Remember!



Christmas And COVID - BEFORE COMING TO MASS PLEASE TAKE A LATERAL FLOW TEST

As Christmas approaches and Omicron surges in the country we will obviously must be cautious. As far as I am aware the Churches remain open for Mass as before, but must ensure we have not tested positive before coming to Mass. The distancing from other households is important and that we spread ourselves more evenly over Masses made available. The Christmas Masses times are –

Christmas Masses	Broxburn	Winchburgh
24th Dec - Christmas EVE	5.30pm	5.30pm
24th Dec - Carols & Lessons	9.30pm	
24th Dec – Midnight Mass	10pm	
25th Dec - Christmas DAY	9.30 am	11.00 am
<i>There is no 5.30pm Vigil Masses on the 25th December</i>		

Night Calls at the Hospital

Please note that Fr Jeremy is on Night Call from the 19th December to the 26th December from 10pm-8am. If you need a priest during the night at the hospital – ask the Ward Nursing Staff to contact the priest on 'Night Call'. If you need a priest from 8am to pm, ask the Nursing Staff to page the on-call priest. Hospital chaplains are still, despite Covid, permitted with protection, to administer to the sick and the dying.

St Nicholas Primary – Parent Council

Thank you to the members of the Parent Council for organising a donation to Mary's Meals in recognition of Fr Jeremy being made a Canon. The funds revised will feed 250 children throughout the world. This is much appreciated by him too!!!



Holy Innocents Mass – Tuesday 28th December

The Archbishop, His Grace, Leo Cushley, Covid permitting, invites us to join him for the Holy Innocents Mass on Tuesday 28th December at 12 noon in the Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. This annual Mass is an important opportunity to affirm our support for the Pro-life Movement in Scotland and pray for the protection of the unborn child in the womb. You can book online: <https://bit.ly/InnocentsMass21>

Ecumenical Service of Lessons & Carols

This Sunday at 3pm in St Philomena's we have the annual Service of Lessons and Carols in preparation for Christmas along with our fellow Christians from the Church of Scotland. Please come along with your mask and your singing voice. If you are at all unsure about your wellbeing, take a flow test before coming. Covid permitting the Winchburgh Community Choir will also be taking part in the service. Retiring collection for the Parish Church Building Repairs.

Appeal for Petition against Liam McArthur MSP

The MSP Liam McArthur, is raising a bill in the Scottish Parliament to legalise assisted suicide. If this bill were to pass in law, doctors would be expected to prescribe drugs with the sole purpose of killing the patient, not healing them. This is potentially another retrograde step in deviling the sanctity of human life. To sign the petition against the bill, go onto the SPUC Scotland website.

Feast of St John Cantius – Thursday 23rd December

As you will know, we celebrated the Feast of St Nicholas last week on the 6th December, next week on Thursday 23rd December, we celebrate the co-patron of Broxburn parish – There will be a 9.30am Mass in Broxburn parish as well as a 9.30am Mass in Winchburgh. St John Cantius was born in 1390 in Poland, a scholar, philosopher, physicist and theologian – very good to the poor. The Countess of Buchan, the benefactor for the building of our church had a special devotion to him. St John Cantius pray for us!

Mass Intentions

As you know we are very blessed to have Catherine Lynch who helps to organise the timetable for all the Mass requests, though the parish priest takes ultimate responsibility for it. Due to a large number of funerals this year, we now have Masses booked in till the end of April 2022 in Broxburn and end of February 2022 in Winchburgh. We always do our best to fit in Mass requests but must respect those who have waited a long time for masses to be said. Thank you for your patience.



Parish Accounts – Broxburn

A copy of the Year to end November accounts are available at the back of the church. Thank you for your spiritual and financial stewardship of the parish.

Thank you!

Dawn and David McKay would like to thank everyone who helped make their wedding day last Saturday so very special. In particular Fr. Jeremy for the beautiful Mass and marriage ceremony. To Katrina for the beautiful flowers on the altar and the bouquets and wedding guests' flowers. Thank you to Reggie for the lovely music. And special thanks to Harry and May and also Ava for taking the photographs and the video in the church and at the Deer Park. To Karen and Peter, the Welcomers and to everyone who made the church so beautiful. Special thanks also to all our very many friends and the wedding guests who came along to show their support on the celebration of our marriage. **Thank you all. Dawn and David.**

Vacancies for the Catholic App

Are you under 25 and live in the UK? Help us to grow The Catholic App <https://www.thecatholicapp.com/> around the world. We have many paid junior roles that needs to be filled now: non-technical roles (no university degree required), technical roles (software development), and business/communication roles. Email jobs@musemantik.com for details.



The Wee Cinema Winchburgh

Is showing 2 films this Saturday at St Philomena's Church Hall, Niddry Road: **Frozen Singalong**. Doors open 10.00, film starts at 10.30. Ticket link is <https://ticketlab.co.uk/series/id/302/Wee-Cinema-Screening-Frozen-Sing-Along#/> **It's a Wonderful Life**, No 1 Christmas film for many critics! Doors open 7.00 pm, film starts 7.30pm. The ticket link is <https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/9834/Wee-Cinema-at-Winchburgh-Screening#/> Tickets may be available at the door. The bar will be open.

Christmas Raffle & SCIAF

The Christmas Raffle for Mary's Meals and SCIAF has raised £860.00 which includes a donation of £200.00 from a non-church going donor. Thanks to all for their generous participation. The draw will take place on Sunday 19th December after 9.30am Mass, and before Exposition. **(Kathleen Steyn)**

The Teaching of the Catechism- 'Born of the Virgin Mary'

What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ'. 'God sent for his Son' – but to prepare a body for him, he wanted the free co-operation of a creature. For this, from all eternity God chose for the Mother of his Son, a daughter of Israel, a young Jewish woman of Nazareth, in Galilee, a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David, and virgins name was Mary'. 'The deeper meaning of the Marian mystery is the receiving, willing and serving communion of humanity with the Saviour'.

Vestry Hour

Broxburn Parish – 01506 852040 – Tuesday 21st December 7pm.
Winchburgh Parish – 01506 891310 – Wednesday 22nd December 5pm.
Please call by phone first to book a timeslot if possible.
(For all general pastoral enquiries)



Answers to last week's quiz

1. 10,000 %
2. The Temple of Parthenon on the Acropolis, Athens.
3. Prefix to Carmelite friar, Means walking barefoot, or shod only in sandals, all the year round.
4. Three (officially)

Pre-Christmas Quiz

1. Who called the census in Judah before the birth of Jesus?
2. Which great Saint promoted the tradition of recreating the Crib at Christmas?
3. On which bird do you find the 'Parsons Nose'?
4. Where would a 'PERUKE' be worn?

Pre-Christmas Message

Canon John and Canon Jeremy, not the 'three tenors', but the two Canons, wish all the parishioners of our two parishes, every blessing and spiritual joy at the coming of the glorious celebration of the birth of the Saviour of the World.

In these challenging 'Pandemic' times we give thanks for all the prayers, kindness and self-sacrifice of God's people that has enabled us to keep the 'Flame of Faith' burning brightly in our parishes. God Bless you all this Christmas and we pray for better times ahead for us all.



Next Week Readings: Vigil Mass- Isaiah 62:1-5, Ps 88, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25, Gospel Matt 1:1-25.

Midnight Mass(10pm) -Isaiah 9:1-7, Ps95, Titus 2:11-14, Gospel Luke 2:1-14.

Christmas morning -Isaiah 52:7-10, Ps97, Hebrews 1;1-6, Gospel-John 1:1-18

Feast of the Holy family-Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14, CPs 127, Colossians 3:12-21, Gospel Luke 2:41-52

