



**PARISHES OF**

**ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS**

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**Parish Priest: The Very Rev Jeremy C Canon Bath**

**Feast of the Holy Family – 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021**



<p><b>Saturday</b> <b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> 	<p><b><u>BROXBURN</u></b> 9.30am Mass Billy Linton</p> <p>No 5.30pm Mass</p>	<p><b><u>WINCHBURGH</u></b> 11am Mass Nan &amp; William Smith</p> <p>No 3pm Mass</p>	<p><i>The Nativity of the Lord</i></p> 
<p><b>Sunday</b> <b>26<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<p>9.30 am Mass Deceased Byrne Family RIP</p> <p>5.00 pm Mass Raymond Mac Donnell RIP</p>	<p>11.30 am Mass Brown &amp; Finnigan Families RIP</p>	<p><i>Feast of the Holy Family</i></p> 
<p>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>9.30 am Mass Lawrence Garza RIP</p>	<p>No Mass</p>	<p>Feast of St John Evangelist</p>
<p>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>No Mass</p> 	<p>9.30 am Mass Billy White</p>	<p>Feast of the Holy Innocents</p>
<p>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>9.30 am Mass Martin Ward RIP</p>	<p>No Mass</p>	
<p>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>No Mass</p>	<p>9.30am Mass May Murray</p>	<p>Christmas Octave</p> 
<p>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December</p>	<p>5.30pm Vigil Mass Eileen Valentine RIP</p>	<p>No Mass</p>	<p>Christmas Octave</p>
<p><b>2022</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> January</b></p>	<p>11am Mass Arthur Mulholland RIP</p>	<p>10 am Mass Canon Philip Doherty</p> <p>3pm Vigil Mass Hugh Mair</p>	<p><i>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> January</b></p>	<p>9.30 am Mass Agnes Fairholm RIP</p> <p>5.00 pm Mass Peter Hamill</p>	<p>11.30 am Mass John McTiernan AV</p>	<p>Happy Epiphany</p> 

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

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Rocco McGinley	No Mass	Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	No Mass	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Sons & Daughters of Ella Differ	Christmas Tide
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>9.30am Mass</b> James McKay RIP	No Mass 	Christmas Tide
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	No Mass	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Relatives of Armstrong & Heslin Families	Christmas Tide
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Shaun Smith RIP	No Mass	Memorial of St Raymond of Penyafort
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b> Michael Philbin & Hanlon Family AV	<b>9.30am Mass</b> Margaret Hill <b>3pm Vigil Mass</b> James & Philomena Forrest	Christmas Tide
<b>Sunday</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9.30am Mass</b> Annie Devenny (Grandmother) <b>5pm</b> Bert Mc Fall	<b>11.30 am Mass</b> Joan Ghent AV	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b> 

**Theme: "I Love My Family"**

I think we can state without hesitation that Jesus really loved Mary, his mother, and Joseph, his adopted father. The coming of even one child brings the family into existence and makes the 'micro family' the essential building block of the People of God in the world. A faithful and Godly vision of life by parents ensures enlightened awareness of how best to love and form infants to become the future stewards and guardians of all that is precious and sacred that comes from God. True parenting is not giving a child what they want but rather revealing to them what is beautiful, true and best for their future. Putting the Holy Family at the center of our family, helps us to build a community of life and love.

**Reflection: 'Fraternity and Social Friendship' – Fratelli Tutti – Para 94**

"Love, then, is more than just a series of benevolent actions. Those actions have their source in a union increasingly directed towards others, considering them of value, worthy, pleasing and beautiful apart from their physical or moral appearances. Our love for others, for who they are, moves us to seek the best for their lives. Only by cultivating this way of relating to one another will we make possible a social friendship that excludes no-one and a fraternity that is open to all". **Pope Francis.**



**SHARED PARISH NEWS**

**'Now we Celebrate Christmas'**

Christmas is a family time; perhaps it is at Christmas that we are most aware of who my family is and what does it consist of? For Jesus, his immediate family consisted of a young mother and an older father, or should I say adopted father, Joseph, who was persuaded to take Mary home as his wife, even though she was found to be with child, through the Holy Spirit. You see, every family has a story to tell. There are happenings and events in all our lives that shape the families we belong to, however complex, unconventional or dispirit. The call of the Christmas Carol or story, is that God can make great things happen from small beginnings and never underestimate what faith can do for my family or your family in the testing times.

**Death of Helena Simpson RIP**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Helena, Stewartfield, Broxburn, who died peacefully at home on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December. God bless her family, neighbours and friends. Funeral arrangements to be announced soon.

## **GOD BLESS, GOD BLESS, GOD BLESS**

God bless our families. God bless our parents living and deceased. God bless our children. God bless our brothers and sisters. God bless our daughters and sons. God bless our grandchildren, nephews and nieces, aunts and uncles, cousins and in-laws, not forgetting our dear grandparents. The Parish Family is built on family life. Remember it starts with the baptism of the newly born, the care and education of the young. The sanctification of the sacraments of initiation and the centrality of Holy Communion. In these Covid times, we pray for the strength of family life to pull us through. God Bless You!

### **Thank You**



- (i) Fr Jeremy, now called to be Canon, wishes to thank Canon John, Parishioners, and the wider community, including the other churches, for the prayers, good wishes and support at the Cathedral on 14<sup>th</sup> December. It was a lovely day to celebrate what it means to be a 'Family of Faith'. The new robes are lovely – so Kind!
- (ii) To all who supported the Christmas raffle for Mary's Meals and SCIAF. The final total is around £1,000. The Mary's Meals donation will be doubled by an anonymous donor.
- (iii) To all those who have helped in the parishes to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas in very challenging circumstances. People of the parishes have also gone out of their way to give generously to others and also all the food given for the Homeless in Edinburgh -4 Car Loads!!

### **COVID Safety Procedures**

As the pressure remains on the public to 'stay safe' and we seek to abide by the guidelines, there are particular measures to keep in mind:

- (i) For the next few weeks, no giving of Holy Communion on the tongue in case the priest tests positive and cannot function and to protect you. White cloths can be made available to place the sacred host on if you especially request it.
- (ii) Respect social distancing in the church, especially when moving around the building.
- (iii) Wear warm clothing so we can keep the building ventilated and still remain comfortable at Mass.
- (iv) Remember to take regular lateral flow tests to ensure you are testing negative.
- (v) Please note that the Hymn books will be at the end of the pew, please return to the end and not the back of the church.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

### **Prayers for the Sick**

One of the parents of a child at Holy Family School is seriously ill in St John's Hospital with COVID. We pray for her recovery and wellbeing. Please look out for the housebound over Christmas, even a friendly phone call or a card in the post can make a difference. The St Vincent de Paul are helping in all sorts of ways to support the vulnerable.

### **Offer of a Child's Bike**

A bicycle suitable for a child 5-7 years old in good nick is available to a good home. Contact the parish office if interested.

### **New Year Celebrations – Feast of the Mother of God**

Please remember that Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January is the Solemnity of the Mother of God. Morning Mass in Winchburgh at 10am and Broxburn 11am. There is a 3pm Vigil Mass for the Epiphany in Winchburgh but **no** Vigil Mass at 5.30pm in Broxburn. Normal Mass times on the Sunday, Epiphany Day, in both parishes.

### **Two Week Newsletter**

Please remember this is a 'Two Week' newsletter so please hold on to it until 8<sup>th</sup> January. This will give the office staff a break – well deserved!

### **Feast of the Holy Innocents – 28<sup>th</sup> December**

Please note that Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December is the Commemoration of the Holy Innocents – a special day to pray for the victims of abortion and other tragic deaths of children. A special Mass that day in Winchburgh at 9.30am, plus one at the Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. You can book online through the Diocesan Website for that Mass.



**Vestry Hour -for all general pastoral enquiries**  
**Broxburn Parish – 01506 852040 – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2pm.**  
**Winchburgh Parish – 01506 891310 –Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December 11am.**  
**Please call by phone first to book a timeslot if possible.**



### Save the date

*Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love.* There will be three talks explaining this important document, an apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis, beginning 10 January and led by Sr Anna Marie, the Archdiocese's Catechetics Advisor, and Fr Nick Welsh, vice rector of the Scots College in Rome. Details to follow soon.

### Diploma in Catechetics 2022

Get ready to explore the richness and depth of the Catholic faith with course leader Sr Anna Marie McGuan from the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. She and a range of guest speakers bring you online lectures each Thursday, guided reading, one-to-one support, retreats and supplementary courses on Zoom and YouTube. The Diploma in Catechetics lasts one year, begins in January 2022 and costs £200. Students £150. Other concessions are available. Email [sranna.marie@staned.org.uk](mailto:sranna.marie@staned.org.uk) for more information. Register at [bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022](http://bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022)

### Save the date

*Music Day.* This takes place on Saturday 22 January at the Gillis Centre, Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, 10:00am-3:30pm. The theme is *Liturgical Music Making in a Post-Pandemic World.* The day is open to everyone, especially those involved in leading and playing music, as well as singers. Details to follow soon

### Christmas Raffle

The final total for the Christmas Raffle, boosted by generous donations was £1051.00 thanks to all who made this possible. **Kathleen Steyn.**

### Christmas Wishes

We Hope you have a Christmas filled with peace and joy to all our parish family from SSVP. **Mia Graham**

### The Teaching of the Catechism - Para 484 and 487

"We believe and confess that Jesus of Nazareth ... is the eternal Son of God made man. Conceived in Mary's womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, probably between the years 6 and 4 BC".

### Answers to last week's quiz

1. Census called by Caesar Augustus.
2. St Francis of Assisi promoted the use of a Crib.
3. A turkey.
4. A 'Puke' is worn on your head. Congratulations all the 'Brainboxes'!



### "Crazy Christmas Quiz"

1. 'Scrooge' is in which Dickens novel?
2. The 'Magi' were named. What were their names?
3. Christmas Island is in which Ocean?
4. St Nicholas is the true 'Santa Claus'. Which colour did he originally dress in to share our gifts?

**Next Weeks Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 60:1-6 Psalm: Ps 71 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Gal 4:4-7

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12

**N.B PLEASE NOT THAST THIS IS A TWO-WEEK NEWSLETTER**



### 'Old Christmas Blessing'

'May the Star in the East of long ago  
Light your path with its guiding glow,  
May the Angels  
Singing of peace on earth  
Bring to your heart a radiant mirth,  
May the blessings of Bethlehem never cease  
To echo a message of love and peace'

