

# PARISHES OF ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS & ST PHILOMENA



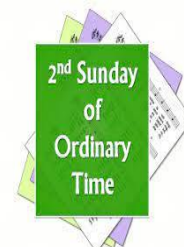
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**Saint Vincent de Paul: Broxburn - 07765 488257**  
**Winchburgh 07817696761**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022

Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	<b><u>BROXBURN</u></b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b> Deceased members of the Weir Family	<b><u>WINCHBURGH</u></b> <b>9.30 am Mass</b> Tommy, Theresa & Baby Lennon & Family <b>3pm Vigil Mass</b> Canon Herbert Flack (97)	Feria
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Willie Dean <b>5.00 pm Mass</b> Deceased members of the Broxburn Silver Band	<b>11.30 am Mass</b> Bill Cannon AV	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> James Morgan (AV)	No Mass	Feast of St Anthony
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</b>	No Mass  <b>6pm Rosary</b>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Terry Philbin	 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Margaret Campbell	No Mass	Feast of St Fillan
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	No Mass	<b>9.30am Mass</b> Deceased members of Finnigan & Keogh Families	Feria
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Sheila Donnelly	No Mass	Feast of St Agnes
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	<b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b> James Watson (1 <sup>st</sup> AV)	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Members of the deceased Priest Fund <b>3pm Vigil Mass</b> Billy Mullen	Feria
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Fr Gerry Prior <b>5.00 pm Mass</b> Michael Coyle	<b>11.30 am Mass</b> Tom & Brenda Timmins	 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

### Theme: "Good Purpose"

Am I putting my life to good purpose? St Paul teaches us today from Corinthians, that 'the Spirit is given to each person, (is given) for a good purpose'. So it is by faith that we truly discern what our purpose in life really is. Our spirituality helps to provide discernment, clarity of thought, passion and ultimately wisdom and courage to reach our fulfilment. In light of this, we should be careful not to force others to conform to our vision for them; rather, give our young people the scope and the 'tools' to explore all the possibilities that life offers. Notice that Mary says to the waiters at the wedding feast, 'Do whatever he tells you'. Do whatever Jesus encourages you to do. You may be surprised at the outcome ... even turning water into wine.

### Reflection: 'O God, you are my God. For you I long. For you my soul is thirsting'

'God became human to share our thirst and teach us how to live well: a baby thirsting for his/her mother's milk, parched for 40 days in the wilderness, asking the Samaritan woman at the well for a drink and finally dehydrated on the Cross. In 'Soif', a novel by Amelie Nothomb, Jesus delights in thirst, "Having panted with thirst for a while, don't drink the goblet of water straight down. Take a mouthful, keep it in your mouth before swallowing it. Measure how marvellous it is". So once again, deprivation followed by a new gift. "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps34). So often it was the words of Psalms that shone the light. How marvellous was that sip of water, the beauty of which I had never known before'. (Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP).

### Shared Parish News

#### 'Christian Unity' – Where from here?

This week coming is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18th-25th January. As was pointed out to me, in 1522, five hundred years ago, in Scotland everyone was baptised Catholic. Since then, we have had a Reformation, The Covenanters, The Jacobite's, various schisms and many further divisions of different Christian denominations that it was got to a point where a small Scottish town of 10,000 people could have 10 different churches in it. Thankfully, we have come a long way since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, when a Catholic priest could be put to death for celebrating Mass, i.e., St John Ogilvie. The churches share more honestly their 'common ground' and Catholic traditions such as pilgrimage and Lent are more respected.

The sense of the sacred is something that we should not tire in promoting in an increasingly secular culture. Why not make a point this week of entering into conversation with a Christian of another church and reflecting on the Sunday Gospel together? Note: due to Covid and the winter weather, we will have Ecumenical Services together in May 2022, plus guest preachers from the other churches. Theme this year is "We saw his star rising in the East".



#### "Safeguarding"

Parish audits for 'Safeguarding' are now due into the Archdiocese. All those who work with children and vulnerable adults must ensure they are registered and have completed Part 1 and Part 2 of their training. Broxburn Parish Hall will host Part 2 of the training in the coming weeks for the West Lothian Deanery. Thank you to Karen Neilson and Julie Brechin for ensuring that we keep ourselves 'on track' with all the current legislation and safeguards. Please don't begin any volunteer work in the parish until you have completed a volunteer registration form and where necessary, Part 1 of the training.

#### Paul Atkins – Pro Life Visit last Sunday

Paul delivered a very powerful address at our masses last weekend about the need to support and care for teenage mothers who are 'with child' and help them to avoid termination. Your generosity raised over £1,500.00 for the Pro-Life work in the Archdiocese. There is a bill going through the Westminster Parliament that we need to support that would make it legally binding for universities to give a platform for Pro-Life groups to have a right of 'free speech' on the campus. Please see the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child, as to how you can support this bill and any 'Pro-Life' amendments. Curiously, the Labour Party are opposed to it!

#### Proposed Pilgrimage to Poland - September 2022

There is a meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm in the Canon Hoban Lesser Hall to discuss the proposed visit to Poland later this year. We hope to have prices for hotels and flights so we can evaluate the options and confirm how best to proceed. Even if you can't come to the meeting but are interested in joining the tour party, please let Jacqui, the parish secretary, know. All our plans will be governed by the regulations in place vis-à-vis Covid.

## The Synod of the Catholic Church

The Holy Father has asked the parishes to embrace a time of synodal consultation and conversation between now and the end of March; for the Holy Office to get a real sense of what the People of God are thinking, anticipating and aspiring to in this challenging time for the Church in the world. Seven years ago, Pope Francis said, "We are living not through an era of change, but a change of era". This new era is marked, beyond Covid, by a breakdown in trust, polarisation, social fragmentation and symptoms of distress, including loneliness, addiction, depression and nihilism. There is an over reliance on technocratic solutions to human problems. We need to rediscover the transcendent or real nature of the human person through faith in God. Now is the time for the parishioners to be consulted. I've put a couple of dates and times in the newsletter already.

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 3pm in Winchburgh**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 5pm in Broxburn (to address the Synod after these masses)**

To extend the contact points with you all, I now add:

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am Mass in Broxburn**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am Mass in Winchburgh**



The questions to promote consultations are:

- (i) To what extent have we in Scotland transgressed from the model of Church laid down by Peter & Paul? (i.e., see Acts 2)
- (ii) What can be done to reverse the decline in Christian Morality today?

I also need to find 5 volunteers from each parish to attend a Deanery Synod meeting

In Bathgate on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. Please let Canon Jeremy know if you wish to attend.

## Sacramental Life of the Parish

### Primary 3 – First Confession

This Sunday is the Rite of Illumination at the 11.30am Mass in Winchburgh and next Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at the 9.30am Mass in Broxburn. Please bring your child's Baptismal candle.



### Primary 4 – First Communion

Parents should now have received a letter to enrol your child for the present 2022 programme for First Communion.

**Winchburgh – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January 11.30am Mass (meeting after Mass)**

**Enrolment Mass – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 11.30am**

**Broxburn – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm in the Church**

**Enrolment Mass – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am**



*Note: If you have not already done so in P3 last year, you need this year to present proof of baptism.*

### Primary 7 – Confirmation

A letter to parents will be sent out next week inviting them to enrol their child in the programme.

**Winchburgh – Parents Meeting – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January after 11.30am Mass**

**Enrolment – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am Mass**

**Broxburn - Parents Meeting – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 6.30pm in the Church**

**Enrolment – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 9.30am Mass**



Any issues or concerns, please relay them through the parish office.

## Letters of Thanks

We received lovely letters of thanks from Mary's Meals, The Pro-Life Office and The Sisters of Charity (Mother Teresa's Nuns) for all your generosity over the Christmas/New Year period. The kindness of the People of West Lothian knows no bounds. God Bless you all.

## Vestry Hour - for all general pastoral enquiries

**Broxburn Parish – 01506 852040 - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm**

**Winchburgh Parish – 01506 891310 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 6.30pm**

**Please call by phone first to book a timeslot if possible**



## **Hall Committee**

Canon Hoban Hall end of year Accounts are available at the back of the church. Thank you to all who look after the Hall and keep the Hall running and provide vital help when required it is very much appreciated. Please remember the Hall is available for any family function, celebrations, wedding or funeral teas and also any classes you wish to provide for the community please get in touch.

## **Broxburn Parish**

Thank you for the donation of Thermal clothing including T-shirts, hats gloves socks -water bottles and thermos flasks etc for Direct Aid charity. This is very much appreciated by Direct Aid.

## **Marys Meals**

Many Thanks for your continued support during 2021 for The Zomba School in East Malawi which St Philomena's Church sponsors - Your donations of £2916.00 for the year help to feed and educate children in some of the poorest areas in Malawi - please continue your valuable donations and support our Sunday Teas and Coffees - Thank you

## **Diploma in Catechetics 2022**

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 evening, guided reading, one-to-one support, retreats and supplementary courses on Zoom and YouTube. The Diploma in Catechetics lasts one year, begins this month and costs £200. Students £150.

Other concessions available. Email [sranna.marie@staned.org.uk](mailto:sranna.marie@staned.org.uk) for information. Register at [bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022](http://bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022)

## **SPUC Youth Conference**

The largest UK pro-life youth conference takes place 25-27 February 2022 in Stone, Staffordshire. It's open to people aged 16-35 and a chance to meet fellow young pro-life leaders, be inspired and have fun. Register at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/youthconference2022> Sponsorship available to young people in our Archdiocese. Please contact the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office: [prolife@staned.org.uk](mailto:prolife@staned.org.uk)

## **The Teaching of the Catechism: Para 1457 – Confession of Sins**

'According to the Church's command, after having attained the age of discretion (7 years old), each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year. Anyone who is aware of having committed a grave sin must not receive Holy Communion, even if he/she experiences deep contrition, without having first received sacramental absolution, unless he/she has a grave reason for receiving Communion and there is no possibility of going to Confession. Children must go to Confession before receiving Holy Communion for the first time'.

### **Saints Days this coming Week**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January – St Anthony of Egypt** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Century monk or hermit, who gave up all his possessions and lived in the desert. He helped St Athanasius in opposing the Arian heresy in Alexandria.

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January – St Fillan** – Abbot and Bishop of 8<sup>th</sup> Century, he trained and studied in Ireland. Preached the Gospel in Perthshire. The victory at Bannockburn in 1314 with Robert the Bruce was attributed to the presence of his crozier and arm on the battlefield.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January – St Agnes** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Century Virgin and Martyr. Her name is always in the Roman Canon. Her martyrdom touched many faithful hearts. She was killed by the sword under the emperor's orders. Thanks to her name 'Agnes', from the Latin word for 'lamb', her symbol was the lamb, reflecting an innocent lamb slaughtered.

### **Answers to Last Week's Quiz**

1. Quebec, Canada. 2. Dandruff 3. A Christian sect who rejected infant baptism and military service or hold public office – The Annish are a version. 4. A musical work of a definitive kind with a degree of passion/romantic content.

### **New Year Quiz**

1. Pontiac is a town in the USA. Which state is it in?
2. What is 'Woad'?
3. Who was the Yorkshire Catholic who, with Catesby, planned the Gunpowder Plot in 1606?
4. Who wrote the famous Christian work stating that the Church is the incarnation of 'The City of God'?

**Next Week's Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Neh 8:6.8-10 Psalm: Ps 18 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 12:12-30

Gospel: Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21