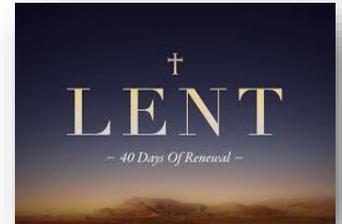


PARISHES OF ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS & ST PHILOMENA



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EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – 27TH FEBRUARY 2022

Saturday 26th February	<u>BROXBURN</u> 5.30pm Vigil Mass Hugh Devine RIP	<u>WINCHBURGH</u> 9.30am St Peregrine Mass Eileen Stirling RIP 3pm Vigil Mass Martin Owen O'Hara RIP	Mass of Our Lady 
Sunday 27th February	9.30 am Mass Michael Coyle RIP 5.00 pm Mass Sarah & Eleanor Glass	11.30 am Mass Christine & Thomas Drummond	8th Sunday of the Year <i>(Psalm 92)</i> LORD, IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS TO YOU <i>Francis and Rose</i>
Monday 28th February	9.30 am Mass Special Intention	No Mass	Feria
Tuesday 1 st March	No Mass 6pm Rosary	9.30 am Mass Tony O'Neill RIP (AV)	St David of Wales
Wednesday 2 nd March	7am Dawn Mass Special Intention 9.30 am Mass Terence Brophy RIP 6.30 pm Mass Helena Simpson RIP	9.30 am Mass James Lavin RIP 5.00 pm Mass Eileen Stirling RIP	Ash Wednesday Day of Fasting and Abstinence 
Thursday 3 rd March	No Mass	9.30am Mass Margaret Hill RIP	Lent
Friday 4 th March	9.30 am Mass Hugh & Mary McCaffrey	No Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross	World Day of Prayer
Saturday 5 th March	5.30pm Vigil Mass Margaret Pleasance	9.30 am Mass Canon Philip Doherty 2.20pm Stations of the Cross 3pm Vigil Mass Bill Taylor	Mass of Our Lady 
Sunday 6th March	9.30 am Mass Agnes Kane RIP 4.20pm Stations of the Cross 5.00 pm Mass Ellen Glass & Diane Scovell	11.30 am Mass Catherine Callaghan RIP (AV)	1st Sunday of Lent 

Confessions: Broxburn - Saturday 5pm, Sunday 5.45pm, Winchburgh – Saturday 10.15am

Theme: "Blindness, Planks and Rotten Fruit"

In the Gospel today, Jesus uses striking words as a metaphor to express the dangers of human misconceptions. How easy it is for us to get wrong. If at the core of our being there is evil intent, bad attitude or a corrupt and warped mind, then the consequences do not bode well for our lives or that of those in our company. The invitation of Christ is in effect for 'rotten folk' to have a form of 'heart transplant', where they are prepared to exchange a 'heart of stone' for a 'heart of flesh'. We can't reasonably do that on our own; we need the help of God to enter conversion. The season of Lent offers a renewed chance for metanoia, a change of heart and mind to be a truly loving person.

Reflection: 'Conscience, a Spark of Life' – Dorotheus of Gaza (6th Century)

"When God made human beings, he put in them a kind of divine faculty, more alive and splendid than a spark, to illuminate the spirit and show it the difference between good and evil. It is the conscience with that law which is part of its nature. The patriarchs and all the saints were able to please God by obeying the law of conscience. But people trampled on it and muddied it with their sinfulness. As a consequence, we needed a written law, we needed the prophets, we needed the actual coming of Our Lord Jesus to rediscover, to reawaken, to rekindle in us the spark which had been smothered".

SHARED PARISH NEWS

'Time, Peace and the Reality of War'

I don't need to remind you that we live in very challenging times for human existence on the face of the earth. Temporal forces are at work politically, technologically and economically on a global scale that so easily have ramifications on the price of bread in the shops and a litre of fuel at the pumps. We must hold onto our spirituality as Catholic Christian people to prevent us from falling uncontrollably into a spiral of fear and self-preservation. It is the strength of faith and watchfulness with Christ that carries us safely through the storms of life. In truth, we need to get on with our lives, but let us do so in fellowship with each other and under the authority of Almighty God. Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, come to our aid.

Lent 2022- Theme: 'Jesus, Renew My Faith'

The theme I have chosen for our parishes in Lent this year is 'Jesus, Renew My Faith'! After two years of the Covid pandemic, world uncertainty and the reality of war, let us take the opportunity to renew our faith in Christ during the next 40 days. Our faith is so easily eroded by complacency, detachment, remorse and guilt. Jesus invites us to see that a strong faith transforms our very being, our attitude to others and our willingness to be co-builders of the Church as it should be in and throughout the world. Renewing our faith helps marriage and family life. It restores human friendships and gives us confidence and hope. Silent prayer sharpens our consciousness and gives us the courage to be renewed. This year there are

FOUR KEY AREAS of Lenten practice:

- (i) **Catholic Life and Devotion: Dawn Masses** - each week there will be 7am Mass on Tuesdays in Winchburgh at Our Lady's altar in Latin and Wednesdays in Broxburn at the Sacred Heart altar. **Stations of the Cross** on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and Sundays 4.20pm in Broxburn. Stations in Winchburgh on Fridays at 6pm and Saturdays at 2.20pm. **Eucharistic Adoration** (Silent Prayer), Monday and Wednesday at 9am and Saturday 4.45pm in Broxburn. Tuesdays and Saturdays at 9am in Winchburgh.
- (ii) **Penance and Absolution**: There will be an opportunity for Confession on Saturday 4.45pm and Sunday 5.45 pm in Broxburn. In Winchburgh, on Saturday at 10am and on Sunday at 12.45pm.
- (iii) **Faith Development and Catechesis**: For those who wish to develop their understanding of their faith, there is:
 - (a) The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow who are running an excellent Lenten Programme online. Beginning Ash Wednesday and centred on the conversion of St Ignatius of Loyola 500 years ago. Get it on Google Play or download on App Store. See www.iscglasgow.co.uk
 - (b) Weekly Lent Bible Study on an Ecumenical level with the Churches in Broxburn and Uphall. The theme is 'The Chosen'. Mondays at 7.30pm on Zoom, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March and 4th April. Zoom link 921 3261 1288. Passcode 636987. Plus join our Cloud Video Meeting.
- (iv) **Fasting and Charitable Works**: Church teaching on Fasting is as follows: 'Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday, and on all Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat but not eggs, milk or condiments of any kind (salt, vegetables).

- (v) Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are 18 years old but not yet 59 years old are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional small meals are permitted to maintain strength if necessary. Eating between meals is not permitted.' The link between fasting and charitable works means directing resources to other good causes that otherwise could not be met. In our parishes we have good charitable causes such as SVDP, The Mother Theresa Food and Clothing Project in Edinburgh, Mary's Meals, Fr Younis in Pakistan and the Food Project in Winchburgh. National charities include SCIAF and internationally, Aid to the Church in Need.

I have spent a lot of time explaining the season of Lent. Embrace it for what it is and you will undoubtedly reap spiritual benefits from it for our needs and that of the world.



Vestry Hour - for all general pastoral enquiries
Broxburn Parish – 01506 852040 - Monday 28th February 5pm
Winchburgh Parish – 01506 891310 – Friday 4th March 5pm
Please call by phone first to book a timeslot if possible



Sacramental Life of the Parish

Primary 3 – First Confession 2022

Parents are encouraged to bring the children to the Children's Liturgy and focus on the Home Study Book sessions as indicated by the class teacher.

Primary 4 – First Communion 2022

The Primary 4 children will be presented with a special copy of the 'Our Father' at the Sunday Masses. This is to encourage them to learn to pray.

Primary 7 – Confirmation 2022

Sunday 25th March after Mass at 9.30am in Broxburn and 11.30am in Winchburgh, Fr Jeremy will give a short talk on 'Baptism – Belonging and Growth' for the parents.



Archbishop Cushley's Visit to the Parish

We warmly welcome His Grace to our Mass at 11.30am this Sunday in St Philomena's, Winchburgh. The Archbishop will preside at the Mass and thereafter meet parishioners in the hall to discuss the new Catholic Schools being built. We appreciate the time he has given to promote this historical event in our parish. The Primary School is hopefully going to open after the summer and the High School in August 2023.

Thank You

The Cannon Family would like to thank Canon Jeremy for his support and prayers at this sad time, also for the very special Requiem Mass said for our dear brother Jerry. Thanks also to Margaret, Alan and Rob, the music group for their wonderful singing. To the many who attended Jerry's Requiem Mass and interment at Winchburgh Cemetery. To Relatives, Friends and Neighbours for the Mass, Sympathy Cards and Flowers received. Thank to Thomas Brown Undertakers for their kindness and support, especially Jed and Kirsty, Last but not least the St. Philomena's Hall Committee for their hard work and support during the Reception in the Hall. A total of £800 was raised for Mary's Meals. A big thank you too all. **(May Renton)**

World Day of Prayer – 4th March 2022 Theme: 'I know the Plans I have for You'

Please be aware that there are two Ecumenical Services taking place – one for Broxburn, Uphall and Uphall Station communities at the South Church on Friday 4th March at 2pm. The other at St Philomena's, Winchburgh, on Friday 4th March also at 2pm. Just remember to wear masks and sanitise on entry and departure please.

The World Synod – Final Sessions

There is a final opportunity before the end of March to make submissions to the World Synod on the Church called by Pope Francis.

- (i) You can make individual submissions to the Parish Office or to the Diocesan Office, or even direct to the Vatican Secretariat.
- (ii) There are two parish synod sessions planned as follows: *Saturday 5th March after 5.30pm Mass in Broxburn, Saturday 12th March after 3pm Mass in Winchburgh*

The two leading questions are:

1. ***"Where is the Holy Spirit inspiring a change of heart in the Catholic Church"?***
2. ***"What do I need to appreciate more in my Catholic Faith"?***

40 Hours Exposition in Winchburgh

On 13th, 14th and 15th March, St Philomena's Parish is due to have its '40 Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament'. This means the Church will be open for individual quiet prayer for three days. We hope in that time to also bring the Holy Family School children in to learn how to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Please volunteer to come and keep vigil to allow the Church to remain open. The times are:

Sunday 13th March – 12.30pm to 7.00pm

Monday 14th March – 10.00am to 7.00pm

Tuesday 15th March – 10.00am to 6.30pm

A list for 'One Hour' time slots will be available at the back of the Church.

Thank You

- (i) Lesley Armstrong is very grateful to all who have sponsored her brother to run a mammoth run over hundreds of miles (400). He has already raised £3,600.00 for MacMillan, Alzheimer's Scotland and other charities.
- (ii) Fr Younis is very grateful for the £500.00 we sent in donations to the seminary. Pictures on the website of the renovation work being carried out on the building.

Remember!!

The Friday morning teas in the Canon Hoban Hall at 10am with Linda's 'Workout Therapy' afterwards sitting in our chairs!

Safeguarding Training

Julie Brechin (PSC at ST Philomena's and diocesan trainer) will be offering face to face Level 2 Safeguarding Training in the Canon Hoban Hall on Sunday 20th March from 2pm - 4pm. This is open only to volunteers in both parishes who have still to complete Part 2. Please contact Julie or Karen to book a slot as soon as possible.

Catholics in health and social care

A training day about the ethical challenges of work in the health and care sector takes place at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday 19 March from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Speakers will lead discussions on assisted suicide, accompaniment of the dying and conscientious objection. This event is targeted at health/care workers and anyone motivated by their faith to care for others. Register at <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2022/03/catholics-in-health-and-social-care>

Scotland's Census

The once-a-decade count of the population of Scotland takes place soon and your household will receive a letter about it. Please complete the census accurately and remember to include your religion! The deadline for completion of the census is 20 March 2022. Details at scotlandcensus.gov.uk

Day of Prayer

Friday 4 March is a Day of Prayer all those who have experienced abuse. Please pray for children, young people and vulnerable adults whose lives have been scarred by the abuse they have experienced at the hands of those whom they trusted. Pray also for all are engaged in the pursuit of peace, healing and reconciliation for the abused, the needy, the weak and the vulnerable. Pray that the work of the new Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency will be guided by the Holy Spirit to help us all to meet our responsibility to respect and safeguard the dignity of all.

Vacancy

St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh is looking to employ a facilities manager. The job is 21 hours per week (£16,200 pro rata) and the closing date for applications is Friday 4 March. Job description and how to apply at <https://www.s1jobs.com/job/facilities-manager-52764122>

Joyce Boyle RIP

Dear Joyce wife of Eddie died last night. Funeral details to follow. May she rest in peace.

The Teaching of the Catechism – Para 734 – 'The Holy Spirit – God's Gift'

'Because we are dead or at least wounded through sin, the first effect of the gift of love is the forgiveness of our sins. The communication of the Holy Spirit in the Church restores to the baptised the divine likeness lost through sin'.

This Week's Quiz: 1. Faith, Hope and Charity 2. Larry Page & Sergey Brin
3. London & Paris 4. Greece

Next Week's Readings 1st Sunday of Lent: 1st Reading: Dt 26:4-10

Psalm: Ps 90 2nd Reading: Rom 10:8-13 Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

