



PARISHES OF

ST JOHN CANTIUS AND ST NICHOLAS

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14th March 2021 – 4th Sunday of Lent

“Mothering Sunday” – “Laetare Sunday” – Joyful Hope

Saturday 13th March	BROXBURN 5.30 pm Vigil Mass Cecelia (Connolly) Smith RIP	WINCHBURGH 9.30 am Mass Fr Sebastian Thuruthippillil	8 th Anniversary of Election of Pope Francis 
Sunday 14th March	9.30 am Mass Jonathan Dobres RIP 5.00pm Stations of the Cross	11.30 am Mass Jack Pender RIP	4th Sunday of Lent “Mothering Sunday” 
Monday 15th March	9.30 am Mass Billy Algeo RIP	6.00 pm Rosary	Lent
Tuesday 16th March	6.00 pm Rosary	9.30 am Mass Fr Hugh Purcell RIP	Lent
Wednesday 17th March	9.30 am Mass Philomena Burkett RIP	6.00pm Rosary	Feast of St Patrick
Thursday 18th March	6.00pm Rosary	11.00 am Diamond Jubilee Mass – Canon John Agnew (Fr Jeremy’s Int – Patrick Dalton RIP)	
Friday 19th March	9.30 am Mass Billy Whyte RIP	6.00pm Rosary 6.30pm Stations of the Cross	Solemnity of St Joseph
Saturday 20th March	5.30 pm Vigil Mass Rosemary & Margaret Sweeney	9.30 am Mass Joyce Sakala	
Sunday 21st March	9.30 am Mass People of the Parish 5.00 pm Stations of the Cross	11.30 am Mass Johnston Renton RIP (Anniversary)	5th Sunday of Lent

Theme: "Open to Welcome Fellow Human Beings"

Jesus shatters the 'Hour Glass' of historical hatred in humanity. His incarnation and mission to the world is all about love. His teaching, parables and miracles are rooted in the covenant of Divine Love. He communicates through Nicodemus, a searching Jew, that he, Jesus, is here principally out of love for the world, John 3:16, "Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes ... May have eternal life". Our mission then as Christians, is to continue the work Jesus began by his self-sacrifice; to shatter the "Hour Glass hatred" in our present times. A true Christian is the enemy of evil and those who stand for hatred and division. The most powerful weapon we have is our faith and the singular sword of truth. Let us not squander our lives but be 'Born Again' in the calling Christ gives us.

REFLECTION: 'Prayer for Our Mothers'

"Mary, Mother of Jesus, we pray for our own Mothers today. We pray for the one who carried me in her womb. We pray for the one who delivered me into birth. We pray for the one who held me at the breast. We pray for the one who nurtured my growth. We pray for the one who kissed my wounds. We pray for the one who baptised my faith. We pray for the one who formed me in love for your Son, Jesus. O Mary, you who sacrificed your Son for our sakes; we pray for your Son who handed you over to be Our Mother. This is a sweet consolation for us whose mothers have died; by your Son's sacrifice, may we meet again merrily in heaven. AMEN".

SHARED PARISH NEWS

'Reasons to be Joyful'

Today, Sunday, is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, otherwise known as 'Mothering Sunday'. There are several reasons to allow ourselves to have joyful hope. We are now over halfway through Lent and three weeks time will be Easter. We are also giving joyful praise for our mothers on 'Mothering Sunday'; Spring is in the air and in two weeks time, our clocks will, I think, go forward one hour. We also have the joyful hope of having our churches reopening for Mass at the end of the month, the 'R' rate permitting, and the possibility of being in our churches for Holy Week. Today let us then lift up our hearts, steady our nerves and prepare ourselves to celebrate the Resurrection and the Diamond Jubilee of Canon John Agnew.

Diamond Jubilee of Canon John Agnew

This is the week when Canon John celebrates 60 glorious years of service in Holy Mother Church. Ordained for our Archdiocese by Cardinal Gordon Gray at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on 18th March 1961; when Pope John XXIII was the Holy Father and there were four priests between Winchburgh and Broxburn. A Mars Bar was 2d (old pennies), you could buy a house in Winchburgh for £200.00 and Livingston New Town didn't exist. Canon John served for many years in the Country of Nigeria, where the Archdiocese bequeathed priests to help build up the Church; then he served in several parishes, including Hawick, Methill, Inverkeithing, Bonnybridge and Fauldhouse. He has, I believe, been in Broxburn now for nearly 12 years. We give thanks for his dedication to Christ and God's people. He also keeps the old parish priest right! Canon John is very grateful for all the prayers, support and kindness bestowed for the Food Relief to the Nuns and Mary's Meals. We are truly blessed to have him amongst us and his dedicated housekeeper, Lesley Armstrong.

Churches to reopen by 26th March

We give thanks that the Scottish Government are allowing our churches to reopen the week of Holy Week. 50 persons in Broxburn and 36 in Winchburgh. This is an answer to prayer. Each Parish now has two weeks to gear up for reopening with the following key points:

- (i) The COVID groups meeting and organising a fresh clean of the churches.
- (ii) Reactivating the Eventbrite and telephone booking system for Masses.
- (iii) Organising the volunteers to help with 'Track and Trace' and sanitising the buildings.
- (iv) Re-establishment of Masses on Saturday/Sunday to allow extra numbers of folk to attend.
- (v) Continual managing of hosting Masses online by Zoom for those not able to get a seat at Mass.

These and other associated issues will be tackled before Holy Week. Please would readers be ready to volunteer with the demands of Holy Week and the lead up. Thanks.

Vestry Hour this coming week

For all general pastoral enquiries (book for telephone or online if that helps)

Broxburn: Tuesday 16th March 7pm (01506 852040)

Winchburgh: Wednesday 17th March 7pm (01506 891310)

SCIAF – Sunday

There is a message from Bishop Joseph Toal, Bishop President of SCIAF, that may be read out at the Sunday Mass or can be accessed on website/Facebook. He writes, "Despite the difficulties last year, the support for SCIAF continued to be strong and I hope the opportunity to support disabled children in South Sudan will be recognised as a very worthy cause for Catholics across Scotland to contribute to this Lent. Through our charity and the aid match £1 for £1 from the Government, we can make a real difference to many young lives in one of the world's poorest countries. Thank you for all you continue to do for SCIAF. With my prayers and good wishes, Bishop Joseph Toal". You can send funds using online or by the SCIAF wee box or dropping an envelope through the parish house door. Thank you.

Safeguarding Training

Canon John and Fr Jeremy attended a Safeguarding Training Day two weeks ago. Key points raised included:

- (i) Clear access to Safeguarding Posters in all church buildings.
- (ii) Regular meetings between the Parish Priest and the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators.
- (iii) Ensuring that all volunteers are correctly vetted and approved.

Sacramental Programme for Schools – 2021

P7 Confirmations: Some parents are still to return their registration forms. The Confirmation Candidates will receive a copy of the Nicene Creed at Mass on Sunday 21st March. Parents – please ensure you link in on Zoom. They will also receive a St Joseph's Family Prayer Book. Archbishop Leo Cushley sent this message this week - "Unhappily, this year due to COVID-19 and the restrictions...I have been obliged to delegate this to your parish priest and have asked him to confirm you instead. "So, I'm very sorry not to be able to see you and to confirm you personally, but know that I'll be praying for you as you are confirmed this year."

P4 1st Holy Communion: The children will be receiving their St Joseph's Family Prayer Book very soon, to be used with their family.

P3 1st Confession/Reconciliation: The children will now make their 1st Confession in the Saturdays after the Easter Celebrations. **Winchburgh – Saturday 10.15 am. Broxburn – Saturday 6.15 pm.**

Death of Laurence Stevenson RIP

We pay our respects to the family of Lawrence Stevenson who died peacefully in Holmesview Nursing Home on Monday 8th March. We remember all his beloved family in our prayers. May he rest in peace. Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday 24th March for family and close friends only.

Broxburn Parish Finance Meeting

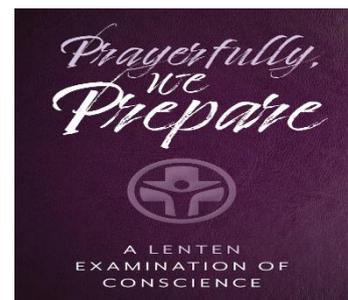
This will take place on Monday 15th March at 7.15 pm on Zoom, to go over the end of year accounts. Thank you in anticipation.

Getting to Confession before Easter

Fr Jeremy wishes to make himself available for Confession before Easter. Please contact him by telephone or email if you seek the Sacrament. He will endeavour to carry it out while respecting COVID regulations and use of face masks.

Here is an Examination of Conscience

1. Have I taken the name of God in vain or used other profanities?
2. Have I worshipped fake gods such as money or astrology?
3. Have I ignored keeping a Holy Day for the Lord (not withstanding closed churches)?
4. Have I disrespected my parents?
5. Have I been unjust, greedy or self-centred?
6. Have I told lies or set out to deceive?
7. Have I taken what does not belong to me?
8. Have I been envious, jealous or vindictive towards others?
9. Have I been impure in thought/action?
10. Have I been ill-mannered, spiteful or impatient?
11. Have I broken my vows before God?
12. Have I been cruel, violent or aggressive?



Remember if you are not in a state of grave sin, a good act of contrition will be sufficient. Once the churches reopen, Confession after Mass is possible, including Saturday 10 am in Winchburgh and Saturday 4 pm in Broxburn or 6.15 pm (after Mass). Thank you for your co-operation and patience.

St Joseph's Family Prayer Book

We now have supply of these pocket prayer books for the year of St Joseph to encourage our devotion to Joseph and the Holy Family. Remember the old saying – 'A family that prays together stays together'. Please contact the office and we can post out or arrange for collection. A 50p donation would be gratefully received and will be sent to Aid to the Church in Need, they are helping to rebuild the lives of persecuted Christians in Syria and Iraq.

Saints Days this Week

St Patrick - 17th March: (385-461 AD) He was kidnapped in Britain while very young and taken to Ireland, where he was put to work as a shepherd. On lonely hillsides he learnt to pray. He escaped back across the sea to train for the priesthood. God insistently called him to return to Ireland and he returned there to build up the kingdom and evangelise in Christ's name. He was fearless in dealing with pagan rulers; he was very penitential, encouraged monastic foundations and formed the Church in Ireland on missionary principles. (Poem in his honour by Eddie Brady). "Patrick, I come to you in expectation, that you may look after my friends and relations, just like banishing the snake, also stopping sin for all it will take, from the dearest Emerald Isle, and in the night, you may hear me call, that you may spare us from hardship, and you may create a precious friendship".

St Joseph - 19th March: In this year of St Joseph, promulgated by Pope Francis, this feast takes on even greater significance. In the Gospels, he is shown as a wise and just man, who was guided by God on how to embrace with positivity that Mary was already with child. He acquired many titles, including: 'Husband of Mary', 'Foster Father of the child Jesus', 'Guardian of the Holy Family', and 'Protector of the Church'. In the words of the Holy Father, 8th December 2020, "St Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide... In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God". A St Joseph Family Prayer Book produced lovingly by Fr Daniel Doherty, is now being made available in the parishes. A nominal donation in exchange for it of 50p is appreciated. The proceeds will go to 'Aid to the Church in Need'. NB: Please note 33 Days of Consecration to St Joseph, a prayer service on Zoom every day at 8 pm. Link 986 400 5150. Passcode 122013.

Lenten Talks

1. Lauriston Centre Edinburgh–Tuesday 16th March 7.30pm. Pope Francis on Church Hierarchy by Christopher Lamb. Zoom link 236 509 2814 edinburghjesuitcentre@jesuit.org.uk
2. 'Prayer as a Relationship Reflected in St Teresa of Avila – Sr Sally Rollo. Tuesday 16th March 7pm (Register: bit.ly/LentRollo).

Lent Pro-Life Stations

Monday evenings at 7.45pm. Register Eventbrite <https://standrewsandedinburgh.eventbrite.co.uk>

The Teaching of the Catechism – Para 541

When did Jesus Pray?

'The Gospel often shows Jesus at prayer. We see him draw apart to pray in solitude, even at night. He prays before the decisive moments of his mission or that of his apostles'.

Answers to Last Week's Quiz

1. What city is the religious capital of Ireland? **Armagh**
2. Which was the first UK single to sell more than 2 million copies? **Mull of Kintyre**
3. What kind of animal is a 'Moke'?
(a) Monkey (b) Donkey (c) Sheep (d) Dog **Donkey**

This Week's Quiz

1. What nationality was the astronomer Copernicus?
(a) Swedish (b) Dutch (c) Polish (d) Greek
2. Where is St Patrick buried?
3. Which Scottish Football team has their ground at Stair Park?

Next Sundays Readings:

1st Reading: Jer31:31-34 Psalm:50 2nd Reading: Hb 5:7-9 Gospel: Jn 12:20-30

Please click on this link for **Children's Liturgy** information on the Mass at home this Sunday -

<https://archedinburgh.org/childrens-liturgy-at-home-get-ready-for-sunday-40/>

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

