

Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday (Year A)

Father John McGinley (PP)
& Sr Francesca Wilson

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Mass St Thomas's 5 pm
 St Bernadette's 6.15 pm

Sunday Mass
 St Thomas's 9 & 10.30 am
 St Bernadette's 12 noon

Monday–Friday St Bernadette's 9 am
 St Thomas's 10 am

Saturday Marian Devotions
 St Bernadette's 9.30 am
 St Thomas's 10.30 am

Confessions
 St Thomas's 4.30–4.50 pm Saturday

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

Caring Sunday

Today's second collection is for the Pastoral Care Trust/St Nicholas Care Fund. The Fund was set up in 1992 to mark the 500th anniversary of the Archdiocese. It was founded to establish in a modern context the traditions of five centuries of Christian life and action here in Glasgow. In particular it was established to offer small grants to groups, agencies and projects working for the common good of all people in need.

Please also take home with you a St Nicholas Care Fund box.

Christmas Extravaganza

There are 120 places available for a three course Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 21 December from 5 pm on in St Thomas Hall for both Parishes. With entertainment and prizes. There are lists in both Parishes to add your names. Don't delay, Santa is on his way! This event is sponsored by a generous benefactor.

New Gift Aid Envelopes.

All of those who have signed up to this scheme can uplift their new envelopes from the back of the Church after Mass.

Choir for Christmas Masses

Anyone wishing to help with the singing for the Christmas Vigil in St Thomas's please meet in the church on Wednesday 14 Decmeber at 7.00 pm. All choir members please attend!

Emerald Lunch Club

Seniors' lunch with an Irish flavour! Live entertainment including Irish Traditional Music, Singing & Dancing. Friday, December 16th, 12-3pm, St Rochs Church Hall, 311 Roystonhill, G21 2HN. The lunch provided will consist of hot soup with rolls, sandwiches, Tea & coffee. The cost is £3. Places must be booked by putting your name on sheet at back of St Rochs Church or calling Evin on 0141 429 2308



Appointment Times

10.30 am-12.30 pm each morning and from 5-7.00 pm in the evening, Monday to Thursday. Should a formal appointment be required please phone the Parish.

Baptisms

Anyone requiring Baptism please contact Fr McGinley, or Sr Francesca.

The Sacrament of Anointing

If you or a member of your family are going into hospital please arrange to receive this sacrament beforehand.

Marriage

See Fr McGinley if you intend to marry in the Church. The Archdiocese requires 6 months notice.



CTS Stall at St Thomas's

New titles in stock. Come and browse! Please make use of the stall and purchase its goods.

Christmas Cards

Please visit both stalls at St Bernadette's & St Thomas's to browse our selection of new Christmas cards and other gifts now in stock.

St Bernadette's Food Bank

The Sisters charity food stocks are very low and any tins or other non-perishable foods would be most welcome. Thank you in advance.

RCIA Meetings

There will be a meeting at 7 pm on Monday 19 November in St Thomas's Chapel House for those who wish to join the Catholic Church. The topic will be 'Mary'.

Parish Mini-bus

The bus is available to bring older parishioners to Mass. Sadly it has stopped now on Saturdays due to a lack of helpers. On Sunday we have two couples who alternate weekends collecting/taking home parishioners for the 10.30 Mass. Another few drivers and helpers would be a great help. If you are interested please speak to Fr McGinley

Boxing Evening

Tickets for the Boxing Evening in St Thomas's Hall on Friday 17 Febru-

NOTA BENE

Christmas Eve

There will be a Joint Christmas vigil this year in St Thomas's for both parishes. Carols at 8.30 pm followed by Mass at 9 pm. There will be no Midnight Mass this year.

East End Deanery Choir Christmas Concert

Sunday 18th December 7.00 pm St. Thomas the Apostle Riddrie Glasgow In Aid of Marie Cure Cancer Care. Tickets are priced at £5 and available from Mark the Organist or any of the Parish Choir members. Tickets can be purchased after all the masses.

ary 2017 are almost sold out. If you're interest get in touch with Jimmy Stirling as soon as possible on 0793 1309 399.

Alexandra Court Care Home Mass

There will be a Mass on Monday 12 December at 2.30 pm at Alexandra Court Care Home.

Louise Strong

Pat Bestow has offered a thanksgiving Mass for the Beautiful Requiem Mass and assurances of prayers offered for her daughter Louise Strong R.I.P. Thank you to all who attended her Requiem Mass. Holy Mass will be offered for your intentions.

ST BERNADETTE'S NOTICES

Christmas Raffle

Tickets on sale this weekend & next. Draw 18 December Proceeds to Church Funds .

GAUDETE SUNDAY

Today takes its name from the first words of the Introit for today's Mass: 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.' While the theme of Advent is a focus on the coming of Jesus in three ways – his first coming in the stable at Bethlehem, his present coming in our liturgical celebration of his birth in a few weeks time and his final Advent in the second coming – the readings for Gaudete Sunday deal with rejoicing in the Lord. The following text from Pope Francis for Gaudete Sunday some years ago nicely illustrates the theme:

'The joy of the Gospel is not just any joy. It is caused by our finding ourselves embraced and loved by God. As the prophet Isaiah reminds us, God is he who comes to save us, and give succor especially to the fearful of heart. His coming among us strengthens, solidifies, encourages, lifts up and makes the desert and plain bloom, that is, our life when it becomes arid. When does our life become arid? This happens when it lacks the water of the Word of God and his Spirit of love. However great

are our limits and our dismay, we are not permitted to be downhearted and vacillating in the face of our infirmities. On the contrary, we are invited to get a grip and straighten our weak knees, to have courage and not be afraid because our God always shows us the greatness of his mercy. He gives us the strength to go forward. He is a God who truly wants what is good for us, he loves us and so he is with us, to help us, to strengthen us and go forward. Thanks to his help we can always start over. How? How do we start over? Someone might say to me: 'No, Father, I am a great sinner ... I cannot start over!' You're wrong! You can start over! How? Because he waits for you, he is near you, he loves you, he is merciful, he forgives you, he gives you the strength to start over! He gives it to everyone! Then we are able to open our eyes again, to overcome sadness and tears and sing a new song. And this true joy remains in times of trial too, even in suffering, because it is not a superficial joy but enters into the very depths of the person who entrusts himself to God and confides in him.'

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PARISH DONATIONS
3 & 4 DECEMBER 2016

St Thomas's	St Bernadette's
Other £354	Other £285
GAD £331	GAD £187

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THE WEEK AHEAD

TUES. 13 Memorial of St Lucy

A Martyr who died during the persecution of Christians by Diocletian (AD 303–304). One of eight women, along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, who are commemorated by name during Eucharistic Prayer no. 1 of the Mass. St Lucy is the Patron Saint of the blind and those who have eye trouble.

WED. 14 Memorial of St John of the Cross

Priest and Doctor of the Church (1542–1591). A Carmelite, who, despite opposition and imprisonment, worked for the reform of his Order in Spain. He was a man of prayer and an outstanding poet.

INTENTIONS

Those sick at home or hospital
 Peter Markey & James Timoney

Those who have died recently
 Mary Rafferty, Canon James Simcox,
 Catherine Smith & Thomas Kennedy

Anniversaries

James O'Brien, John McClafferty,
 Agnes McFadyen, Margaret
 McGlaughlan, Anthony McEwen,
 Felix O'Connor, Thomas Fitzpatrick,
 Marion Fitzpatrick, Roseann
 Fitzpatrick, Ian Duffy & James Molloy
