

**Gaudete Sunday**  
**Wk III Advent (Year B)**

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**MASS TIMES**

Vigil Mass            St Thomas's 5.30 pm

Sunday Mass  
                              St Thomas's 10.00 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 5.00–5.30 pm Saturday

*The Captain's Table*

**Thank you**

Thanks to Janette and the hall people for helping prepare for the Old Folks dinner last Thursday. Everyone seemed to have a lovely time. Thanks to Joe McGuinness for the music and Pat Vance who catered.

**Gaudete Sunday**

Today is Gaudete Sunday. During the homily I'd like to invite those of you who have remembered to bring your baby Jesus from your cribs to have them blessed during the homily. We will also bless the baby Jesus in our crib.

**Crib**

I would like to thank Mrs Parkinson the headteacher of St Thomas's for allowing us to keep the crib that was made for the school by some of the prisoners of Barlinnie. We will share this crib with the school in subsequent years. Thanks also to the staff for the tremendous work they did for the Nativity play which we hosted during the week.

**Extraordinary Ministers**

Many thanks also to all the Extraordinary Ministers who braved the el-

ements to come to last week's meeting. Sincere apologies for planning the meeting at such an inconvenient time.

Since we only had a small representation of all the Extraordinary Ministers in the parish we didn't change much. However we will revisit some aspects of the ministry in a meeting yet to be scheduled. In the meantime, for funerals and masses with children we will only have communion under one kind. This means I will only need one extraordinary minister on those occasions.

However, I do want to stress that the mind of the church is that communion under both kinds is reserved for Sunday celebrations where there are insufficient priests to distribute communion. Having said that I want to thank all those who serve as Extraordinary Ministers for their reverence and respect for the Ministry in which they serve. I particularly wish to thank Bill McVey for his many years of service in St Thomas's. There comes a time in everyone's life when it gets too much so I want to thank him for recognising that.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite those of you who would like to be involved in this ministry and are over 18 years of age to consider giving of your time to serve the parish in this way. I will revisit this subject in the new year.

## **Poinsettias**

The poinsettia is the somewhat beautiful plant with green leaves, symbolizing the wood of the crib and in same way the wood of the garden of Eden – the red leaves symbolizing the blood of the cross by which we are saved.

Poinsettias are notoriously difficult to keep alive and being placed on the sanctuary might not be to their advantage. With that in mind, if anyone would like to give a donation for a poinsettia they are free to do so and if they're still alive come January you can take it home with you.

## **Christmas Trees**

If you are able to stay and help with decorating the trees and putting the Poinsettias on the Sanctuary after 10am Mass I'd be most grateful.

## **Installation**

The Archbishop has asked if he can come to install me officially as parish priest on Sunday 21 January at the 10am morning Mass and I have agreed.

## **Attendance Cards for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

The First Reconciliation and First Communion children should now have received attendance cards. These cards need to be signed by any of our priests or Eileen Kidd.

## ST BERNADETTE'S NOTICES

*From the Captain –*

Fr Dunn will be hearing Confessions before and after today's Mass.

The Christmas Trees will be put up after Mass today. Anyone who can stay to help decorate is most welcome to do so.

### **Message from the Comboni Sisters**

We would like to say a very special Thank you to you and to all the parishioners of St. Thomas and St. Bernadette for your generous support shown to us through our calendar sale recently in your parish. The amount raised was 58.00 at St. Bernadette's. Please thank the pa-

rishioners for their ongoing support of our mission work around the world, especially in Africa.

### **Attendance Cards for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Cards are now available for children preparing for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Please pick a card up and have your child bring it each Sunday when they attend Mass.

### **First Reconciliation**

I would like to invite parents of First Reconciliation children to a meeting on Monday 22 January in St Thomas' Church at 7pm.

This will be considered as part of your child's preparation for receiving the Sacrament.

### **All those involved in Ministry**

All those involved in any ministry in St Thomas's need to a complete and up-to-date PVG form. Fr will provide the forms in the New Year. Please make a point of seeing him then.

### **St Thomas's Penitential Service**

There will be a chance to go to Confession as part of your preparation for Christmas this Wednesday

20 December at 7pm in St Thomas's Church.

### **East End Deanery Choir Christmas Concert**

The Annual East End Deanery Choir Christmas Concert is today (Sunday) at 7pm in St Thomas's. Tickets are priced at £5 (pay at the door) and are in aid of the H.C.P.T (Children's Pilgrimage Trust).

### **Message from the Comboni Sisters**

'We would like to say a very special THANK YOU to you and to all the parishioners of St. Thomas and St. Ber-

nadette for your generous support shown to us through our calendar sale recently in your parish.

The total amount raised was £131.00 at St Thomas. Please thank the parishioners for their ongoing support of our mission work around the world, especially in Africa.’

**Special Collection**

There will be a special collection today for the St Nicholas Care Fund who work directly with people in need in Glasgow.

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**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Sunday 17 Gaudete Sunday (III Advent)**

*Mass Intention: The Parish*

**Monday 18**

*Mass Intention:*

**Tuesday 19**

*Mass Intention:*

**Wednesday 20**

*Mass Intention:*

**Thursday 21**

*Mass Intention:*

**Friday 22**

*Mass Intention:*

**Saturday 23**

*Vigil Mass Intention:*

**Sunday 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Mass Intention: The Parish*

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**PARISH DONATIONS**

10.12-11.12.2017

**St Thomas's      St Bernadette's**  
**£1131              £541**

**Appointment Times**

If you require an appointment with Father Neil please contact the parish secretary on 0141 770 7542 or email him on: [parishpriest@st-thomastheapostle.co.uk](mailto:parishpriest@st-thomastheapostle.co.uk)

**Baptisms**

Anyone requiring Baptism please contact Fr McGarrity, 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 McGarrity if you intend to marry in the Church. The Archdiocese requires 6 months notice.

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**INTENTIONS**

**Those sick at home or hospital**

All the sick & housebound of both Parishes.

**Recently Dead**

Susan Laurie, Betty McKinlay, Eric Hughes, Avril Greene, Francis Dennie

**Anniversaries**

Bella Doherty (1st), Josephine Ferguson, James Lamb, Susan Kerr, Anthony McEwan, Felix O'Connor, James Molloy, Rosemary Welsh, James Welsh, Jess Daily, Mary Daily, Joe Daily & Elizabeth Kirk.



**Christmas Mass Bouquet**

Francis Topping, Bro. Douglas Robert, Ann Marmion & Joan Carrigan.

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