

First Sunday of Advent (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

Gift Aid Envelopes

New Envelopes Are available for Collection. Please take a moment to collect from the back of the church if you are in this scheme.

Have you considered signing up for Gift Aid? If you make a donation to the parish by cash, cheque or standing order it's possible to increase the value of the donation by an extra 25%. Contact Fr McGinley if you're interested.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Many thanks to the SSVP for hosting the dinner and to our drivers and helpers who gave of their time and efforts to ensure everyone had a great night. A special thanks to all the parishioners who came along in -5 c. weather to enjoy themselves. It was a memorable evening. Thanks also to 'Erins Way' band and all the beautiful voices. It was lovely to see so many together. Hope you enjoyed.

School Christmas Fayre

Friday 2 December from 9.30–12.15 and after lunch from 1.00–2.30pm. All welcome. Tombola, home baking etc. If anybody wants to buy a stall please contact the school on 0141 770 4360.

RCIA

The next session for our Christian Initiation is on 5 December. The theme is ‘What is the meaning of the Mass?’ Meetings are held in the Chapel House from 7 to 8 pm (ish).

Anyone thinking of wanting to join the Catholic Church please speak to Fr McGinley.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Every Sunday at the 10.30 am & 12 noon Mass at St Thomas’s. If you wish to assist the Parish with this please speak to Father or Katrina Vezza after Mass

Boxing Show

There will be a Boxing show in St Thomas’s Hall on Friday 17 February next year. Tickets priced £15 and will



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.



be on sale soon. This will be a major fundraiser for the parish. Please think of supporting this night and those who are organizing it.

Coffee Morning

It is with regret and sadness but due to dwindling numbers it has been decided to cancel the monthly coffee morning. thank you to all who supported us over the years, and a very special thanks to our bakers.

Diocesan Events

Please see posters in the porch.

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.

Cluster Event: Hour of Prayer for Peace

As we enter into the season of advent and prepare to welcome the prince of peace, the St Jude’s and St John Ogilvie’s Justice & Peace group invites you to join them in an hour of prayer for peace. given the daily news reports of war, killing, violence and persecution in Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Sudan, Pakistan and so many more countries we invite the parish

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November 30

- 10 am St Andrew's Day Mass with Children
- 7 pm St Andrew's Day Mass with Buffet following.
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to come together and pray together for peace in our world. the hour of prayer will take place on wednesday 7 December at 7.30 pm in St Jude's Church. please bring along any friends who would like to join us in praying for peace.

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BENEDICT XVI ON ADVENT

What is Advent? Many answers can be given. We can grumble and say that it is nothing but a pretext for hectic activity and commercialism, prettified with sentimental cliches in which people stopped believing ages ago. In many cases this may be true, but it is not the whole picture.

We can say the reverse, that Advent is a time when, in the midst of an unbelieving world, something of the luminous quality of this lost faith is still perceptible, like a visual echo. Just as stars are visible long after they have become extinct, since their erstwhile light is still on its way to us, so this mystery frequently offers some warmth and hope even to those who

are no longer able to believe in it. We can also say that Advent is a time when a kindness that is otherwise almost entirely forgotten is mobilized; namely, the willingness to think of others and give them a token of kindness. Finally we can say that Advent is a time when old customs live again, for instance, in the singing of carols that takes place all over the country. In the melodies and the words of these carols, something of the simplicity, imagination and glad strength of the faith of our forefathers makes itself heard in our age, bringing consolation and encouraging us perhaps to have another go at that faith which could make people so glad in such hard times.

This latter kind of experience of Advent brings us quite close to what the Christian tradition has in mind with this season. It has expressed its view of Advent in the Bible texts that it took as the season's signposts. I will mention just one of them, a few verses from Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome. There he says, 'it is full time now for you to wake from sleep ... the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ ...' (Rom 13: 11-14). So Advent means getting up, being awake, emerging

out of sleep and darkness.
taken from *Seek that which is above*

WEEK AHEAD

Mass times are as normal.

SUNDAY. 27 NOVEMBER

First Sunday in Advent

Reception **5 pm (St T)**
of Hugh Kennedy

MON. 28

Requiem Mass **10 am (St T)**
of Hugh Kennedy

Hugh passed peacefully at home surrounded by his family after long illness bravely borne. To the end he came to Mass and was comforted by the Sacraments and Faith. May he rest in peace and be re-united with those he loved and lost awhile.

**WED. 30 Solemnity of St Andrew
Apostle & Patron Saint of
Scotland**

Mass with School **10 am (St T)**
– All welcome

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: **PARISH DONATIONS** :
: **19 & 20 NOVEMBER 2016** :
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St Thomas's St Bernadette's
Other £364.40 Other £229
GAD £315.60 GAD £182

Mass **7 pm (St T)**

You are welcome to our evening Mass celebrating our National Saint and the anniversary of ordination of Fr McGinley. Our deanery choir will be in attendance to enhance the liturgy and there will be a little celebration afterwards in the hall. For catering purposes if you wish to go to the hall please append your name on forms in the porch. Thank you. Pray for a mild day!

FRI. 2 DECEMBER

First Friday Confessions **11am (St T)**
for Pr.4 Children

INTENTIONS

Sick

Eileen Forest & all the sick of the parish.

Those who have died recently

Rita McShane, Jimmy McConkey, Hugh Kennedy, Rose Mary Queen & James McDade

Anniversaries

Mary Smith, Tommy Stevenson, James Fitzsimons, Dorothy Fitzsimons, Francesca Fitzsimons & Francis Hughes (12th)

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Mass Bouquet

Mhari & Jimmy Keenan
