

**Fourth Sunday of
the Year (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

St Blaise

St Blaise, Bishop and martyr, died 315. Bishop of Sebaste, martyred in Armenia. Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop. Since the eighth century he has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat. Traditionally after each mass there is a blessing of throats which will take place on Friday.

Marie Curie

There is a letter in the porch from Marie Curie Cancer Care thanking everyone who contributed to the funds raised at the Deanery Choir Concert which took place before Christmas.

Priests for Scotland

In the porch in the newsletter for Priests for Scotland, who promote vocations to the Priesthood. Please pick one up and take a read.

First Holy Communions

Mass Attendance cards for St Thomas's and St Bernadette's are being given out for the new year to encourage children who are preparing for their First Holy Communions to attend Mass with their families.

Parish Minibus

The bus is available to bring older parishioners to Mass. Please ask Fr McGinley for details.

This week the minibus underwent its annual M.O.T. to prove its road worthiness. The cost was nearly £700 as various parts had to be replaced. It is an older vehicle and repairs are to be expected.

White Mass

The Annual White Mass for health-care professionals and the work of healthcare in Scotland will take place in St Mary’s Metropolitan Cathedral, Edinburgh on 12 February 2017.

A reception with Archbishop Cushley will follow in the Cathedral’s Camino Café. To book spaces and for info email *scottishcma@gmail.com*.



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.



St Margaret’s Children Society

There is a letter in the porch giving thanks for the kind donation.

SPRED

Many people who have a learning disability need extra help to enable them to play a full part in the life of their parish community. SPRED works within the Church to support parishes to welcome their learning disabled members. We work in small groups where we journey in faith and friendship together. We currently are in great need of more people to join our groups at the SPRED centre and in other parishes. The most important quality for anyone thinking of being part of SPRED is to be able to be a friend to someone and to receive their friendship in return, so it isn’t difficult and it is fun. If you would like to find out what is involved in belonging to a SPRED group you will be warmly welcomed to an information evening at the SPRED centre, 20 Robroyston Road, on 31st January at 7pm. Please call the SPRED office on 770 5055 for further information, or just come along on the night.

www.spred.org.uk

RCIA

The next RCIA meeting will take place on Monday 30 January from 7–8.15 pm at St Thomas’s Presbytery. Continuing our discussion of the Sacraments we will next week discuss the Sacrament of Marriage.

AGAP

AGAP Film and Faith Club will meet at 1pm for a Matinee and for a second screening at 7pm on Thursday 2 February at St Mungo's Retreat House, next to St Mungo's Church Townhead, 52 Parson Street, G4 0RX. This month's film is 'Unbroken' (2014). New members welcome. Totally free! Big screen & speakers with tea, coffee and chat. Due to large numbers attending, please register your place beforehand either on our website www.agap.org.uk/events or email info@agap.org.uk or call 0141 552 5527.

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Primary 3 children from St Thomas School who are Baptised will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday 27 March (Not on the 20th as lettered) at 7 pm. A general meeting will be called and parents will be informed before this. The Sacrament will be taking place the penitential season of Lent.

The date and time of the Sacrament at St Bernadette's will be announced soon.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

This year, the Sacrament will be on Saturday 6 May at 10.30 am at St Thomas's.

St Bernadette's will be on Saturday 13 May at 10.30 am.

Whilst meetings may be called beforehand, the place to meet the faith community is every Sunday with your child at Holy Mass. Parents who took these promises for their child at Baptism have the ultimate responsibility to bring their children up in the faith. To deliberately miss Mass is a mortal sin, an offence against Christ and his Church. We, as a faith community encourage our parents and children to join us each Sunday.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS) – THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is an ancient celebration. According to Jewish law, the firstborn male child belonged to God, and the parents had to 'buy him back' on the 40th day after his birth, by offering a sacrifice of 'a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons' (Luke 2:24) in the temple (thus the 'presentation' of the child). On the same day, the mother would be ritually purified (thus the 'purification'). The Church at Jerusalem observed the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier.

Inspired by the words of the Canticle of Simeon ('*Now dismiss Thy ser-*

vant, O Lord, / In peace, according to Thy word: / For mine own eyes hath seen Thy salvation, / Which Thou hast prepared in the sight of all the peoples, / A light to reveal Thee to the nations / And the glory of Thy people Israel.'), by the 11th century, the custom had developed in the West of blessing candles on the Feast. The candles were then lit, and a procession took place through the darkened church while the Canticle was sung. Because of this, the feast also became known as Candlemas.

While the blessing and procession doesn't always happen these days, this feast still concludes the celebration of Christ's Nativity. Now, with the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon, the events now point toward Easter.

PARISH DONATIONS

21 & 22 January 2017

St Thomas's	St Bernadette's
Other £474	Other £279
GAD £340	GAD £169

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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Masses are as usual. See the front of the Bulletin for times.

TUES 31 Memorial of St John Bosco

School will join us at Mass today with Primary 4a leading the reflection.
 Mass 10.00 am (St T)

THU. 2 FEBRUARY

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas Day)

FRI. 3 Memorial of St Blaise

Confession for children preparing for their First Holy Communion
 11.00 am (St T)

INTENTIONS

Those sick at home or hospital

Andrew Wellington, Geraldine Wellington & all the sick of the parish

Those who have died recently

Ryan Lochran, Pat Conroy, Roger Green, Tommy Tonner, Robert Arbuckle

Anniversaries

Sarah Jack, Mary Hall, Jim Hall, Margaret McGeough, Elizabeth Convery, Andrew Convery, C. M. Peter (24th) & Bernard Joseph Connolly

Birthday Mass Bouquet

Elizabeth Convery