





Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm Sunday 10am & 11.30am Daily Mass at 10am

Sunday Mass 11.30am
Tuesday & Saturday 10am

Vigil Mass 6pm
Sunday 10am & 4.30pm
Mon & Wed 6.30pm;
Thurs & Fri 10am

Sunday 3rd January—Solemnity of the Epiphany

We pray for those who have died recently: Calum Duncan, Justin Holverde, Bert Marshall and Edna Ross and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ivan Warskj, Thomas Gorman and Jim Short. We also remember all those mentioned in our books of remembrance. Prayers for the sick: Please continue to remember in your prayers the sick, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

Christmas and New Year: Before anything else, I hope that you had as enjoyable celebration of Christmas as was open to us this year. The Masses we had were well attended according to the circumstances and I thank all who participated in any way to allow the Masses to be celebrated: my brother priests who dashed over the city to celebrate for the different communities; the stewards who checked us in and made sure that we were seated safely and that everything was sanitized after the Masses; those who organised readers and those who read; also my thanks to the socially distanced choir of teachers from St Mary's PS who recorded music that was played at some of the Masses and also the Curran family who provided music from behind the screens for the 9pm Vigil which was also streamed. On behalf of my brother priests, I would also like to record our grateful thanks for your generosity to us in terms of cards, gifts and good wishes at Christmas. We would also like to wish you every blessing for the year ahead. It is a shaky start to 2021, but, please God, the situation will improve as time passes.

Lists for the Masses with 20 people: After one or two hiccups, we have the lists that we hope will serve us in the coming weeks. Some noticed that although they would usually receive emails from the parish without difficulty, the email confirming their place at Mass went directly into their 'junk' or 'spam' folder. If at any time you fail to receive emails from us, it might be good to check those folders on your account. Also, if you are in any doubt, don't hesitate to phone as we have the information to hand.

There are some spaces available at weekdays Masses, so please get in touch if you don't have an allocated place, as yet, or if there is a specific reason why you want to attend Mass on a particular day (anniversary Mass etc) and we will always try to accommodate you. We would also ask that if you are unable to take up your place either in general or just for a particular week, please et us know and we will try to accommodate others on that day. If it is simply a case of not being able to attend on an occasion your name will remain on the list. For instance, I know that many were reticent in coming out this past week when conditions underfoot were so treacherous—we completely understand and would have been advising you to stay at home in any case.

Finally, as we are in Tier 4, I would ask that you do remain vigilant and cautious in all you do.

Eucharistic Ministry: I am asking all Eucharistic Ministers in the parishes to refrain, while we are in Tier 4, from visiting the sick and housebound. I will be doing the same, and only visiting when it is necessary. Again, I think that this is part of our Christian duty to keep one another from harm.

Reflections: We will restart the daily reflections from tomorrow, Monday 4th January. We will also look at using Facebook again for some video reflections-teaching-catechesis. What would be useful for us is some honest feedback about what you have been receiving in terms of content and presentation: what you have found helpful, challenging, informative, dull etc etc. With this feedback from you, we will be able to produce material which is more helpful to your prayer life, your general faith life as a committed Cristian and to your spiritual life in general. You can email us, grab us after Mass (socially distancing, of course!!) or telephone. Even if you consider things to be 'good', comments can help us move forward to, if not 'best', then certainly 'better'.

Collections: For Sunday 20th December: St Mary's £1024 | St Columba's £524 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £604. Christmas Collection (all monies go to the Parishes): St Mary's £1464 | St Columba's £344 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £1085 Sunday 27th December: St Mary's £675 | St Columba's £140 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £419. Thank you for your generosity towards the work of the Church.

Donations to St Mary's Restoration Fund: The Raffle before Christmas raised another £140 and there were also donations amounting to £90. Thanks again for your generosity.

Dunkeld News: The December issue of the Dunkeld News is available through the Diocesan Website.

The Dove: The annual publication from the dedicated team in St Columba's is now available through the parish website www.stcolumbaskirkton.org.uk. There were fewer contributors this year and so the Dove also looks back at previous editions and highlights from the past.

Charities / Fundraising

St Mary's Restoration Fund 100 Club: This week's draw was made on Friday and the winner was no.64, Cecilia Mendoza. Congratulations to Cecilia and thanks to all who support this fundraising initiative. Please note that this month's subscription is due and can be popped into the collection box at the back of the church in an envelope clearly marked '100 Club' and your name.

SCIAF's Advent Focus: I am in the process of totaling all the money that has been collected in the three parishes and this will be forwarded to SCIAF this coming week. The total will be published in the newsletter next weekend.

Focus On Vocations

Seminary Enquiries for 2021/22: The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. Please contact Fr Mark.