



Vigil Mass 4.30pm

Sunday 10.30am (also streamed)

Monday-Saturday 10am

Sunday Mass 11.30am

Tuesday 9am, Thursday 8.30 am

Saturday 9am

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10am

Mon & Wed 6.30pm

Fri 8.30am

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### Sunday 19th December—Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

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**Our Beloved Dead:** Please remember in your prayers — Douglas Dolan, Teresa Coull, Tony Boyle, Robert McCabe, Paul Mitchell, Angela Quinn, Patrick Ruddy, Robert Gallacher and Margaret Robertson who have died recently and John McCord, Frances McCord, Stephen Tront, Ella Tront, Bernard Creegan, Michael Adegbesan, Ella Feeney, Kathleen Campbell, James Turnbull, Annie McLean, Joe McLean and Mary Flynn whose anniversaries occur at this time. We also remember all those mentioned in our books of remembrance. **Prayers for the sick:** Please continue to remember the sick and the terminally ill in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

**Funerals:** Funeral Mass for Paul Mitchell—St Mary's, Monday 20th December, 10am (Reception of Remains, Sunday 4pm); Funeral Mass for Margaret Robertson—St Columba's, Tuesday 21st December, 9am (**Please note the change of Mass time on Tuesday**); Funeral Service for Douglas Dolan—Lochee Service Rooms, Tuesday 21st December 1.30pm.

**Advent Services:** The final Advent Service will take the form of Evening Prayer and Benediction and will take place today (Sunday) in St Leonard & St Fergus at 4pm.

**Penitential Services and the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Preparation for Christmas:** We continue to be allowed to hold Penitential Services with General Absolution. There will be two services for our communities: Monday 20th December at 6pm in St Leonard & St Fergus' and in St Mary's on Wednesday 22nd December at 10.45am. It is hoped that these timings will allow as many as people who can to celebrate the Sacrament prior to Christmas. Fr Alex and I are also available before or after Mass each day for the individual celebration of the Sacrament.

**Christmas Carols with the Lydian Singers:** Thank you to all who came to St Mary's or joined us online for the carol concert held last Wednesday. The Lydian singers with their director Susan Cassidy and accompanist and soloist Mike Ellacott certainly lifted our spirits and helped us to focus on the approaching festivities. I have been unofficially informed that the donations on the night raised over £600 and over £200 came from the sale of some of Harry McGregor's paintings at the gathering in the hall following the concert and from other donations. Thank you again to the singers and to all who supported this event.

### Think Vocations / Pray for Vocations

"God, hear I am! I am coming to do your will." (2nd reading) Can you make that offer, to put yourself at the disposal of God's plan for his people and for the world? Speak to Fr Mark, your local Vocations Director about priesthood or religious life, email *Priests for Scotland* or see the website or Facebook pages: PFS or VocationNetworkScotland.

**Notice from SPUC:** "A public consultation has been launched on a bill proposed by Liam McArthur MSP to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland. It is important that as many people as possible respond to this consultation. The consultation is running until this **Wednesday, 22 December 2021**. Please complete the questionnaire as soon as you can and encourage others to do the same. You can find resources to help you do this at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/assisteddyingscotlandconsultation>".

## Masses for Christmas

**There is no 'booking' system for the Masses this year, so it will be on a first come, first seated basis!** The only new guidelines we are apply to those who are exempt from wearing masks. We are asked to make provision so that there can be 2m distancing for those not wearing masks. We will look to see how we will implement this in our churches. If you have concerns about social distancing, we would suggest attending the Midnight or Christmas Morning Masses which are usually less busy. The Vigil and Morning Masses for Christmas will both be streamed from St Mary's.

**St Mary's:** Vigil Mass at 6pm with Carols starting 30 minutes before the start of Mass; Christmas morning Mass at 10.30am. There will also be a celebration for the Syro-Malabar Community in St Mary's at 4.30pm.

**St Columba's:** Vigil Mass at 6pm (Carols 5.30pm); **St Leonard & St Fergus';** Midnight Mass (Carols 11.30pm); Christmas morning 10am. There will be no Christmas morning Mass in St Columba's this year.

As Christmas Day is a Saturday, there will be no Vigil Masses for Sunday 26th December. Sunday Masses will be as usual: **St Leonard & St Fergus 10am; St Mary's 10.30am; St Columba's 11.30am.**

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**Collections:** St Mary's £1092; St Columba's £279; St Leonard & St Fergus' £627. Thank you for your generous support of the parishes and the work of the Church.

**Collection Envelopes for St Columba's:** The envelopes are ready for collection this weekend. There are spare sets of envelopes for those who would wish to use them, whether able to Gift Aid their donations or not.

**St Mary's Restoration Fund 100 Club:** Congratulations to this week's winner, Cathie Findlay (22). Over the past year the £100 club has given out £3,590 in prizes with the same sum going to the Restoration Fund. Thanks to all who support this fundraising effort.

**SCIAF and Mary's Meals:** 'Real Gifts' Cards from SCIAF for chickens, vegetable gardens and coronavirus emergency packs and from Mary's Meals for the school meal programme are available for sale. SCIAF cards can be bought after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning in the church hall at St Mary's along with Nativity sets, Christmas Cards etc etc. SCIAF cards are also available on-line. Mary's Meals cards are available in all the parishes. **So far, I calculate that the total raised for SCIAF in this period to be over £3,200. An accurate total will be given once all money has been collected.**

**Masks in our churches:** Just a gentle reminder that everyone is asked to wear masks in church, unless exempt. If you have the virus and do not wear a mask, then even those of us who wear masks are not fully protected. Please think of the safety and health of others. **With this new variant of COVID causing concern and bringing new advice and restrictions,** please continue to wear masks unless exempt.

**From Mgr Aldo:** I received a lovely card and note from Mgr Aldo thanking everyone for their kindness to him and the family throughout the illness and at the death of his sister, Silvia. He expressed particular gratitude for the prayerful support given to them at the Reception of Remains and during the funeral Mass.

**Daily Reflections:** We began the daily reflections again at the start of Advent and there has been great feedback to say how welcome these have been. We will continue with the reflections throughout the Christmas Season with, perhaps, one or two breaks as we enjoy the festivities. My thanks to all who contribute to make possible this aspect of our parish life. These reflections are available to anyone with an email address. If you are not already on the parishes' email list, please leave your details with one of the priests or the pass-keepers and we will add your details as soon as possible.

**Fr Sebastian's Return:** Fr Sebastian will return to Scotland today, Sunday. As you are probably aware, Canon Kevin has responsibility for three churches (as we have), but is currently the only priest serving those communities with the Bishop on hand to help him. The Bishop has decided that for a period of time, Fr Sebastian will live at the Cathedral and help Canon Kevin. As far as I am aware, no decision has been made as to where the weekly Polish Mass will be celebrated.