

*Welcome
to the Parishes of St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee
& Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Arbroath*



St Thomas', Arbroath



St Andrew's Cathedral



Our Lady of Good Counsel

Sunday 6 December 2020
Second Sunday
of Advent
Next Sunday:
Third Sunday of Advent
Year of Mark

Priests:	Canon Kevin J Golden	Telephone: 01382 225228	Email: kevinjamesgolden@hotmail.com
	Father Andrew Marshall	Telephone: 01241 873013	Email: stthomas@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Deacon:	Rev Arthur Grant (Arbroath Parish)		
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Dunkeld Diocese Charity Number	SC001810	Website:	www.standrewscathedraldundee.com

Our Sunday Mass Times

St Andrew's Cathedral: Vigil Mass at 4pm. Sunday at 11am and 6pm.
Our Lady of Good Counsel: Vigil Mass at 5.30pm. Sunday at 9.45am.
St Thomas of Canterbury: Vigil Mass at 5pm. Sunday at 10.45am.

A place for Sunday Mass must be booked in advance. See inside this newsletter for details of how to book.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Please approach the Priest before any weekday Mass. Also Friday & Saturday 9.10am until 9.50am in Arbroath.
Hospital Chaplaincy: Ninewells & RVH Duty chaplain: 07821 624124 Arbroath Infirmary: Parish Clergy;
 Stracathro: Fr. High (01674 672208)

This Week's Masses

<u>Monday 7 December</u> <i>Memorial of St Ambrose</i>		
10am in St Thomas', Arbroath	10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel	1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral
<u>Tuesday 8 December</u> <i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel	1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral	7pm in St Thomas', Arbroath
<u>Wednesday 9 December</u>		
10am in St Thomas', Arbroath	10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel	1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral
<u>Thursday 10 December</u>		
10am in St Thomas', Arbroath	10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel	1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral
<u>Friday 11 December</u>		
10am in St Thomas', Arbroath	10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel	1pm in St Andrew's Cathedral
<u>Saturday 12 December</u>		
No morning Mass in Broughty Ferry	10am in St Thomas', Arbroath	10am in St Andrew's Cathedral

Dear Friends and Parishioners,
As part of our Advent spiritual renewal, we are being given a unique opportunity in the parishes of this Diocese to celebrate communal liturgies of Reconciliation which will include an examination of conscience but **instead** of Individual Confession of sins, there will be a generic confession, an Act of Contrition and then a

General Absolution

given to all those present.

Let us give thanks for this grace which is occasioned by the pandemic, during which many people would find it difficult to make an individual sacramental confession. I also think this will be of great benefit to those who find individual confession very difficult or have been away for the Sacrament for a long time. There will be two such liturgies in the Cathedral and two in Broughty Ferry, and more if the need is great. Because of the social distancing rules and restrictions on numbers **you must still book a place** as you would for Sunday Mass, either through the Eventbrite website or on the dedicated telephone number if you have no internet access.

The two **Cathedral** Services will be on
Sunday 13 December at 4pm and
Thursday 17 December at 7pm.

The two **Broughty Ferry** services will be on
Sunday 13 December at 2.30pm and
Wednesday 16 December at 7pm.

These liturgies will last a maximum of half an hour.

Important information for booking a place at the Reconciliation Liturgies

You can book a seats/seats on **Eventbrite** for the Reconciliation Services at **St Andrew's Cathedral** at the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131442561239>

Alternatively, search for 'Eventbrite Advent Reconciliation Service at St Andrew's RC Cathedral'.

Seats for the Services at **Our Lady of Good Counsel** can be booked by following this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131488827623>

Alternatively, search for 'Eventbrite Advent Reconciliation Service at Our Lady of Good Counsel'.

As with booking places for Sunday Mass, a small number of spaces have been reserved for those **without internet access** and these can be booked by telephoning the dedicated booking line on 07561 699557. You should leave a message with your name, number and the Service you wish to attend

BOOKING WILL OPEN FOR THESE SERVICES ON MONDAY 7 DECEMBER AFTER 6PM

Christmas Masses

St Andrew's Cathedral

Vigil Mass 24 December at 4pm

Vigil Mass 24 December at 5.30pm

Vigil Mass 24 December at 7pm

Christmas Day Mass at 10am

Christmas Day Mass at 11.30am

Christmas Evening Mass at 6pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Vigil Mass 24 December at 4pm

Vigil Mass 24 December at 5.30pm

Christmas Day Mass at 9.45am

You must book a place. Booking opens on Monday 7 December after 6pm.

'Eventbrite, St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee'.

'Eventbrite, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry'.

If you don't have internet access, 'phone the dedicated Mass booking number on **07561 699557** & leave a message with details of Mass you want to attend.

Cathedral 200 club

For most people who pay 200 club annually, subscription is now due. The 200 club month draw has taken place every month during the year despite the restrictions we've been under. If you are unsure what you may be due, call or text Kenny 07443494719.

Make sure you are in the Christmas draw as there is an extra £300 to be won! You can join for a mere £3 a month. Call or text Kenny 074434719. Thank you.

The November winners are:

1st: Stephen Skelly - £50 2nd: Bernard Colvin - £30
3rd: Heather Fairley - £20.



Our Congratulations and Prayers for Aidan Dunbar who was received into full communion with the Catholic Church, Confirmed and joined us in Holy Communion for the first time last Tuesday in St Thomas', Arbroath. Aidan wishes to thank all those who have shared with him in his faith journey so far, for their prayers and good example and he looks forward to sharing in the faith experience of the parish family at St Thomas'.

Virtual Carol festival

In the absence of the Cecilian Choir's Annual Festival of Carols this year, we were keen that an opportunity be made available to celebrate (albeit in a different way) the music and readings of this time of year. Therefore, we will have an instrumental Carol Service in the Cathedral at the usual time of 3pm on the 4th Sunday of Advent, 20th December. As with all services, numbers will be limited and bookings can be made via the (usual Cathedral phone/and Eventbrite online ways). The Event brite link is:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131163751311>

An online recording of this Carol Service will also be made available on the Cathedral's Facebook page.

Please note that you do NOT have to subscribe to Facebook to be able to access the videos posted there. Simply close down the pop-up message asking if you would like to subscribe and, on scrolling down, you will see the posted videos and can easily access them.

Our Prayers: for those who have died recently:

Vince Harvey, Jack Cashley, Mary Welsh;

those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

John Milne, Joseph Kearns, Filomena (Phyllis) Bruce, Tess Walker, Helen Wilkie, Mary Callaghan, Andy Dornan, Elizabeth Henderson, Jack Fisher, Mary McLinkey, Mary Connor, Anthony Reynolds, Mary Devine, Peter Cosgrove, Henry Chivers, Rose Anne McKay, Mary Smith, Sandy Watson, Roy McHardy, Benta Apondi Ayimba, Alan Rodger, Theresa Ogilvie, Tess Walker, Patricia Cavin, Anthony James Mossey, Jessie Gilmour, Isobel Cairney;

the sick and in need of our intercession: Elizabeth McIntosh, Katie Shephard, Monsignor John Harty, Maria Robertson, Frances Young, Tony Beck, Mel Caullay, Jackey-Forrest-Moore, Catherine Gallacher, Baby Ben Welsh, Bill Boland, Thinley Chodron, Sharon McInally, Natalia Lucka, Benedict Stephens, Gillian Steedman, Steven Kennedy, Aubrey McMullan, Sonya Rostan, Lily Jane Douglas, Alexander McNeil, Bridie Mossey, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga, Allison Matthew.

Accessibility of the Clergy

The priests are very aware that it has become more difficult to speak with us before or after Mass, given the circumstances of the pandemic and not least by our leaving the church after Holy Communion. However, it is our desire to be as accessible as possible to you, so please never hesitate to come and speak before or after Mass. We will do our best to be as available as possible. We are grateful to the stewards for their facilitation of this.



JOURNEY
OF
FAITH

The third session of the *Journey of Faith* will be on line at the Diocesan website and through the Cathedral Facebook page. It is entitled *Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord*, a reflection for Advent. It is in two parts, the second of which will be available next week.

Christmas Greetings

Jim and Cathy McCormack send love and best wishes to all our dear friends in the parish. X

We wish the priests, parishioners and our friends a Blessed Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. From **Jacqui, Stuart, Erin & Callum Anderson**

Mary Taylor and family would like to wish Canon Kevin, Father Andrew and all the parishioners a joyful Christmas and peaceful blessings for the New Year.

Nancy Walker wishes all parishioners a happy, peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Marie and Ian Barnett wish all their friends and parishioners a happy, peaceful Christmas and good health in the New Year.

Joe and Sadie Lowrie send our best wishes for a Holy Christmas and Happy New year to Canon Kevin, our friends and parishioners of St Andrew's Cathedral. God bless everyone during this difficult season.

John and Maureen Cain wish Canon Kevin and all our friends and parishioners a Holy and Joyful Christmas and Happy New Year. We miss you all so much.

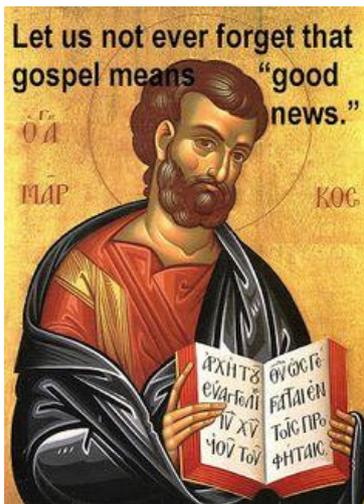
Kati Smith wishes all parishioners and clergy a happy and holy Christmas and a good New Year.

Anne Oxford wishes Fr Andrew, Fr Kevin, Deacon Arthur and all friends and parishioners peace at Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Great Advent figures

Tracing one's lineage, or researching a family tree is a fascinating pursuit for some.

When Matthew and Luke write their gospel accounts of Christ they both include a lengthy genealogy of Jesus, tracing his ancestry. The evangelist whose gospel we read this year, however, records no such family tree for Jesus. St. Mark, from the beginning, writes with a sense of great urgency, seeking to proclaim the essential "good news" as swiftly as possible.



In his first verse he announces that this "good news" (Gospel) is about Jesus, whose identity he proclaims as Son of God. This is Jesus' status, his authority for acting in the way he will as the Gospel unfolds. Think of it: if this person, Jesus, however charismatic and appealing he might be, is simply "Jesus of Nazareth", he would have little claim to messianic honour. Remember Nathaniel, "Nazareth - can anything good come from that place?"

Who is this "Mark" who presumes to narrate the good news of Jesus? The Gospel text does not identify its author but a very strong tradition has suggested a "Mark", companion of Peter in Rome, whose memory of Jesus stands behind this gospel text. Unlike Matthew, whose Gospel we read last year, Mark's work does not place many lengthy teachings on the lips of Jesus; rather, Jesus expresses and demonstrates the Kingdom or "reign" of God in prophetic deeds, not least through numerous acts of healing. In so doing, he fulfils the ancient prophecies which were adamant that the Messiah, when he came, would be able to open the eyes of the blind, unstop the ears of the deaf and make the lame walk.

If you enjoy the music of Handel's *Messiah*, you'll recognise the words of the Isaiah text this Sunday as the opening tenor solo from that work: *Comfort ye, my people*, as the Prophet sings of the end of the exile. Something joyous and momentous is happening, it may be far off in the distance, but it needs to be prepared for. God's people are to take heart, the prophet urges: God is at work for them. Isaiah's words would eventually give way to the one whom we encounter in this Sunday's Gospel, a figure who emerges from the desert, the wilderness, where in the silence of that place he has heard the voice of God and been moved to action: John the Baptist.

He is called, in the liturgy, the last and greatest of the prophets, and would become the bridge between the Old and the New (Testaments): his dress is reminiscent of the great Elijah. He applies Isaiah to himself, he preaches conversion and announces definitively the coming of the Promised One, the Messiah. Yet, for all his boldness, John displays a true humility. The one who is to come "is more powerful than I am", John declares. He goes further, saying, "I am not worthy to kneel down and undo his sandalstrap".

John would point out Jesus as the "Lamb of God", replacing in his own body all the sacrifices of old. John would baptise Jesus, the very author of baptism! Jesus in turn would fulfil the prophecy even of today's Psalm: in him, mercy and faithfulness meet, in him, justice and peace embrace. In the same Christ, our lives find meaning and destiny. No wonder the Church gives us Advent and calls us to spiritual renewal to prepare for the celebration of the birthday of the Saviour, in joyful expectation of his glorious return, which is as sure as the coming of the dawn.

Deacon Len Moir has prepared a book of advent reflections entitled *Keeping the stable door open*. Some copies have already been distributed in Broughty Ferry and some are on their way to Arbroath. If anyone from the Cathedral parish would like one, please let me know. Suggested donation to cover costs: £5.

Celia Welsh writes to say "A big thank you to all those kind parishioners who donated to Baby Ben's fund. Their generosity has been greatly appreciated by the family and will certainly help towards Ben's treatment."