

MASS TEXT

Sunday Cycle C :: Weekday Cycle 2
Divine Office: Vol. 1 Week 2 + season

CALL TO SILENCE:

Praise we now the Lord our God,
in silence we adore you.

OT READING: Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm 125:

*What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.*

NT READING: Philipians 1:3-6, 8-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see
the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 1-6

*The Apostles' Creed
will be used during Advent.*

PREFACE: Advent I
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: II

**Sunday 13th December is the
Third Sunday of Advent (C)**

OT Reading:
Zephaniah 3:14-18

Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6

NT Reading:
Philipians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2015

MONDAY 8th DECEMBER

7pm Reconciliation Service
In St Andrew's

MONDAY 14th DECEMBER

7pm Reconciliation Service
In St Teresa's

WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER

ADVENT QUIET TIME BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

With opportunity for Confession

7pm till 9pm

Night Prayer at 7pm, 8pm and 8.50pm.

Please feel free to pop in to say a wee prayer,
light a candle for 5 or 10 minutes or longer if
you can-you will be very welcome.

*Fr Jim will be available in the Confessional
during this time.*

CHRISTMAS EVE-24th December

6.30pm Carol singing as we gather
7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas

11.30pm Carols followed by
Midnight Mass in St Andrew's

CHRISTMAS DAY-25th December

11.30am Christmas Day Mass

**THERE IS NO EVENING MASS
ON CHRISTMAS DAY.**

NEW YEAR'S DAY-1st January 2016
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

12 noon Mass
Unless stated otherwise
all services take place in St Teresa's

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

6th December 2015

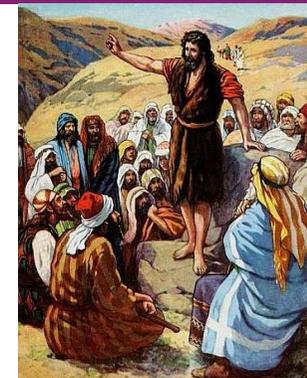
St Teresa's Parish Community

Our Parish Priest is: Fr Jim Hayes
St Teresa's Presbytery, Glasgow Street,
Dumfries. DG2 9DE. Tel: (01387) 252603.
Email Fr Jim at: priest@stteresaschurch.com
Website: www.stteresaschurch.com

Our Parish Deacon is: Rev. Mr. William Hiddleston

A parish of the RC Diocese of Galloway. Charity Number: SC 010576.

The sick and housebound would appreciate a copy of the bulletin -
if you can please pop one through their door. Thank you.



SUNDAY MASSES:

11.30am here at St Teresa's

Sunday Mass also takes place as follows:

Vigils: 6pm St Luke's, Moffat (DG10 9DS) and 6pm in St Andrew's, Dumfries (DG1 2JL);
Sundays: 9.30am in Holy Trinity, Lockerbie (DG11 2DA); 10am St Andrew's, Dumfries;
12 noon St Columba's, Annan (DG12 6JG).

SERVICES THIS WEEK

*Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat at 10am.
Wed & Frid at 10am in St Andrew's*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Saturdays 10.30am-11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays 10.30am-11am

The Rosary:

Recited 15 mins. before mass on Tuesdays

The Ladies Guild: Meetings take place on Tuesdays in the Hall at 7.30pm.

The Parish Hall: To book the hall please contact Mrs Peggy Marshall on 261373

WEEKLY COLLECTION: £487.22 Thank you.

Baptisms can be booked by contacting Fr Jim directly

Weddings normally require six months notice-please contact Fr Jim.

INTENTIONS THIS COMING WEEK:

Sunday: Bill Featherstone (Ann);
Monday: James Quinn (RecDec); Tuesday: Andrew Jardine (2nd Ann).

For the sick, the unemployed and those suffering persecution.
We pray for peace, for the cessation of ideological violence.

THE ADVENT WREATH. The never fading and never ending love and mercy of God is symbolised in the greenery and circle of the Advent wreath and the increasing light each week brings us closer to the birth of Christ the Light of the World. We dedicate our candles to all families experiencing difficulties at this time of year both at home and abroad-especially among the refugees.

GROWING IN FAITH GROUP. Please join us for the next session of this enjoyable time of discussion, learning and prayer on Thursday 14th January from 7pm till 9.15pm in the Baptistry Room in the church. The book for the series is: "The Catholic Faith Handbook" If you plan to attend you might wish to prepare by picking up a copy of the book beforehand from one of the team: Deacon Willie, Elizabeth Robertson or Paula Cochrane and Fr Jim of course. The group is intended for those new to the Catholic faith and those who just wish to learn more about the faith they have had for a long time. All welcome.

THANK YOU. Missionary of Africa priest, Fr Donald MacLeod, thanks you all most sincerely for the £431.64 you raised following his recent visit to us.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR PRISONERS' FAMILIES. As you know the local prison chaplains have been collecting gifts for our local prison so that the children of those imprisoned can receive a gift from their dad, grand-dad or uncle over the Christmas season. I cannot thank you all enough for your generous response to this appeal so far. All donations gratefully received. Thank you.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND. This pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Nolan from 10-17 October 2016. Flying from Manchester the fully inclusive price is £895.00 pp. Please contact Joe Walsh Tours to book/more info on 0141 530 5060 or email info@joewalshstours.co.uk. Booking Forms and further information is available in the porch.

SENIORS CHRISTMAS MEAL. A sincere thank you to all who attended and thoroughly enjoyed the Seniors Meal on Friday evening and to all who helped prepare the hall and look after everyone on the night.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (RCIC). The Saturday Club for the children to prepare for the Sacraments rests now for the holiday time and will next take place on Saturday 9th January from 11.15am till 1.15pm in the Baptistry Room here in the Church.



Last Sunday marked the beginning of Advent, a time that popular culture usually depicts as the beginning of the Christmas season, full of gifts, holiday parties, and halls decked with holly. But Advent holds a deeper meaning for Catholics: It is the beginning of the new liturgical year. And this one is particularly special and it will be opened officially in Rome by Pope Francis on Tuesday-The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and here in our Diocese by Bishop Nolan in the Cathedral in Ayr.

Called the Jubilee Year of Mercy, it is a time when all Catholics are called to reflect upon and to practice one of the most important ideas in Christianity. Mercy is an idea woven throughout the message of the Christian Gospel.

Often, it is portrayed in individualistic terms: the idea that we can have a right relationship with God, not based on whether we're "worth it," or based on whether we've done everything right, but based solely on God's love. That is an important doctrine, one that has changed countless lives. But the Christian message of mercy is much broader. John 3:16 might be the best-known verse of the entire Bible, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life", but the next verse is almost as momentous: "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Christians, then, are called to respond to God's mercy with mercy of their own, to become agents of God's mercy in their own lives and around them. In Catholicism, the pillars of the Christian life, prayer and good works, are called "spiritual works of mercy" and "corporeal works of mercy" respectively. And we all know it from our lives, don't we? We all come at a point in our lives when all we can count on is mercy. When we need a break, even though we might not "deserve" it. And if we get that break, if some person goes above and beyond and gives it to us, that can be a ray of light that changes our lives.

In Catholicism, mercy takes a specific form: the sacrament of confession, one which Pope Francis has repeatedly emphasised. It might have been some time, even years since you last celebrated this Sacrament. It is understandable because it's hard, maybe one of the hardest things in the world, to face up to whatever wrong you've done and ask for mercy. But that's why the relief, and spiritual growth, that comes from confession is so powerful. It may feel like the crucifixion, but it ends with a resurrection to new life. As we begin this new church year let us consider this most important image that Pope Francis puts before us-the all forgiving and completely free Mercy of God. Our first hand-out of the year is a wee prayer card today.

We will plan a number of activities and pilgrimages in the course of the year so that we can enter the Year of Mercy Holy Door in the Cathedral of the Diocese in Ayr and another in the Church at Whithorn.

