

Our Lady & St, Helen's, Condorrat
Parish Bulletin
Week commencing 28 November 2021

Season of Advent

Today we move into the year of Luke's gospel as we begin a new church year with the beginning of the holy season of Advent. In Advent the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity, when we recall Christ's first coming as the infant of Bethlehem. As we remember, so we also look forward in faith and hope to his second coming at the end of time. Advent is then a season of joyful hope. This hope of Advent is expressed during the first part of Advent with the concentration on the Second Coming while the first coming is recalled from the 17th December, when Christ is seen as the fulfilment of the hope of Israel.

Last year we were still in lockdown at the beginning of Advent and the services were being streamed and I suggested, as an aid to your prayers during Advent, that you spent 10/15 mins each day reading 1 chapter of St Luke's gospel. There are 24 chapters so starting on the 1st of December you would have read St Luke's gospel by Christmas Eve. It might be more appropriate this year as it is Luke's year in the liturgical cycle.

Funeral Arrangements

The remains of Hugh Frew from 15 Netherwood Grove, who passed away on Monday 8th November, will be brought to the church at 6pm on Monday evening with his Requiem Mass at 10am on Tuesday morning. Please keep Hugh's family in your prayers during the coming days.

Restoration of Mass Obligation

Please read the [Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Scotland](#) on the Season of Christmas and Restoration of the Mass Obligation in Scotland.

St Nicholas Care Fund

As you know for many years now during the season of Advent, as part of our preparations for the coming of Jesus, we think of our charity giving, and when Cardinal Winning set up the Pastoral Care Trust, he did so by saying 'what SCIAF does during Lent for the poor abroad, the Pastoral Care Trust does for the poor at home.' A few years ago it was renamed the St Nicholas Care Fund. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, 11/12th December, there is the 2nd collection for the St Nicholas Care Fund.

Parish Stall

You may have noticed over the past few weekends the parish stall is open again and is selling Christmas cards, calendars, etc. If you haven't already had a look, then why not take a couple of minutes after Mass today.

Day by Day

Copies of the Advent edition of Day by Day are on sale at the stall, priced £ 1.20. This would make an ideal companion for our journey through the Season of Advent which begins on the 28th November.

Tea & Toast

There is weekly tea & toast in the parish hall after Mass on Friday.

Cumbernauld Resilience

A drop in Foodbank has been opened up in the Muirfield Community Centre in Cumbernauld. It is open every Monday evening until December 20th from 5:30pm till 7:15pm.

Cumbernauld Churches Together:

Once again the C.C.T. is hosting a series of Advent reflection evenings in the Church of Holy Name on the Wednesdays of Advent – 1st, 8th, and 15th. There are refreshments at 7pm followed by the reflections from 7:30pm. Why not use these reflections as a way of preparing your heart for the celebration of Christmas?

Christmas Special

Showing of 'It's a Wonderful Life', Wednesday 8th December 1pm for 1:30pm start in church hall. Join friends and family and kick off your Christmas festivities.

The Scottish Catholic

The latest edition of this new publication is on sale from the stall, priced £2

Collections

Offertory envelopes	£ 484.00
Gift Aid envelopes	£ 355.00
Education Sunday	£ 561.60

Thank you for your generosity