

# *The First Sunday of Advent*

## **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

On Monday 9th December, there will be a solemn concelebrated Mass for the Feast, with the Sacrament of the Sick, in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Carfin, at 1pm. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Xavier Centre.

## **Christmas Confession**

In preparation for Christmas we shall organise a penitential service to be followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation here in the Parish. Date and time to be announced later.

## **Bambinelli Blessings**

The Third Sunday of Advent, December 15th, is also 'Bambinelli Sunday'. We are all invited (especially families and children) to bring to Church for a blessing our own Baby Jesus which we will put in our nativity cribs at home.

## **Christmas Carols**

A joint Carol Service with the Church of Scotland is being planned for Sunday 15th December at 6pm. Details next week.

## **Mini Vinnies**

Mini Vinnies was launched in St. Teresa's Primary school last September and is going from strength to strength! The children who are all primary 5 and 6 are excited to help others in need in the name of St Vincent de Paul. The group decided that they would like to run a 'Secret Santa' Appeal, which they hope will brighten the Christmas of people who are homeless and in need. If you would like to donate they will be collecting the following items in the Church porch:

Winter Woolies - hats, scarves, gloves and new socks.

Basic toiletries - soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo etc...

Small Chocolate bars - Mars bars, Crunchies etc..

The children will wrap a few of them together and attach a Christmas Card to be given out at the 'Ozanam Centre' in Glasgow. The boys and girls would like to thank you for any donation you are able to make.

## **Receiving Holy Communion Under Both Kinds**

Those who come up for Holy Communion and wish to receive the Precious Blood are advised to do so directly from the chalice to avoid the danger of drops of the Precious Blood falling to the ground. We know that receiving Holy Communion under both Kinds is optional because our Catholic Faith teaches that Jesus is fully present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity under both Kinds.

## **Joe's Devotion**

You are invited to join Joe's Devotion at St Francis Xavier, Carfin on the 12th December at 7:30pm. Details on the notice board.

## **St Andrew's Hospice**

Each year around the Feast of St Andrew we are asked by the Bishop to support the work of St Andrew's Hospice in Airdrie. To this end there will be a box at the back of the Church for any donations you wish to make. The box will remain until next Sunday. Thank you for your support.

## **Gift Aid Scheme**

The parish is very grateful to all who are members of the Gift Aid Scheme. If you are a tax payer the UK Government will give the parish a further 25p for every £1 you donate. Please think seriously about joining the scheme as it costs you nothing and the parish benefits considerably. Forms are available from Fr Bernardine. Existing members who have not yet uplifted their new sets of offertory envelopes are asked to do so this weekend. Thank you.

***Lately Dead:** Mrs May McGlynn,*

***Anniversary:** Robert Aiton, Lizzie Nugent, Jane McMahan, Mgr. Francis Duffy, Rev. John McMahan, Joe Smith, Anne McGhee and Joe McGhee.*

Last weekend's special collection to support the work of the **Scottish Catholic Education Service** realised £394. Sincere thanks to all who contributed.

Last Week's Collection: £541.80

**Thank you to the parish for their generosity**

# The Season of Advent

Advent is the season that begins the Liturgical Year. It originated in the early Church as a short period of intense preparation for the celebration of the nativity of the Lord on December 25th.

Advent slowly came to be structured into four Sundays with proper readings and prayers. This season is marked by devout and joyful expectation as we recall the first humble coming of the Lord at Bethlehem. At the same time, we are invited to direct our mind and heart towards Christ's final coming in glory at the end of time. This is well expressed both in the Scripture readings, in the prayers as well as in the two parts into which Advent is divided. During the first part of Advent, from the beginning until the 16th December, the focus of the liturgy is on the second coming of the Lord, while during the second part, from the 17th to 24th December, the emphasis is on the immediate preparation for Christmas.

At the beginning of the new Liturgical Year, we join the people of Israel who longed for the coming of the Messiah with great expectancy. By listening to the message of the prophets foretelling the birth of the Saviour, we are renewed in our desire to see him at his glorious coming at the end of time as our Lord and universal Judge. The two 'comings' of the Lord are connected by the daily coming of the Lord in our life through his Word, Sacraments, other people and events. Recalling the ways in which the people of Israel prepared themselves to welcome the Lord must throw light on the ways in which we make ready to welcome the Lord today, as he comes to us. Our welcoming of the Lord in our daily life is the best way for us to prepare for his coming in glory at the end of time.

*(The Daily Missal)*



**Administrator:**  
Revd Fr Bernardine

## ST. TERESA'S R.C. CHURCH

Address: Benford Avenue, Newarthill,  
Motherwell, ML1 5BE

Telephone: 01698 832920

Email: fatherbillthepadre@gmail.com

Parish website: [www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk](http://www.stteresa-newarthill.org.uk)  
A Scottish Registered Charity No. 11041

### *The First Sunday of Advent*

Weekly Schedule	Time	Intention
Sunday 1st Dec.	10:00am	Joe Smith
Monday 2nd Dec.	8:30am 9:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Anee McGhee and Joe McGhee
Tues 3rd Dec. <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Rosary Mgr. Francis Duffy
Wed 4th Dec.	8:30am 9:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Rev. John McMahon
Thurs 5th Dec.	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Rosary Jane McMahon
Friday 6th Dec.	8:30am 9:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Lizzie Nugent
Saturday 7th Dec. <i>St Ambrose</i>	4:00pm 4:30pm	Holy Rosary Robert Aiton

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 7th Dec.	J. Burns	M. Duff, C. Dabernig, C. Morrissey
Sunday 8th Dec.	W. Doran	J. Mullen, I. Connor, M. Green

***Response to the Psalm: We shall go rejoicing  
to the house of the Lord.***