

**PARISH OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY  
CHURCHES OF ST. STEPHEN AND  
ALL SAINTS**

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**Parish of the Most Blessed Trinity**

**1st Sunday of Advent, 27th November 2022**



	<b>All Saints</b>		<b>St. Stephen's</b>		
Monday	7.30 p.m.	Mass/Novena	Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday	9.30 a.m.	Mass	Thursday	10.00 a.m.	Mass
Friday	9.30 a.m.	Mass	Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Vigil Mass
Saturday	4.30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Sunday	12.15 p.m.	Mass
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Mass			
Sunday	5.30 p.m.	Mass			

**ADVENT**

*Advent has a twofold character: for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnity of Christmas, when we mark the First Coming of the Son of God and likewise we look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of preparation, expectation and hope.*

*During the Advent season the Gloria is not said, flowers and music are restrained, and the vestments are purple, and rose on Gaudete Sunday*

**Advent Wreath:** The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the colour violet is a liturgical colour that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

**The Sundays of Advent**

Each gospel reading has a distinctive theme: the Lord's coming at the end of time (First Sunday of Advent), John the Baptist (Second and Third Sunday), and the events that prepared immediately for the Lord's birth (Fourth Sunday). The Old Testament readings are prophecies about the Messiah and the Messianic age, especially from the Isaiah. The readings from an apostle serve as exhortations and as proclamations, in keeping with the different themes of Advent.



**ST STEPHEN'S ALTAR SERVERS  
ADVENT ACTIVITIES**

**Foodbank collection -**

3rd/4th of December after both masses

**Christmas Cafe** - 11th December after 12:15pm mass. Please join us for children's games and refreshments.

**Prayer Partners** - please leave your name at the back of the chapel if you would be willing to become a prayer partner for one of our new servers.



**PENNIES IN JARS:**

Recent donations amounted to £129.  
Thank you for your generosity.

*Thank you*

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES**

Online booking is open for couples preparing for Marriage in the Catholic Church. The course costs £50 and includes course material.

**Dates of courses are:**

21st January 2023, 18th February 2023,  
18th March 2023 and 22nd April 2023. Book online at [www.marriagefamilylife.org](http://www.marriagefamilylife.org).

**ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION**  
*Thursday 15th December 2022,*  
*7.00—8.00p.m. in All Saint's Church.*

**FR. EUGENIO MONTESI, SX** is celebrating his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination to priesthood.

The Xaverian Missionaries are inviting friends to join us on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in St. Mary's Whifflet for a Mass of Thanksgiving for this special celebration. Afterwards, there is a gathering at the Conforti Centre on Calder Avenue. For more information please call, during office hours, 01233 606364 or mail [coatbridge@xavs.org](mailto:coatbridge@xavs.org)

**YOUTH SAFEGUARDING FORUM:** The new Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency is developing a forum for young Catholic adults.

If you would like to know more, please contact Helena Rameckers by emailing: [training@scssa.org.uk](mailto:training@scssa.org.uk) or phoning 07394 862 279 by Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December. Please note that we also have a small number of spaces on the forum for older adults experienced in youth ministry!

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS DISCO/PARTY**  
**13th December. Free entry. Each child must be accompanied by an adult. First come, first served. Tickets available soon in All Saints Church.**



**CHRISTMAS HAMPER/RAFFLE**

£1 for your chance to win. Be in it to win it!



**CHURCH CLEANERS:** Could you spare approx. 1 hour a week to help clean the church, after 9.30 a.m. Mass on a Wednesday morning. If so, just come along. Your help would be greatly appreciated.



**CHRISTMAS FAYRE:** Many thanks to all who supported the Christmas Fayre. The fantastic sum of £1400

