

**PARISH OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY
CHURCHES OF ST. STEPHEN AND ALL SAINTS**
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 2nd Sunday of the Year, YEAR C



9th January 2022

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity –
materials provided by Christians of the Middle East –
Meditation on the Epiphany**

Raise us up and draw us to your perfect light.

“We observed his star in the East.” (Matthew 2:2)

In this fragile and uncertain world, we look for a light, a ray of hope from afar. In the midst of evil, we long for goodness. Our confidence rests in the God we worship. God, in wisdom, enabled us to hope for divine intervention; but we had not anticipated that God’s intervention would be a person, and that the Lord himself would be the light in our midst. This exceeded all our expectations. God’s gift to us is a “spirit of power, and love.”

In the midst of humanity’s darkness, the star from the East shone. The star’s light was not only an illumination at a particular historical moment but it continues to shine and change the face of human history. Despite the vicissitudes of history and the changing of circumstances, the Risen One continues to shine, moving within the flow of history like a beacon guiding all into this perfect light and overcoming the darkness which separates us from one another.

The desire to overcome the darkness that separates us compels us to pray and work for Christian unity. **Prayer**

Lord God, illumine our path by the light of Christ who moves us and leads us. Guide us to discover a small manger in our hearts where a great light still sleeps. Creator of light, we thank you for the gift of that unfading Star, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light that we may find our unity in him. Amen.

THE CAR PARK adjacent to St. Stephen’s Church will be closed for the foreseeable future to accommodate the building of a new primary school.

MASS TO CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF MARRIED LIFE

Thursday 27th January 2022 at 7.00 p.m. Couples are invited to attend to celebrate the blessings of marriage and family life. Bishop Toal will invite all married couples present to renew their vows during this special Mass.

cubs **OUR CUB SCOUT GROUP** is back and looking for children between 7½ and 9 years to join. We meet on **Friday evenings 7-8.30pm** in Coatbridge High School Sports Hall. Bring your child along on **Friday 21st January** to find out more and join in the **fun**.

All Saints	
Monday	7.30 p.m. Mass with Novena
Tuesday	9.30 a.m. Eucharistic Service
Wednesday	9.30 a.m. Mass
Thursday	9.30 a.m. Eucharistic Service
Friday	9.30 a.m. Mass
Saturday	4.30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday	10.30 a.m.
Sunday	5.30 p.m.
St. Stephen’s	
Tuesday	10.00 a.m. Mass
Wednesday	10.00 a.m. Mass
Thursday	10.00 a.m. Mass
Saturday	5.30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday	12.15 p.m. Mass

Sr. Frances Reilly RIP:

We remember with great gratitude to Almighty God the life and pastoral ministry of our dear and beloved Sr. Frances, who devoted her life to God and the care of the people of St Stephen’s entrusted to her pastoral care. For over thirty years Sr. Frances worked as Pastoral Assistant in St Stephen’s, and although she shone in so many different ways, her work and devotion with the school children and altar servers stand out. She will be greatly missed and our sense of loss is great, but we pray that the Lord will reward this good and faithful servant who for so many years work in the vineyard of the Lord.

May she rest in peace, Amen.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Reception: Tuesday 18th January at 7800 p.m.

Mass on Wednesday 19th January at 12.00 p.m. in St. Stephen’s Church, Paddock Street, Coatbridge.

FEAST DAYS

Tuesday 17th St. Anthony
 Friday 21st St. Agnes

SYNOD

The objective of the current Synod is to listen, as the entire People of God, to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church. We do so by listening together to the Word of God in Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church, and then by listening to one another, and especially to those at the margins, discerning the signs of the times. In fact, the whole Synodal Process aims at fostering a lived experience of discernment, participation, and coresponsibility, where a diversity of gifts is brought together for the Church’s mission in the world.

Synod Vademecum 1.3

The heart of the synodal experience is listening to God through listening to one another, inspired by the Word of God. We listen to each other in order to better hear the voice of Holy Spirit speaking in our world today.

Synod Vademecum 4.1

More next week