

**PARISH OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY  
CHURCHES OF ST. STEPHEN AND  
ALL SAINTS**  
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Parish of the Most Blessed Trinity  
**3rd Sunday of Advent, C**  
**15th December 2024**

### All Saints

Monday 7.30 p.m. Mass  
Wednesday **9.30 a.m. Mass**  
Friday 9.30 a.m. Mass

Saturday 4.30 p.m. Vigil Mass  
Sunday 9.00 a.m. Ukrainian Mass  
Sunday 10.30 a.m. Mass  
Sunday 5.30 p.m. Mass

### 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

## Season of Advent

What is special about the Third Sunday of Advent? For much of the Church's history, this Sunday had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the fourth or fifth century, as does the season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a forty-day penitential season like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12 (just after the Memorial of St. Martin of Tours), it was called "St. Martin's Lent." "Gaudete Sunday" was the Advent counterpart to "Laetare Sunday," which marks the mid-point in Lent.

On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation.

Liturgically, the colours lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-coloured vestments, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose-coloured, or if you prefer, pink.

The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." This celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy. Today's Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, reflects this joy: "Brothers and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

## ADVENT PRAYER

O God, whose will is justice for the poor and solace for the afflicted, let John the Baptist's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your eternal kingdom. May the Advent of the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit vanish our complacency and convert our hearts to justice and love.

**ADVENT RETREATS can be found online from**

**1st December at the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow**

[Advent Retreat 2024 – Online Prayer](#), and on Sacred Space,

[Sacred Space - Retreats - Sacred Space](#).



**Leaflets are available at each entrance giving details of all the Christmas Services. Please collect one. You can also find the details on the Home Page of our website.**

**HOLY YEAR:** The 2025 Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024 at 7pm, with the rite of Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter by the Holy Father, who will then preside over the celebration of the Night Mass of the Lord's Birth inside the Basilica. The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be year of Jubilee. The theme is Pilgrims of Hope and is a year of hope from a world suffering of the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the Covid19 pandemic and a climate crisis.

### What is a Jubilee?

The Jubilee Year is a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

**COME AND SEE** We extend to all parishioners a very warm welcome to come explore the treasure of their Catholic faith, to encounter the Lord in a new way and grow in the joy and beauty of their faith on **Tuesday evenings at 7 o'clock in All Saints' Hall.**

**Challenging winter fuel poverty;** the winter brings special challenges, especially in Scotland with low temperatures and short days. Heating and lighting our homes can be difficult and costly. If you are struggling and need some help and advice, please don't hesitate to contact our **WELLSPRING SUPPORT GROUP.**

**Just leave your name and contact details with us** and we will be in touch, please be assured that your privacy will be respected and we will safeguard any personal information. **There is a leaflet the back of the church to record your details. Please fill it in and put in the box.**



**HAMPER RAFFLE WINNER:**  
**John Turner**

### BANK DETAILS FOR DONATIONS

**If you wish you can contribute directly to the parish using these bank details below.**

Details of our new Bank Account are as follows:

**Sort Code:** 80-12-97; **Account No:** 10245365

**Account Name:** Holy Trinity & All Saints

If you are already paying by Direct Debit **you don't need to do anything**, this is only for people who wish to do online banking.

**WESTERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS now on sale.**

**HOGMANAY PARTY**, All Saints' Hall  
7.30-8.00 p.m. 31st December 2024,  
2 Course Meal,  
Adults £25; Children 12 and under; £10.  
Tickets now on sale.

### LAST POSTING DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

**2nd Class: Wednesday 18th December.**

**1st Class: Friday 20th December.**

