

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

**Rev. Thomas W. Doyle, 293 Muirhall Street,
Coatbridge, ML5 3RZ Tel: 01236 441110**

Email: themostblessedtrinity@rcdom.org.

Website: www.mostblessedtrinity.com

Twitter: @rcblesstrinity

Facebook page:

Parish of the Most Blessed Trinity

4th Sunday of Advent, B

24th December 2023

**For Christmas Masses please refer to the
Parish Christmas Card.**

All Saints

Friday 29th Mass 9.30 a.m.

St. Stephen's

Tuesday 26th Feast of St. Stephen,

Mass at 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 27th

Funeral Mass 10.00 a.m.

Thursday 28th Mass 10.00 a.m.

FEAST DAYS

Tuesday 26th	St. Stephen
Wednesday 27th	St. John
Thursday 28th	The Holy Innocents
Sunday 31st	The Holy Family

ADVENT

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

MEMORY TREE

There is a Christmas Tree in the Muirhall Street Porch. Gift tags are available and you may want to remember an intention for someone who has gone before marked with the sign of faith. Write on the gift tag and hang on a branch of the tree. *If desired, donations may be given.*



ROOM AT THE INN: We are delighted to welcome Fr. Andrew and the Ukrainian Community who will use the Church on Sundays for Holy Mass according to the Eastern Rite. Father will begin using the Church on Christmas morning and we are

delighted to offer our warmest hospitality and welcome!

ADVENT RETREAT WITH

FR. DENIS MCBRIDE C.S.S.R.

Father Denis McBride leads a FREE online retreat, based on his book *Stations of the Infancy*. Fr Denis will read twelve of the fourteen episodes chosen from the Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Go to [AdventRetreat\(rpbooks.co.uk\)](http://AdventRetreat(rpbooks.co.uk))

MY DAY BY DAY booklets on sale at the back of the church, contain the readings and the Gospel for each day of the month. The **JANUARY ISSUE IS AVAILABLE AT £1 EACH.**

The Christmas season is a reminder to Christians that despite hardships, God chose to join himself to humanity and still remains by its side, Pope Francis said. "Christmas is a reminder that God loves us and wants to be with us," the pope told a group of children at the Vatican Dec. 15 during a meeting with representatives from the Italian Catholic Action movement.

The Incarnation, he said, "is a stupendous gift, and it brings with it another: that we may also love one another as brothers and sisters." "How much we need this today," he added, "so many people, so many children suffer because of war." The children, who came from 14 dioceses across Italy, brought with them large paper stars to remember the children who have died from conflicts.

Pope Francis recalled that more than 7,000 children have died in Gaza since the outbreak of war in the Holy Land, as well as the more than 500 children that have died in Ukraine and the thousands that died during the years of war in Yemen. "Their memory, in turn, invites us to be lights for the world, to touch the hearts of many people, especially those who can stop the whirlwind of violence," the pope said. He added that only by loving God and loving one another "can the world rediscover the light and the peace that it needs" and which was proclaimed by the angels who announced Jesus' birth.

**St. MARGARET'S CHILDREN AND
FAMILY CARE SOCIETY**

Will receive the donations made at the Crib.



HOGMANAY CELEBRATION

Saturday 31st December, 8.00pm—1.00 am in All Saints Hall, tickets are now on sale.

Adults £20; Children £10; includes supper.

THANK YOU

Missio wish to thank parishioners for their ongoing support and their response to the collection on Mission Sunday. The sum of £2559 was raised.

WESTERN CATHOLIC CALENDAR is on sale in the Stall.



Christmas Blessing

**May you Experience the
Wonder of God's Abiding Love as He guides
you through each day of the coming Year....
Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.**

Father Doyle

