

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



**2nd Sunday of Advent, YEAR C  
5th December 2021**

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**Parish of the Most Blessed Trinity**

## SERVICES IN ALL SAINTS

<b>Monday</b>	7.30 p.m, Mass with Novena;	<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30 a.m, Eucharistic Service,
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30 a.m, Mass,	<b>Thursday</b>	9.30 a.m, Eucharistic Service,
<b>Friday</b>	9.30 a.m, Mass,	<b>Saturday</b>	4.30 p.m, Vigil Mass,
	<b>Sunday</b>		10.30 a.m Mass and 5.30 p.m, Mass,

### CONFESSIONS

**Confession boxes are still out of use. Confessions are available on request. Please go to the Sacristy before Mass.**

**Bishop Toal has given permission for a Penitential Service with General Absolution during Advent—date to be advised.**

**PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE BISHOPS OF SCOTLAND** on the re-instating of the obligation to attend Mass is available on our website and our Facebook and Twitter pages, some hard copies also available.

### FEAST DAYS:

Tuesday 7th: St. Ambrose  
Wednesday 8th: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**PARISH HALL:** As the hall is now up and running it is being used on a **Monday** for an ASN Disco;  
The recent initiative for this Disco has been a tremendous success and we thank all those involved in giving their time and efforts for such a worthy cause.  
**Tuesday** for Pilates, and  
**Wednesday** for the Guides.  
It is also **available to hire** for social functions

**The Advent season** is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

*Thank You!* Many thanks to all who organised and helped at the Children's Christmas Disco. A great time was had by all.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER TICKETS £1 on sale. "Be in it to win it".**

### ADVENT

The liturgical year begins with the first Sunday of Advent, and this year began on the 28th November, 2021. In this liturgical year, which is cycle C, the Church reflects on the Gospel of Luke. In this liturgical year, most Sunday readings are drawn from Luke's Gospel. St Luke's Gospel speaks to us of the gentle care of Christ, who reaches out to the sick, downtrodden and forgotten. It is a Gospel where prayer, healing and mercy are central. The parables of the Good Samaritan, Prodigal Son and Jesus on the cross forgiving his enemies and reaching out to the good thief to bring him into God's kingdom.

**Advent Wreath: The candles on the Advent Wreath** demonstrate the contrast between darkness and light, which is an important biblical image. Jesus referred to himself as the "Light of the World" that dispels the darkness of sin: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Human history spanned long ages shrouded in the darkness of sin before our prophesied Saviour would finally make his appearance to free us from its dominion. As the Messiah's "Advent" (or "coming") draws nearer another candle is lit, with each candle dispelling the darkness a little more. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us to spiritually contemplate the great drama of salvation history that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate, who comes to redeem the human race and make all things new (Rev. 21:5).

It also reminds us that, as Christians, we're meant to shine the light of Christ in this world. As Jesus tells us,

**"You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."**

(Matthew 5:14-16)

### ADVENT RETREAT

Why not prepare for Christmas by doing an online Advent Retreat at <https://pray-as-you-go.org>. There are 3 lines at the top of the page on the right Click on that, then on the Menu press Retreats and Series, after that click the box for Advent and Christmas and choose the Advent 2021 C Stepping Beyond Box.

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**Many thanks to all who worked so hard to organise the Christmas Fayre, all the stallholders and to all who came along and supported it. The fantastic sum of over £1000 was raised.**

