

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

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Parish of the Most Blessed Trinity

4th Sunday of Advent, 18th December 2022



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

For Masses during Christmas Period see Parish Christmas Card

THE O ANTIPHONS

December 17: *O Wisdom* (Sirach 24:3), You came forth from the mouth of the Most High (Sirach 24:3), and reaching from beginning to end You ordered all things mightily and sweetly (Wisdom 8:1). Come, and teach us the way of prudence (Isaiah 40:14).

December 18 *O Adonai* (Exod 3:14) and Ruler of the house of Israel (Matt 2:6; Micah 5:1; 2 Sam 5:2), You appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush (Exod 3:2) and on Mount Sinai gave him Your Law (Exod 20). Come, and with an outstretched arm redeem us (Jeremiah 32:21).

December 19 *O Root of Jesse*, (Isaiah 11:1) You stand for the ensign of mankind (Isaiah 11:10); before You kings shall keep silence and to You all nations shall have recourse (Isaiah 52:15). Come, save us, and do not delay (Habakkuk 2:3).

December 20 *O Key of David*, (Isaiah 22:22; Revelation 3:7) and Sceptre of the house of Israel (Numbers 24:17): You open and no man closes; you close and no man opens (Isaiah 22:22). Come, and deliver him from the chains of prison who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death (Ps 107:10).

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

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.

Advent Coffee Morning: we were delighted to welcome Sr. Frances' family, many parishioners, as well as Fr. Kevin Ryan SX, to our coffee morning provided by the Altar Servers. It was a lovely opportunity to get together before Christmas with a warm festive atmosphere and plenty of cakes to go round.

COST OF LIVING CAMPAIGN:

Information Leaflets are available for you to uplift, at the back of the church.

THE DIOCESAN CHOIR will perform "Unto us is born a Son" on Tuesday 20th December in The Cathedral, Motherwell at 7.30 p.m. Admission free.

St. MARGARET'S CHILDREN AND FAMILY CARE SOCIETY

will receive the donations made at the Crib.



PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS with details of our Christmas Services are available at the back of the church. Please take one. Details of our Christmas Services are also available on the Latest News Section of our website.

HAMPER/RAFFLE £1 for your chance to win.



Be in it to win it!

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.

ARRANGING MARRIAGES: A reminder that at least 6 month's notice is required when booking a marriage in order for the appropriate preparation and paperwork to be carried out.

SENIORS' CHRISTMAS DINNER

Many thanks to our organisers for a very entertaining and enjoyable evening in All Saints Hall for our Seniors, who enjoyed a festive Christmas Dinner, good cheer and the

excellent entertainment of our singer.

Thanks also to all who came along.

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.*



HOGMANAY DANCE,

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



Catholic Bishops conclude UK Supreme Court have failed to protect basic freedoms.

Responding to decision by the UK Supreme Court regarding "Buffer Zones" around abortion facilities, the Bishops' Conference of Scotland have urged members of the Scottish Parliament to support "the expression of longstanding rights and the principle of reciprocal toleration."

The statement from Scotland's Catholic Bishops, describes the court's decision as "very concerning" and suggests that it "fails to protect basic freedoms of expression and freedom of assembly."

The bishops go on to point out, that were the Scottish Parliament to pass such a law, it would have "a chilling effect on freedom of speech and assembly in a country which has long valued both."