



Parish Newsletter

St Fillan's, King St, Newport-on-Tay

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Queen St,

Tayport



Parish Priest: Very Rev. Monsignor Patrick McInally. Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Jude Makuro.

20 King Street, Newport DD6 8BN. Tel: 01334 209867 Parish Website: <http://www.stfillans.org/>

Emails: canonpatmcinally@gmail.com and stfillannewport@gmail.com

Mary, the Holy Mother of God 1st January 2023

Year: A (1) Psalm Week: 1 Liturgical colour: white

First reading: *Numbers 6:22-27. 'How to call down My Name...'*

Responsorial Psalm: *P66 (67) 2-3, 5, 6, 8 O God be gracious and bless us.*

Second reading: *Galatians 4:4 – 7 If God has made you a son...*

Gospel: *Luke 2: 16-21. The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem...*

Holy Mass Times

Our Lady Star of the Sea: Saturday Vigil 5pm
Monday 10am Friday 10am

St Fillan's: Sunday Mass 10.15am
Wednesday 10am Thursday 10am

Mgr Pat's Corner

If John in his gospel speaks of Mary simply as the 'Mother of Jesus', St. Paul in today's Second Reading says even less: 'When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman ...' Mary's name is not even mentioned.

It has been suggested by some Scripture Scholars that this is the spirit of the New Testament where God has no favourites: there is no privilege of class or individuals. People are distinguished by one thing only - by their service to the community in the name of Jesus. This applies as much to Mary as to any of the Apostles, and to any of us as disciples of Jesus Christ today.

However, today's feast is called 'Mary, Mother of God' and not just 'Mother of Jesus'. The Church recognises that at the Annunciation the angel Gabriel's message to Mary proclaimed that she would give birth to a child who would be called the 'Son of God'. So, by becoming the 'Mother of Jesus', the second person of the Blessed Trinity, Mary essentially became the 'Mother of God' too.

Jesus is both human and divine: two natures as they say, but only one Person.

Clearly we are not expected to be able to understand or explain this any further. The true nature of God is quite beyond us. All we need is the simple and trusting faith of the shepherds on Christmas morning.

Holy Mary, Mother of God pray for us.

Monsignor Pat McInally
canonpatmcinally@gmail.com

Special Prayers Please pray for the Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI who died in the early hours of Saturday morning. May he rest in peace. Let us recall those ill or injured in hospital or being cared for at home, as well as all those who care for them. Please pray for all those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall around this time, especially Roderic McIntosh. Let us remember in our prayers those who are unhappy, particularly those powerless to change the things that trouble them. Let us give thanks for those who make things possible, supporting the needy and helping keep channels of communication open and the strategists with power to make real change.

What do these anagrams have in common?

i. ESTHAC ii. MENTLEC iii. MICTALEMUA iv. IFAR v. WETESTES

Feasts and Solemnities

Sunday 1st	Mary the Holy Mother of God	Solemnity	<i>White</i>
Monday 2 nd	St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	Bishops. Doctors	

Celebrate Mary's motherhood. Let us adore her Son, Christ the Lord.

The 4th century St Basil was born a Christian in Cappadocia. A scholar he was drawn to the life of a hermit but was drawn out to become a Bishop. He wrote extensively about monastic rule, influencing the Eastern Church and he was generous to the poor.

St Gregory was a friend of Basil, whom he joined in the wilderness. Gregory was ordained and also called to serve as a Bishop, until he retired, because of factions undermining his position, returning to the place of his birth – Nazianzen. In recognition of his eloquence he is known as 'Gregory the Theologian'.

Vatican News: Farewell to Benedict XVI "Humble worker in vineyard of the Lord."

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED &/OR CONTRIBUTED GREETINGS
FOR THE CHRISTMAS BOX SHELTER APPEAL**

The grand total will appear next week, to allow any cracking cracker jokes, or last minute donations to be gathered in. And of course, you can donate directly via the charity's website. Doing this will allow you to authorise the charity to claim back tax if you can Gift Aid it. <https://scotland.shelter.org.uk/donate>

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE MADE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL IN OUR
CHURCHES**

Thanks to our Priests for leading us through this Special time. Thank you for all those who have gone about quietly seamlessly making things happen. Thanks to those who have led lay services, raised Song and Prayer as congregation together. Also those who have made things look so great, acquiring and arranging candles and flowers, laundering the altar cloths and vestments, preparing and printing newsletters and making all as it should be. And the team preparing beverages and keeping hymn books in order too.

Services stretch beyond the Feast so, if in the New Year, you feel like giving your talents and time, why not consider joining the parish support teams? There can be clean satisfaction in banishing cobwebs and buffing pews and many people are skilled ironers. Do chat with Joe Murphy or Sheila McRobbie in Tayport to see how you can help. And in Newport, Angela Morton's team at the 'Coffee Café' are happy to have assistance. If you'd like to read, sing or polish (or help with other matters) in Newport, then have a chat with Anne Meiland.

WOOL: Now you've finished knitting that scarf for the young one and the bobble hat for the middle one and the mittens for Granny, why not donate your old wool? And if you happen to have room in your trolley as you shop in Home Bargains, consider picking up a ball or few of wool if you see it on Special Offer. Double knitting makes warm blankets, delivered directly to those needing something made with love, by our parish members.

THE FOOD BANK: Thanks to all who have continued, even when things are tough for everyone, to remember the Food Bank. It is good to know items go directly where they are needed with no huge overheads. Your generosity is much appreciated.

ANSWER: Words used to honour Our Lady in song and prayer.
i. chaste ii. clement iii. immaculate iv. fair v. sweetest