



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 McNally

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Second Sunday of Advent 8th December 2024

Year: B (1) Psalm Week: 2 Liturgical colour: violet

Let us adore, the King who is to come.

First reading: *Baruch 5:1-9* "God will show your splendour "

Responsorial Psalm: *126(125) 1-2b, 2c-3, 4-5, 6* What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

Second reading: *Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11.* "Be pure and blameless, for the day of Christ!"

Gospel: *Luke 3: 1-6* "All flesh shall see the salvation of God."

HOLY MASS TIMES

Our Lady Star of the Sea: Saturday Vigil 5pm; Eucharistic service Monday & Friday 10am.

St Fillan's: Sunday Mass 10.15am; Eucharistic Service Wednesday & Thursday 10am.

Weekday Masses celebrated by Bishop Andrew will take place at 9.00am in St.Fillans.

Days and times are subject to change and will be advised on Saturday at the vigil Mass in Our Ladys, and on Sunday at

Morning Mass in St. Fillans for the coming week.

New Daily Mass at St Fillan's Whats App group. Contact Sam Morton 07729994862 to join.

"My Corner"

Setting the scene

Our preparations for Christmas start early. TV advertising aimed at children has been going on since before Hallowe'en. The organised among us may have already ventured out to begin buying gifts, rooted out the tree decorations, or made the Christmas cake. We are seasoned experts at preparing for Christmas. Or are we?

When John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, his task was 'to prepare a way for the Lord', 'to make his paths straight'. His was a two-pronged approach. While laying the groundwork for the arrival of Jesus, he also preached a message of repentance and forgiveness.

Amid the hustle and bustle of December and the run-up to Christmas, do we give ourselves a chance to prepare for the gift God is giving us this and every Christmas? What areas do we need to work on, and what obstacles do we need to remove from our life, so we are ready to welcome Jesus? It is not too late to make a straight path for the Lord to come into our lives.

Mgr Pat

Monsignor Pat McNally.

canonpatmcnally@gmail.com

Mgr Pat is ready to help should you have matters that need priestly support. Please contact him by the email address shown or the phone number at the top of the sheet.

Congratulations to Vera (Veronica) Finlay, a parishioner of Our Lady's who will be 100 years young on Tuesday 10th December. I visited Vera during the week, and she is in remarkably good health.

You are warmly invited to join with Vera and her family in the Celebration of Holy Mass at 1pm by Canon Kevin Golden for her at St Andrew's Cathedral on Tuesday 10th December Celia Welsh can offer a lift to 3 people.

Contact her by text or phone 07710625505

Special Prayers Please pray for all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries are around this time.

We pray for Janet Fox-Pitt as she prepares for her final journey. We pray for those whose lives are disrupted by ill health or troubles and for those who bring relief. May the new year bring fresh vision and courage to tackle causes and consequences.

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Feasts & Solemnities

Monday 9 th	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<i>white</i>
Tuesday 10 th	Our Lady of Loreto	<i>white</i>
Wednesday 11 th	Pope St Damasus	<i>white</i>
Thursday 12 th	Our Lady of Guadalupe	<i>white</i>
Friday 13 th	Saint Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	<i>red</i>
Saturday 14 th	St John of the Cross	<i>white</i>

The Immaculate Conception of the BVM The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived without *original sin*, that twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered “Yes” to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel, that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God. This doctrine was almost universally believed over the centuries but was only formally defined as a doctrine of the Pope Pius IX in 1854.

Our Lady of Loreto Since the Middle Ages veneration for the Holy House of Loreto has been the origin of that shrine which still today is visited by many faithful pilgrims to nourish their faith in the Word of God made flesh for us. In a particular way all those who travel via aircraft have found in her their heavenly patron. Pope Francis has decreed, by his own authority, that the optional memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto should be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on 10 December, the day on which the feast falls in Loreto, and celebrated every year. This celebration will help all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of that perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the Head of the Church also accepted us as her own.

Pope St Damasus I (304 - 384) A Spaniard, he was born about 305. Joining the Roman clergy, he was elected Pope in 366, in calamitous times. He held many synods against heretics and schismatics. He promoted the cult of the martyrs. He died in 384.

Our Lady of Guadalupe The shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, near Mexico City, is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in North America. On December 9, 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to an Indian convert, Juan Diego, and left with him a picture of herself impressed upon his cloak. Devotion to Mary under this title has continually increased, and today she is the Patroness of the Americas.

Saint Lucy, Virgin, Martyr She was martyred in Syracuse, probably during the persecution of Diocletian (which started in 303). Devotion to her spread rapidly across practically the whole Church and her name is included in the Roman Canon of the Mass

St John of the Cross (1542 - 1591) He was born in Fontiveros, in Spain, in about 1542. He spent some time as a Carmelite friar before, in 1568, Saint Teresa of Ávila persuaded him to pioneer the reform of the Carmelite order. This was a difficult task and a dangerous one: he suffered imprisonment and severe punishment at the hands of the Church authorities. He died at the monastery of Ubeda in Andalusia on 14 December 1591: the monks there had initially treated him as the worst of sinners, but by the time he died they had recognised his sanctity and his funeral was the occasion of a great outburst of enthusiasm.

Our special bumper Christmas newsletter is back! A special Christmas double edition will be prepared to allow you to share jolly greetings via the newsletter. Why send paper cards to people you'll see when you can save trees (and stamps) and make a difference to a national cause with local impact? Mary and Joseph arrived with no place to go at Christmas and Shelter is a charity that offers warmth and care to those with no roof over their heads, here and now, in Scotland.

Many of us have friends and family who live too far off to be greeted in person over the coming festive season. The newsletter appears in many forms, in print at our Masses, and also digitally, being posted on the WhatsApp group, Facebook and the webpage so it's a good way to reach people who can't always make Mass. Why not make a special greeting for them in the Christmas festive Greetings pages? There is no limit on the number of greetings you can add, as long as you make a donation each time. It will be possible to include small pictures if you fancy letting your artistic talents shine. All money will be sent to Shelter.

Place your written greeting and donation for **Shelter** in the special Christmas box and the editors will empty the box after Masses. Or, you can email your greeting directly to the editing team (via jkmcj@hotmail.com) and donate directly via the charity's website. Gift Aid it and they can claim back tax: <https://scotland.shelter.org.uk/donate>

Monday 9th December 7.00pm Auld Kirk Annual Carol Concert Admission £5 in aid of the Restoration Fund. Come and join in with our local singers and musicians in some festive favourites.

Thank you for continuing to support the Sunday Café, appeals for Wool (contact Anne Meiland 01382 543037) and the Food bank (Taybridgehead 07840 957039).

