

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

30 Canberra Drive, East Kilbride, G75 8DG

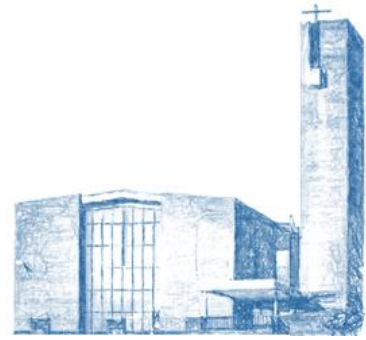
ourladyoflourdes@rcdom.org.uk

01355 224511

ourladyoflourdeschurch.org.uk

Parish Hall: 07800 981354

**Clergy:** Father Frank & Deacon Dougan Bill McMillan



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Mon	10:00	Devotions
Tue	10:00	Mass
Wed	10:00	Mass
	13:00	Funeral of Catherine McIntyre
Thu	10:00	Mass
	18:15 – 18:45	Confessions
	19:00	Mass
Fri	07:00	Mass
	10:00	Mass
Sat	09:00 – 09:45	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	09:15 – 09:45	Confessions
	10:00	Mass
	16:15 – 16:45	Confessions.

## CHRISTMAS DAY - YEAR A 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

	17:00	Children's Christmas Mass
	20:30	Carol Service and Christmas Mass
Sun	09:00	Mass on Christmas Day
	11:00	Mass on Christmas Day

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

ISAIAH 7:10-14

The maiden is with child.

PSALM 23(24):1-6

Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

ROMANS 1:1-7

Our apostolic mission is to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations.

MATTHEW 1:18-24

How Jesus Christ came to be born

### REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Only on the last Sunday of Advent do we ever have an infancy narrative story in the gospel; this year, Matthew's 'annunciation' - to Joseph, rather than to Mary. In his acceptance of Mary's child, Joseph sets in motion the final part of the history of the line of David. By adoption, Mary's child, whom she will call 'Jesus', will be descended from King David. There will be no further descendants after Jesus: he will be the eternal king!

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### THE SICK

David Doherty, Margaret Gannon, Jan McKnight, Mary (May) McCann, Nora Houston, Terry Cassidy, Holly McConville

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Patricia Lardiner, John Campbell, Margaret Kelly, Catherine McIntyre (funeral Wed 1pm), James Russell, Sandy Dodds, Jennifer Cawley, Kathleen Cassidy, Kitty Doherty, John Mullen

#### ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS, BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Cathie Russell, Peg Conroy, Tony Conroy, George McCormack, Kathleen McGinn, Alyson Foley, Kathleen McIntyre, Yvonne Waddle

### COLLECTIONS & DONATIONS - THANK YOU.

Last Sunday's Offerings	£1,494
Votive Candles	£147
Stall	£140

### WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

Weekly prayer groups have now stopped for the Christmas holiday and will resume when schools return.

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TOAL

As Christmas approaches, I send my best wishes to all the people of Motherwell Diocese and offer the support of my prayers to you and your families.

It has been a cold December and that must have caused added difficulties for those struggling with heating bills and the rise in the cost of living. In the struggles many face and the uncertainties about the future, it is right that we think of those with less and are generous in supporting local charities and initiatives that reach out to those in need. As we celebrate Christmas we recall Jesus' birth in difficult circumstances, and reflecting on this we ask him to help us to see him in others, particularly those with least and the most disadvantaged.

Many people have enjoyed the recent Football World Cup, and, despite the imperfections, it has been good for nations from around the globe to meet in sporting competition and offer entertainment and employment to so many. As human beings we are best when we come together and sport does help us appreciate one another's cultures and differences and the wonderful talents people from all countries have received and put on display. We are all richly blessed by God and each Christmas we celebrate with joy the good news of salvation, in which we acknowledge God's love for all in the person of Christ the Lord, born in Bethlehem to save us all.

Unfortunately many places do not enjoy at present the peace of Christ, and we pray especially for them at Christmas. We have been moved by the suffering of the Ukrainian people through 2022 and our thoughts and prayers are with them in these dark and cold days. May peace reign in all our hearts, and especially in those who lead our world and make decisions which can inflict so much pain and destruction on others. May the Angels' song of "Peace to all who enjoy God's favour" come true for those who cry out for renewed peace and hope as 2023 approaches.

I offer you a Blessed and Joyful Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

With my prayers and best wishes.

Yours in Christ,



+ Joseph Toal

## CHRISTMAS TREES

Once again, we invite our children (wee and big) to help decorate the Christmas trees on the sanctuary. They are welcome to bring their own decoration and place it on one of the trees. The trees will be up this weekend. There is no guarantee they will get the decoration back, so bear that in mind.

## FOODBANK

Words do not adequately describe your astonishing generosity towards our local Foodbanks as we approach Christmas - 41 bags and £3,961, of which £1,500 went towards the Loaves and Fishes ministry with the rest going to that of the Community Foodbank.

Both organisations are continually overwhelmed by the efforts and willingness of the parishioners of OLOL as they attempt to meet the demand of around 350 bags being issued each week that provide for close to 1,000 people. Many, many thanks to all of you for this. In 2022 nearly 300 bags and £25,000 (£18,600 to the Community Foodbank, £6,400 to Loaves and Fishes) have been handed over on your behalf. Quite breathtaking!

As in previous years, we will not have a collection in January, resuming on the first full weekend in February.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

There will be a service of reconciliation with general absolution in St Bride's on Thursday at 19:00.

Here in OLOL there will be individual confession available Tues – Fri from 17:00-18.30.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

### CHRISTMAS EVE

17:00 Children's Vigil Mass

20:30 Carol Service Christmas Mass

### CHRISTMAS EVE

09:00 Mass on Christmas Day

11:00 Mass on Christmas Day