# **OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH**

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Father Frank Dougan, Deacons Bill McMillan & Kevin Kirby, Sr Sophie McGinness

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR B 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Mon	10:00 18:00	Mass - The Baptism of the Lord Reception of Remains
Tue	10:00 18:00	Mass - Funeral of John McDonald Reception of Remains
Wed	10:00	Mass – Funeral of Ernie Robson
Thu	10:00 18:15 - 18:45 19:00	Eucharistic Service NO CONFESSIONS NO MASS
Fri	10:00	Mass
Sat	09:00 - 09:45 09:15 - 09:45 10:00 16:15 - 16:45	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions Mass - Saint Kentigern (Mungo), Bishop Confessions

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024

	17:00	Vigil Mass of Sunday
Sun	09:00	Sunday Mass
	11:00	Sunday Mass
	14:00	Autism Friendly Mass

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

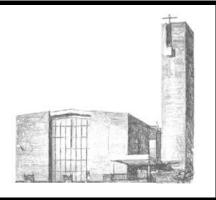
<u>1 SAM 3:3B-10, 19</u> Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.

<u>PS 39:2. 4. 7-10 R. 8.9</u> Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

<u>1 COR 6:13-15. 17-20</u> Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.

JOHN 1:35-42

They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.



# **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

The annual telling of the Epiphany story could have us to take it all for granted: magi from far-away places, guided only by a star, fabulously rich and so on. However, they were gentiles, outsiders, detested by all! Yet they sought out the New-born King when King Herod's religious advisors - who knew all the prophecies about the king being born in Bethlehem - make no move to go and see this wonderful deed of the Lord. Their gifts recognise that the Christ-Child is God (frankincense); that he is a king (gold); that he has come to die for us (myrrh).

# PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

<u>THE SICK</u> John Docherty.

# RECENTLY DECEASED

John MacDonald (funeral 9th January), Ernie Robson (funeral 10th January), Patricia Gough (funeral 18th January), John Russell, Richard Tamburrini, Margaret Toner, Margaret Gannon, John Quinn, John Fegan, Robert Boag.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS, BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Alice Docherty, Michael and Betty Horn, Johnny and Molly Lyons, James McCabe, Rose Traynor, Kathleen McIntyre, Joe Keenan, Cathie Blake, John Reynolds, Mary Robertson, Patrick Kilcullen, Pope Benedict XVI.

COLLECTIONS & DONATIONS - THANK YOU				
Cash	£1,386			
Envelopes	£333			
Standing Orders	£905			
Estimated Gift Aid	£265			
	£2,889			

The stall received £75 and votives £381.

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

This week there will be a retiring collection for the Justice and Peace Commission.

For more information about issues of social justice, and to keep up to date with current campaigns, follow Justice & Peace Scotland on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or check out the website, www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

#### FRIDAY DROP-IN LUNCH

This will resume on Friday 12 January at 10.30am and run until Friday 22 March. Tea/Coffee and Toast will be served then with soup becoming available from around 11.15am. All are welcome to access this resource and while away an hour or two during the winter months.

#### **REGULAR EVENTS**

Mon	18:30	Legion of Mary	Hall
Tue	09:00	Knitting and Craft Group	Hall
	09:25	Novena, Rosary & prayer for Priests	Church
	10:30	Mother's Prayer Group	Oratory
	19:30	Bingo	Hall
Wed	10:30	Café after morning Mass	Hall
	09:25	Novena, Rosary & prayer for Priests	Church
	10:30	Pro-life Prayer Group	Oratory
Thu	10:30	Mother and Toddler Group	Hall
	13:00	Friendship Group	Hall
Fri	09:25	Novena, Rosary & prayer for Priests	Church
	13:30	Prayer for priests & vocations	Church

### **COMINGS AND GOINGS**

Fr Frank's ordination date will be Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at St Peter's Ardrossan. His final Sunday Masses will be the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> January.

He will then go on holiday for a week and leave the parish sometime during the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> February.

The new Parish Priest will be in place by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February, just before the beginning of Lent. Please keep both in your prayers.

## THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The Christmas Season continues this week with the Epiphany. This comes from a word that means "manifestation". This is the day when the Lord is made manifest (is shown) to the whole world represented by the Magi, the outsiders.

Their gifts have an important symbolism:

- Gold a gift worthy of a king. The child born in the stable is recognised as the rightful king.
- Frankincense a gift for God. Incense continues to be used around sacred things (such as during benediction) and so this gift points to Christ's divinity.
- Myrrh a gift that reflects the cross. This is an ointment used to prepare bodies for burial. Right from the beginning of his life, we are directed towards his death. Christ came in order to die on the cross for our sake and rise again so that we might share in his resurrection.

