

Parish of St Thomas the Apostle

Parish Priest: Rev. Joseph Balmer BD
 Address: 70 Main Street, Neilston, G78 3NJ
 Tel: 0141 881 1478
 Email: stthomas@rcdop.org.uk
 Web: www.stthomasneilston.co.uk
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stthomasneilston



Sunday Masses: 16.00 (Vigil), 10.00
 Daily Masses: 10.00 except Wed 18.00
 Confessions: Wed 17.25 – 17.55
 Sat 10.30 – 11.00
 By appointment
 Adoration: Mon – Sat 09.00 except Wed 17.00
 Also Thu 10.30 – 11.30

Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe (B) Sunday 25th November 2018

<p><u>Important Contact Details</u> SSVP: 07598511261 Hall Enquiries: 07488397392</p>	<p><u>Last Week's Collection(s)</u> Offertory: £345.94 + £355.00 (Standing Order)</p>
<p>Second Collection: The second collection this weekend is for Catholic Education. This collection supports the Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) which implements our Church's policy for our Catholic schools in the issues of national significance and supports our Schools, Parishes and Dioceses. The office supports two employees. (The Bishops of Scotland have agreed to change the date for this collection from February 2019 to this weekend. Instead, our usual collection for SPRED will now take place in February 2019)</p> <p>New. St Mirin's Fund: The Diocese of Paisley has set up a St. Mirin's Fund to disburse the funds of the Episcopal Charities and the Bishop's Fund. The Fund will begin on the First Sunday of Advent and then the Fund team, chaired by Canon Peter McGarry, will be make around £10,000 worth of grants annually to projects in the diocese or led by parishioners of the diocese that help to build up the Kingdom of God or alleviate special need. Applications will be considered quarterly. If you want to make an application, we encourage you to go to our diocesan website and download the forms.</p> <p>Be a #RedWednesday Champion of Faith – 28th November 2018: Will you, your parish, school or groups join with Aid to the Church in Need, and our UK partner CSW, to Stand Up for Faith and Freedom this #RedWednesday? The world is largely silent, so it is up to us to defend religious freedom and shine a light on the suffering of persecuted Christians and others – especially in Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, China and Burma. Your prayers and action are vital. Be visible. Wear something red. Light your parish or local landmark red. For information; prayer resources; lighting instructions; to add your event/action to ACN's #RedWednesday Map and for a FREE fundraising pack to help displaced Christian families in Syria www.acnuk.org/redwednesday</p>	<p>Diocesan Choir: If you would like to join the Diocesan Choir as we prepare for the annual Carol Concert on December 27th, please come to join us in our first rehearsal in St Charles', Paisley today Sunday the 25th November at 2.30pm. All welcome</p> <p>Memento Mori Talks: Please note that the final talk on Catholic teaching on the afterlife will now take place on Wednesday 28th November beginning 7pm at the St. Mirin's Chaplaincy Centre, Paisley. All welcome!</p> <p>Medjugorje Evening: There will be an evening of prayer, adoration and talks about Our Lady and Medjugorje on Wednesday 28th November in St Mary's Parish Paisley. Speakers include: Deacon Eddie Macdonald, Joe Livingston and some priests. This will take place after mass in the church at 7:30pm. There will be Tea & Coffee in the sacristy after. Come and know more about Medugorje and Our Lady's apparition</p> <p>Hospital Chaplaincy Services: Thanks to our hospital chaplains and on-call local priest for continuing to provide outstanding pastoral care for us when we are in our local hospitals. Please remember to let our hospital chaplains know if you or a relative are going into hospital or have been in hospital for any length of time. Our chaplains do not get to see everyone and very much appreciate you letting them know directly. For the RAH you can contact Mgr. Tormey at staidan@rcdop.org.uk or tel: 01505 320 900 or for the IRH Mgr. Gallagher at stpatrick@rcdop.org.uk or tel: 01475 720223. There is always a priest on call 24/7 for emergency call outs, in which case families can ask the nursing staff on the ward to contact the on-call priest.</p>



Connect with us online! Visit www.stthomasneilston.co.uk and Like our Facebook Page!



Advent Day for Secondary School Pupils S3-S6: The Diocese of Paisley will be holding an Advent reflection day for Secondary school pupils s3-s6 on Sunday 2nd December 2018 at the St. Mirin's Chaplaincy Centre, 45 High Street, Paisley 2-6pm. To attend the event, participants must bring with them a consent form. This can be obtained from your parish, school or by contacting Fr. John Morrison e-mail: vocations@rcdop.org.uk

Advent Day for Primary School Children: The Diocese of Paisley will be holding an Advent reflection day for Primary school pupils in p 4,5, 6 +7 on Sunday 9th December 2018 at St. Joseph's, Clarkston 2-6pm. To attend the event, facilitated by the Salesian Sisters, the children must bring with them a consent form. This can be obtained from your parish, school or by contacting Fr. John Morrison e-mail: vocations@rcdop.org.uk

The Council of Christians and Jews, West of Scotland Branch: For the next branch meeting we would like to invite all of our members and friends to come along and enjoy a celebration of food and festivity as we mark the time of **Hanukkah and Advent**. There will be doughnuts and cakes, as well as a presentation about the significance of both events from a representative of each community. Wednesday 5th December 2018 at 2pm. Giffnock Synagogue, 222 Fenwick Road, Giffnock, G46 6UE.

All Night Vigil of Reparation: In Honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The opening Mass in Honour of the Sacred Heart is at 8pm in St Andrew's Cathedral, Clyde St, Glasgow. On Fri 7th of Dec The closing Mass at 6am in honour of the Immaculate Heart of Jesus on Sat the 8th Dec. All welcome. Tea and Coffee available all night. For information contact: email liam.coyle1@ntlworld.com or Telephone: 07806517383 or Facebook – Glasgow Vigils Events.

Parish Fundraiser Festive Concert

The Scottish Classical Singer Martin Aelred will sing a selection of songs from Mario Lanza, Enrico Caruso, Andrea Bocelli and also some Classic Christmas Carols. This will be in the Church Hall on Friday the 14th of December beginning at 7pm. No charge. Donation only.

Carols by Candlelight: The Senior & Junior Choirs of the Academy of Sacred Music will perform at Turnbull Hall, University of Glasgow, Catholic Chaplaincy on Tues 18th of December at 7pm. This will be followed by mulled wine and Christmas cake.

Season of Advent: The word "Advent," from the Latin adventus (Greek parousia), means "coming" or "arrival." The Advent Season is focused on the anticipating the arrival of Jesus as Messiah. The worship, scripture readings, and prayers not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his eventual second coming.

This is why the Bible readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus' second coming as judge of all. Also, passages about John the Baptist, the precursor who prepared the way for the Messiah, are read. All of these themes are present in Catholic worship during Advent, which The [Catechism](#) succinctly describes: When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming.

By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease" (524). Since Advent looks forward to Christ's birth and Incarnation, it is an appropriate way to begin the Church's New Liturgical Year. However, Advent is not part of the Christmas season itself, but a preparation for it.

The Advent Jesse tree reminds us of the people, prophesies and events leading up to Jesus birth and especially the Prophet Isaiah's prophecy "A shoot shall grow out of the stock of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of his roots" . Jesse is the Father of King David and King David was promised that his throne will last forever. This is only made possible through Jesus who is a direct descendent of King David through his foster father St Joseph, his legal father and guardian. The gifts will go to the SSVDP Special works conference " Our Lady of the Wayside reaching out to homeless and the poor.

Christmas Shopping Evening 30th Nov. If anyone would like to hire a stall contact Norren O'Donnell on 07425 156827. Raffle/Tombola Prizes can be placed in box in the porch. Evening begins at 7pm.

We pray for all those who are **sick**. We pray for those who have **died recently**: Martin Cuddihy, Breeda O'Rourke, Roisin Pentland, and for the **anniversaries** of those who died around this time: Gerry O'Sullivan.

*Legacies: When making your Will, have you thought of leaving a legacy to the parish or diocese?
Gift Aid: If you pay tax, ask for a Gift-aid form; with your one-off signature, we get an extra 25%!*