

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

ADVENT

In this second part of Advent the Church focusses our attention on preparing to celebrate Christ's first Coming at Christmas, when he is seen as the fulfilment of the hope of Israel and of all the world.

CHRISTMAS

Next to the Easter Mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memory of Christ's birth and early manifestations.

DECEMBER:

The Immaculate Conception.

THURSDAY

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION.

THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

Friday: St. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr.

Saturday: St. John The Evangelist,
Apostle.

NEXT SUNDAY:

THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

December 2025

For Christians in areas of conflict

That Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

PARISH PRAYERS

We pray for all who are ill or housebound, especially:

Joan Birt, Jim Docherty,
Annabelle Melville, Tommy Gallacher,
Margaret McGarry, Chris Jones,
Sandi Bray, George Bennett,
Michael Fitzharris, Gina Robb,
Isobel Diorio, Anne Faller,
Nan Scullion, Lexi Kerr (baby),
Linda Scott, Maureen Hanvey,
Emma Sinclair, Maureen Houston,
Anne Kane, Jessica Glover,
Caroline McNeil, Joanne King.

We pray for all who have died recently, R.I.P., especially:

Kimberley Sweeney,
Kathleen Di Murro,
Agnes Kelly,
Geraldine Brannigan,
Ellen McGuire.

We remember those whose anniversaries are at this time, R.I.P., especially:

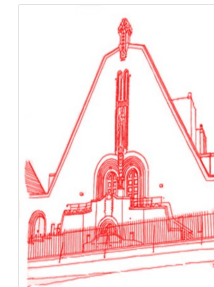
Theresa Gallagher, James Coyle,
Angus, Jean & Graham Lyons,
Jean O'Rourke, Cathy Clark
& Donald McColl, Samuel Loughrey.



ST. PATRICK'S BULLETIN

St. Patrick's Presbytery,
5 Orangefield Place,
Greenock, PA15 1YX.

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard Gallagher



21st. December 2025

4th. SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For the times of Mass & the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation, please see,

"The Liturgical Celebration of Christmas 2025".

Sunday Readings: 4th. Sunday of Advent, Year A.

Weekday Readings: 4th. Week of Advent, by date;

from Thursday, OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesday-Friday: 9.30-9.50am

Divine Office: 4th. Week of Advent by date. **Psalms:** Week 4

from Thursday, OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS.

TODAY'S LITURGY

1st. Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24 (23)

R./ Let the LORD enter;
he is the king of glory.

2nd. Reading: Romans 1.1-7


Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 1.18-24


*Jesus was born of Mary,
who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.*



Only on the last Sunday of Advent do we ever have an infancy narrative story from the Gospel; this year, Matthew's 'annunciation' story is 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 calls 'Jesus', will be descended from King David. There will be no further descendants after Jesus: he will be the eternal king!



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
In the Parish Hall to help:
Sunday 12.00pm—12.30pm.
Parish helpline, please call:
07746009763



Telephone: 01475 720223

E-mail: stpatrick@rcdop.org.uk

Website: www.stpatricksgreenock.info

X(Twitter): @stpatricksrcdop

Please take home with you today
the supplementary Bulletin:
*The Liturgical Celebration
of Christmas 2025.*

The text of the **Creed** and of the **Solemn Blessing** are on the back of the sheet with the Readings.

MASS THIS WEEK

See The Liturgical Celebration of Christmas 2025.

PARISH HALL EVENTS

TEA & COFFEE in the Parish Hall today after 11.00am Mass.

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE & RECONCILIATION

Deanery Days of Reconciliation

Monday 22nd. December

St. Mary's Church, Greenock,

9.00am-6.30pm

(break for Mass at 10.00am).

Tuesday 23rd. December

St. Francis' Church, Port Glasgow,

9.00am-6.00pm

(break for Mass at 9.30am).

Here at St. Patrick's,

Tuesday evening,

6.30-7.30pm.

During Confessions we will have **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, so this might also be an opportunity for quiet prayer as well as for Confession.

FINANCE

THANK YOU for last week's **Offertory Collection** which came to **£1,361.38.**

THIS WEEKEND: ANNUAL MISSION

APPEAL on behalf of the **Comboni Sisters** (who are based in Holy Family). We are having a **door collection** for the sisters at both Masses today.

R.C.I.A. — THE RITES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

This is the process by which adults are brought into membership of the church. It concludes with the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil.

If you are thinking of becoming a member of the Church, please let Fr. Gerry know before Christmas, so that we can begin the process immediately in the new year.

The key dates for the celebration of RCIA are:

The **Rite of Enrolment** with Bishop John in the Cathedral in Paisley on the **1st. Sunday of Lent, 22nd. February 2026.**

The **Easter Vigil**, on **Saturday 4th. April 2026** when we celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

PARISH STALL A variety of Christmas cards and gifts, along with 2026 Calendars & Advent Calendars, are now available from the Parish Stall in the Hall after 11.00am Mass.

WARM HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP from **Sunday 4th. January 2026** in the Hall after **11.00am Mass**. We will be providing soup, sandwiches, cakes, hot and cold drinks.

We would welcome **new volunteers** to help with this, if you are able to spare a couple of hours once a month, please contact Father Gerry. Once again, we thank **Inverclyde Council** which generously provides the funding for this initiative.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH Holy Family Church in Port Glasgow will close its doors for the last time next Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family. At **4.30pm next Sunday, in Holy Family Church**, there will be a **Mass of Thanksgiving** for all the blessings and graces received in Holy Family over the years. Everyone is welcome to join in this Mass, and a particular invitation is extended to anyone who has had a personal or family connection with Holy Family Parish.

CAROLS IN THE CATHEDRAL in **St. Mirin's Cathedral, Paisley** at **2.00pm**. Bishop John invites us to come together as a diocesan community to praise in song the birth of Our Saviour.

YOUNG PEOPLE Pilgrimage to Paris with Diocese of Paisley Youth in **Autumn 2026**. Opportunities for prayer, time for retreat, catechesis, sightseeing and much more.

Register your interest today at:

www.tinyurl.com/dpy-paris

For further information please contact:

kerry.miller@rcdop.org.uk

DIOCESE OF PAISLEY: MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES 2026 Engaged couples are invited to register for one of the Marriage Preparation courses on offer in 2026. The course consists of two evening in-person sessions, and one Saturday morning workshop, which will be held in St. Mirin's Cathedral Hall, Paisley. For any additional details or queries please contact Rebecca Harrison at marriageandfamily@rcdop.org.uk

The cost for the course per couple is £70. Once couples have registered they will be contacted directly regarding attendance and a certificate will be issued upon completion. This course fulfils church requirements regarding preparation before marriage and is a wonderful opportunity to meet other couples and share in fellowship. You can follow the link to access further information <https://www.rcdop>

IRH CHAPLAINCY We have a catholic chaplaincy team who are happy to visit patients in the hospital for non-emergency visits. Please let Fr. Gerry know that you or your relative would like a visit from a catholic chaplain.
