



St Michael's Catholic Church Linlithgow NEWSLETTER

3rd Sunday of Advent

CYCLE B

17th December 2023

Week 51

Canon Paul Kelly
St Michael's Catholic Church,
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Public Mass this Sunday is at 9.15 and 11:00 am

LIVESTREAM: 11:00 am Mass on the second Sunday of each month

Please follow the link on our Parish website: www.stmichaels-rc.org.uk

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Readings this Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-2, 10-11 The poor come first in the kingdom of God.

The response to the canticle: My soul rejoices in my God.

1 Paul Thessalonians 5: 16-24 We give thanks to God for all things because God is always there in whatever happens in our lives.

John 1:6-8, 19-28 John the Baptist is a sign pointing to the light.

PUBLIC MASSES IN THE COMING WEEK

Monday	10am	Sick Person
Wednesday	10am	Shonach Keery
Thursday	10am	Archie Birt
Friday	10am	Packi McGonigle
Saturday	10am	Thanksgiving
Sunday	10am	People of the Parish
Sunday	5pm	Gerry Henry
	7pm	Pierotti/Tomolillo family deceased

Please note that Mass on Sunday is always for the people of the parish. Private intentions are remembered at weekday Masses.

CRIB COLLECTION BOX (ARCHDIOCESAN CARE FUND) The proceeds this year will be sent to Friends of the Holy Land, a nonpolitical Christian charity, which gives help to our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

MASS AT CHRISTMAS

24 Dec. 4th Sunday in Advent: Mass at 10am
24 Dec. Vigil Mass of Christmas: 5pm
24 Dec. Mass during the night: 7pm (beginning with carols)
25 Dec. Mass during the day: 10am

ANNIVERSARIES IN THE COMING WEEK: John Green, Agnes McWade, Annie Reynolds, Freddy Comerford, Maureen Paul, Annie Harkins, Sarah Cairns

'BUFFER ZONE' BILL

A new bill proposes criminalising prayer and offers of help to women in designated 'buffer zones' around abortion centres in Scotland, including inside private homes within a 200m zone. Please respond to the government consultation which ends on 20 December at bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey. Please also write to your MSP to express your concerns. Visit <https://rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones> for more information on what you can do to stop this disproportionate and intolerant law being introduced, including help with responding to the consultation and writing to your MSP.

FIRST COMMUNION 2024 Meeting for parents of children preparing for First Communion in the hall, Wednesday 10 Jan., 6pm.

CONFIRMATION 2024 Parents of children expecting to be confirmed in 2024 should contact Canon Paul as soon as possible. There will be a meeting for parents in the hall on Wednesday 10 January at 6.30pm

CHURCH CLEANING Tuesday 19 December 9.30am Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. C. Wilson, Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Gormley.

STALL – Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diaries and The Catholic Directory priced £3.00

WEDNESDAY TEAS/COFFEES will be back on 10th January. Thank you to everyone that has supported this.

HAMPER RAFFLE The draw will take place today after the 9.15am Mass. Total raised for SCIAF £210.00 Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket.

NOVEMBER ACCOUNTS Offertory collection was £4897 with expenditure £4485. Exceptional expense was the church roof £1736.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES 2023;

Thanks are due to Tricia and Caroline who made a lovely display on the Tree representing both the Ladies' Club and the Parish at this event on the first weekend of December.

Pictures are available on the parish Facebook page.

WINTER APPEAL

The Wayside Club works to meet the needs of the homeless, those suffering from hardship, addiction to alcohol or gambling and others who are socially excluded. The club is appealing for; warm winter jackets, walking shoes/ trainers, hoodies, joggers, hats, scarves, gloves, socks. The club is operated by the Legion of Mary, a lay Catholic organisation and helpers from other religions and none. Please help. Contact Stevie Gallacher, Stephengallac@gmail.com or Angela Hughes, angela.hughes@blueyonder.co.uk for collection or leave the clothes in the box marked "Wayside Club" at the back of the church.

ADVENT ROSARY

The Advent Pro-Life Rosary concludes on Monday (18 December) at 7:45pm and includes a reflection from Mgr Allan Chambers (St Mary's, Bathgate). Join people from across the Archdiocese to pray for the unborn, mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/archprolifeevents

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE AND GAZA O Loving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, came into the world to do your Will and leave us His Peace. Through the intercession and example of our Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Peace, grant us the wisdom and humility to reflect that peace to the world. Inspire our thoughts, words, and deeds to bear witness to your presence in our hearts. May your Holy Spirit fill us with every grace and blessing so that we may pursue what leads to peace for all humanity.

NEWSLETTER – items for newsletter email, before Thursday, DeaconDouglas.Robertson@staned.org.uk

St. Michael's is a parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. Andrew & Edinburgh

A Charity registered in Scotland Number SCO08540

Parish website www.stmichaels-rc.org.uk Archdiocese website www.archdioceses-edinburgh.com

Notices from the Archdiocese

For Archdiocese events see the “News and Events” page on the website or use this QR code :



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING Fertility Care Scotland at info@fertilitycare.or

STANTON HEALTHCARE PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICE provides practical alternatives to abortion and is supported by the archdiocese. The office is at 21 Horne Street, Edinburgh EH3 9JR. (Telephone 07526480578) Further details on the notice board in the porch.

CATHOLIC FAMILIES FOR LIFE

The first issue of the newsletter from the Bishops’ Commission for Marriage, Family & Life can be downloaded at www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Day and Vigil Mass times for our parish and all churches in the Archdiocese can be viewed at www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents at midday on Thursday 28 December at St Margaret’s Chapel, The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. Complimentary refreshments and social afterwards. Register at bit.ly/archprolifeevents

DIPLOMA IN CATECHETICS 2024

Explore the richness and depth of our Catholic faith with the Diploma in Catechetics from the Archdiocese, led by Sr Miriam Ruth Ryan RSM. Tune in each Thursday at 7:30pm for an expert-led Zoom Webinar. Includes guided readings, one-to-one support and a retreat. The course begins on Thursday 25 January 2024. Visit bit.ly/archdiploma2024. Questions? srmiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk.

ADVENT TALK SERIES

Canon Hugh White continues his Advent talk series ‘Time with God’ each Monday on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel. Visit bit.ly/ArchYouTube

EXPLORE GOD’S WILL

Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the first one takes place on Sunday 28 January, 4-7pm at St Columba’s, 9 Upper Gray Street. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. The series continues each month at the same time/venue: 25 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 12 May and 22 June. To register or find out more, please email religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

ST PAUL’S BOOKSHOP

For Christmas gift ideas, cards, bibles, rosary beads, holy images calendars and lots more, visit St Paul’s Bookshop at St Mary’s Cathedral in Edinburgh (beside John Lewis). It is open seven days a week from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

SAVE THE DATE 1

The Archdiocesan Music Day is on Saturday 27 January 2024 at The Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. It is for those who contribute to the liturgy in their parish through music and/or singing, as well as for anyone interested in finding out more about sacred music. Please save the date - details to be confirmed soon.

SAVE THE DATE II

The Archdiocesan Valentine’s Retreat for Married and engaged couples will take place at St Kentigern’s Church, Parkgrove Avenue, Barnton, Edinburgh, on Saturday 10 February 2024. Details to follow soon.

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