



St Michael's Catholic Church Linlithgow NEWSLETTER

The Holy Family

CYCLE B

31st December 2023

Week 53

Canon Paul Kelly
St Michael's Catholic Church,
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Tel: 01506 842145 Email: frpaul.kelly@staned.org.uk
SVDP 07596225937 / ssvplgow@gmail.com

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

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 *For Abraham and Sarah, the reward of faith is a child. Faith is life-giving.*

The response to the psalm: *He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.*

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 *Abraham is our father of faith – he is the spiritual ancestor of all who live by faith.*

Gospel Acclamation *Alleluia, Alleluia At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to us through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken through his Son. Alleluia.*

Luke 2:22-40 *Mary and Joseph found that their son was a mystery to them. They too had to live by faith/*

PUBLIC MASSES IN THE COMING WEEK

Thursday	10am	Michael John McLaughlin
Friday	10am	Kathryn Markie
Saturday	10am	Kathleen Cottan
Sunday	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sunday	11am	Sick of the Parish

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

Many thanks for all your kind gifts and cards over Christmas. I am very fortunate to be here! – Canon Paul

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ann Cole, who died on 26 December aged 91 years and whose funeral will be here on 11 January at 10am.

ANNIVERSARIES IN THE COMING WEEK: Charles Bissett, Laura Ann Matteo, Stephen Hodge, Theresa Lavery, Sarah Easton, Eddie Walsh, Frances Ann Tormody.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION was £1,738.11.

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.

MARY'S MEALS COFFEE MORNING 27 JANUARY: A box for donations of raffle/tombola prizes will be at the back of the church. If you are able to help on the day or to supply home baking, please contact Angela on 07745509562.

FIRST COMMUNION 2024 Meeting for parents of children preparing for First Communion in the hall, Wednesday 10 January at 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

50/50 WINNERS.

The winners of the December draw were: £150 - Anne Lynch, £50 - Angela Campbell, £50 – Canon Paul Kelly, £20 - Cathy Donnelly, £20 - Hetty Redwood, £15 - Patricia Russell and £10 - Gerard McAulay. This year £1,215 was raised for charity. Thank you for your continued support. Subscriptions of £30 per annum will be collected during January 2024.

CHURCH CLEANING Wednesday 10th January after Mass Mrs. Keenan, Mrs. Antony, Mrs. Hogg, Ms. McCarthy, Mrs. O'Dwyer.

STALL is closed will re-open on 7 January 2024.

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

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.

On Saturday 16th December the SSVP hosted a Christmas Concert to support this year's Christmas Tree Appeal.

The entertainment was provided by Take 2 (Elaine Cauldfield and her good friend Izzy) who were accompanied by some of their friends and had the audience merrily singing along to many favourite festive tunes. We were also treated to a wonderful performance by the St. Joseph's Primary School choir with over 20 young children singing and acting out a lovely selection of carols. Elaine and Izzy kindly donated their proceeds from performing at the local Garden Centre during December and that money, when added to very generous donations on the day, raised an incredible total of £617.50. The money has been used to purchase Christmas Gifts to help families in need and we are indebted to our local high street toy shop "Bright Star Toys" and the owner Ian for his time and expertise in selecting the gifts. The SSVP are extremely grateful for the talents and efforts of both Take 2 and the St. Joseph's Primary choir, for ensuring the afternoon was a huge success. We also must thank everyone who came along to the event, for their continued support and generosity and moreover their enthusiasm when joining in with the festive sing-along!

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

GARDEN PROJECT - THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

Having obtained charitable donations from local companies and parishioners we built our raised beds on the old tennis court in March. Since then, we have harvested 175 kilos of organically grown vegetables and donated these to West Lothian Foodbank. We have also built 3 compost pens from old pallets, donated by Grow Wild Organics. During the course of this project, we have forged links with various organisations, eg West Lothian Foodbank, West Lothian Growers, Linlithgow Allotments [LADAS], and Grow Wild Organics. As a result of these associations, we became responsible for collecting excess and donated produce from them and delivering this to the Foodbank too. This amounted to > 100 kgs. The garden project team from St Joseph's primary school visited in early Autumn and helped with harvesting. We will assist St Joseph's with their fruit harvest next year. We hope to expand further next year and we have an expanded team. Some members of the wider local community have said they will add beds and assist as well.....It will be exciting. Don't hesitate to ask an SSVP member if you want to help.

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.

JOB VACANCY

The Archdiocese is looking to recruit an Estates Surveyor (full-time). The role holder should have significant property related experience and ideally be RICS qualified. For details and how to apply visit archedinburgh.org/vacancy-estates-surveyor. Closing date for applications is Monday 13 January.

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.

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

SAVE THE DATE I

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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