

First reading
5:1-9

Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade

for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 125:1-6

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R**

Second reading
6,8-11

Philippians 1:4-

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation
3:4,6

Lk

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel
3:1-6

Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Sunday 11.15am Mass		
Entrance Hymn	541	On Jordan's bank
Offertory	218	Come O long expected Jesus
Communion	142	As the deer pants for the water
Marian Antiphon	128	Alma Redemptoris Mater
Recessional	316	Hark, a herald voice is calling



St Mary's Cathedral

20 Huntly Street, Aberdeen AB10 1SH www.stmaryscathedralaberdeen.org



Good News Weekly

During Advent, ask Jesus to teach us to pray

At the Wednesday General audience, Pope Francis began a new cycle of catechesis, which will focus on the Lord's prayer.

After concluding his reflections on the Ten Commandments at last week's General Audience, Pope Francis on Wednesday launched a new series of catechesis, which will focus on the "Our Father".

"The Gospels have given us a very vivid portrait of Jesus as a *man of prayer*," the Pope said in the introductory catechetical instruction.

"Despite the importance of His mission, and the demands placed on Him by the people, Jesus often felt the need "to withdraw into solitude and pray." This was evident from the very beginning of His mission, after the initial success of his ministry in Galilee.

"In some places in the Scriptures," Pope Francis continued, "it seems that it is Jesus' prayer above all, His intimacy with the Father, that governs everything." This is particularly evident during the agony in the garden, before the Crucifixion.

The Holy Father said that, although Jesus prayed like other people do, there was also a profound mystery about His prayer to His Father. That is why His disciples asked Him, "Lord, teach us to pray." Jesus does not want to keep His intimacy with His Father to Himself, but "came precisely in order to introduce us into this relationship with the Father."



We too must make our own the prayer of the disciples: "Lord, teach us to pray." "Even if we have been praying for many years," Pope Francis said, "we always have something to learn." Recalling the parable of the publican and the Pharisee, the Holy Father said the first step in prayer is to humble ourselves before God.

Pope Francis concluded his first reflection on the prayer of Jesus with the advice to repeat often, during Advent, the prayer of the disciples: "Master, teach us to pray." If we do this, he said, then God will certainly not let our prayer go unanswered.

Taken from Vatican News, article by Christopher Wells



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Liturgical Ministries	
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Notices	
Adoration:	Monday - Saturday 6.00am - 12 midnight
Confessions:	Tuesdays 5.30- 6.00pm & 6.30-7pm Saturdays 10.30am & 6.00pm
Rosary:	Saturdays 10.30am (for Priests)
Housebound?	John MacKinnon (See above) for visits
Coeliacs:	Speak to clergy before Mass
Sunday Coffees:	Ann Ryans 07545 615 198 awilliamryans1234@gmail.com
Natural Family Planning (NFP)	Margaret Hammond nfp@cathedral-abdn.org


Mass Times				
Date	Details	Service	Time	Mass Intentions
Sun 9th	2nd Sunday of Advent	Mass	8.00am	Parish Intentions
		Solemn Mass	11.15am	For the Dicoese
		Polish Mass	3.00pm	
Mon 10th		Mass	6.00pm	Georgette NTSAME RIP
		Mass	7.00am	Callanan Family
		Mass	12.30pm	Jean & Louise RIP
Tue 11th		Mass	7.00am	Special Intention James Ekekwe
		Mass	6.00pm	Mrs Celine Ferns(Remembrance)
Wed 12th		Mass	7.00am	Mrs Lilian Iheanetu & family
		Mass	12.30pm	Mrs Stella Onuoha & family
Thu 13th		Mass	7.00am	Patricia McAteer
		Mass	6.00pm	Mr & Mrs I.G. Mouneke & family
Fri 14th		Mass	7.00am	Mrs Celine Ferns(Remembrance)
		Mass	12.30pm	Mr & Mrs Chinaka Okoroafor & family
Sat 15th		Mass	10.00am	Rev. Fr.James Donnelly RIP
		Vigil Mass	7.00pm	Mr & Mrs Chinaka Okoroafor & family
Sun 16th	3rd Sunday of Advent	Mass	8.00am	Rev. Fr James Donnelly RIP
		Solemn Mass	11.15am	Parish Intentions
		Polish Mass	3.00pm	
		Mass	6.00pm	George Purkin RIP

OFFERTORY REPORTING
The offertory will now be reported on a quarterly basis. This will allow us to give a more accurate figure which will include the weekly and the Standing Order donations.

Mass Intention Envelopes
Available at the back of the Church. Print details and post through Clergy House letter box. Sunday 11:15 Mass is normally reserved for the Administrator’s or Bishop’s Intentions for the Parish or Diocese. It may not always be possible for Mass to be celebrated on your preferred date or at the Cathedral itself.

Cathedral	
EARLY MORNING MASSES Please note that the 7am weekday Masses are celebrated in the Adoration Chapel.	SVdP INCOME Box Collections.....£135.20 Expenditure Shoes and underclothes.....£097.60 Food.....£181.90 Total.....£279.50 Our grateful thanks to all our benefactors without whose help we would not be able to continue our work. Eve Murray
PLEASE TAKE CARE It has been brought to our attention that insufficient care is being taken when people are being dropped off or picked up from the Cathedral in Huntly Street. Drivers should take care when doing this and warn other drivers behind them that they are going to stop. Also, please do not allow your children to run on to the road in order to get to your car.	GIFT AID ENQUIRIES For all enquiries concerning Gift Aid, please get in touch with Peter Simpson at: giftaid@cathedral-abdn.org
EMAILS SENT IN Fr. KEITH’s NAME It appears that someone is pretending to be Fr. Keith and sending emails in Fr. Keith’s name. Please note that Fr. Keith would only contact people by using his Parish email.	CHANGE TO MASS TIMES Please note the evening Mass time on Tuesdays and Thursdays has been changed to 6.00pm. This is a trial to see whether the early time will allow more people to attend the evening Mass. Note: Confessions on Tuesdays changed to 5.30-6.00pm & 6.30-7pm
PARKING SPACES The Cathedral currently has two parking bays available for rent, (Office hours only, from 8am to 6pm). All enquiries to Cathedral office.	


Cathedral



Alpha Celebration Supper

'Come and See....' a taste of Alpha! Enjoy a meal, hear a talk (Christianity: boring, untrue or irrelevant?) by Deacon Doug Duncan, and share the experience of Alpha @ the Cathedral!

Wednesday 12th December, Church Main Hall, 7:00pm



CATHEDRAL FINANCES Following on from the previous publication of figures relating to the last financial year (2017/18) we can now provide an update for the current financial year (2018/19). The first six months of the year 2018/19 showed that expenditure exceeded income by about £18,000. The forecast for the remainder of the year shows income continuing to fall, despite a projected increase in Gift Aided donations, and suggests a full year deficit of around £50,000. Funds have been taken from the Cathedral endowment account in an effort to offset a large part of this.”	SERVICE OF READINGS AND CAROLS Monday 10th December at 6.30pm St. Mary’s Cathedral, Huntly Street, Aberdeen, with The Aberdeen Diocesan Choir, African Choir & Gospel Choir & Children from St Joseph’s, Holy Family and St Peter’s Primary Schools. For your information, the Service will be broadcast by Premier Christian Radio.
 CATHEDRAL SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2018 The Seniors of the Cathedral (over 60’s) are warmly invited to a Christmas lunch on Sunday 16th December after 11.15am Mass. Bishop Hugh will be in attendance. If you would like to join us please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.	RECONCILIATION SERVICE Wednesday 19th December at 7.00pm. Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB will lead a short ‘Service of Reconciliation’ after which priests from the Deanery will be available to hear confessions.
SENIOR CLUB Christmas Lunch On The 12th December @12 For 12 30 At Howies. Please Note This Is For Members Only.	FUNERAL OF HAZEL NAUGHTON It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Hazel Naughton whose funeral will take place on Tuesday 11th December at 11.00am at the Cathedral.
JEAN PIERRE & ALICE VAN FRANK With sadness we bid farewell to JP and Alice who depart for their new home in France on Friday. JP has been helping out in the office with the bulletin over the last year or so with Alice in close support. May the Lord bless them in their new home!	PERPETUAL ADORATION AT THE CATHEDRAL <i>Monday to Saturday 6 am to 12 Midnight 18 hrs a day, 108 hrs a week</i> 
CHILDREN’S CHOIR Rehearsals will be held in the Lower Hall, 6.00pm to 8.00pm each Thursday during school term time. Contact: email: johnhorton@rcda.scot Tel: 01224 939127	<i>In response to our recent Adoration Mission 65 parishioners have committed themselves to spending an hour with Jesus each week! We now have 110 adorers giving of themselves each week!!</i> If you would like to sign up for an hour each week please contact: adoration@cathedral-abdn.org or book online: stmarysadoration.youcanbook.me
THANK YOU PIXIE After 6 years Pixie Mathers is retiring from organising the flowers for the Cathedral. We thank her for her generosity and dedication in making the church beautiful for our feasts and festivals. May the Lord continue to bless her! Taking over from her is Yi-pei Chou Turvey, who attends our 6pm Mass. Anyone interested in flower arranging in the church should contact Yi-pei .	 SCIAF REAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS make excellent presents at Christmas while helping families in poor countries free themselves from hunger, poverty and injustice. The new catalogue has gifts to suit every budget. For details, visit www.sciaf.org.uk/realgifts or call 0141 354 5555.

Weekly Calendar	
M o n	Mother & Toddler Group For parents with young children. All ages welcome. Main Hall from 13.30-15.30pm Contact: Yi-pei Chou 0745 5479 479 Gospel Choir Lower Hall at 7pm Contact: music@cathedral-abdn.org Credo Community Meeting Polish charismatic prayer group. Main Hall at 7.30pm . Contact: Damian Gloc 07939418178
T u e	Magnificat Prayer Group 7.30pm in the Lower Hall after Mass. Contact: Stella Maria Onuoha 0744 9951 415 nesin@yahoo.com St. Vincent de Paul Feeding the homeless Contact: Evelyn Murray murray.evelyn@sky.com
W e d	Light Exercise Class for all Main Hall at 10:00am Contact: Laura Walker 0777 3 021 851 laura@laurawalkerlimited.co.uk Seniors Club Speakers, fun & fellowship Main Hall at 2.00 pm every 2 weeks Contact: Jean 01569 765 799 Healing of Memories Prayer for the healing of painful memories of the past to bring peace to the present. Contact Deacon: tony.schmitz@gmail.com Legion of Mary Lower Hall from 6pm to 7.30pm Contact: Nogie Osula nogisula@yahoo.com African Choir For Africans and anyone else. Upper Hall from 6.00- 8.00pm Contact: Patricia Malikebu 07891 714 549
T h u	Cenacolo Prayer Group Exposition & Rosary praying for healing of those with addictions Church after Mass Contact: Liam Sharkey 07774 931 996, liamsharkey@gmail.com Band Practice Contemporary music for Sunday 6pm Mass Upper Hall after Mass Contact: john.costaschuk@gmail.com Cathedral Choir Rehearsal Clergy House at 7.00pm Contact Shelagh Noden music@cathedral-abdn.org
F r i	Altar Servers’ Practice Church from 6.00 to 7.00pm Contact: Simon begbie_no1@hotmail.com Youth Groups Edge (P7-S2) & Lifeteen (S3-S6) Hall 7.00pm to 9.00pm Contact: St. Andrew’s Community
S a t	Voluntary Church Cleaning Church after morning rosary. K4J (Kids for Jesus) For kids aged 4 to 10 years old. Lower Hall from 12.30pm to 2.00pm African Choir (As above) Upper Hall from 6.00 - 8.00pm
S u n	Choir Rehearsal Leading the music for 11:15 Sunday Mass Upper Hall 10.00am