Entrance Antiphon

Ph 4: 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; Again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Israel, shout aloud!

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,

First reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst: you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. R

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. R

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds; make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R

Second reading

Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Is61:1(Lk4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Luke 3:10-18 Gospel

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Is 35:4

Say to the faint heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, And he will save us.

Prayer after Communion

We implore your mercy, Lord, That this divine sustenance May cleanse us of out faults And prepare us for The coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord.

Sunday 11.15am Mass				
Entrance Hymn	503	O come, O come, Emmanuel		
Offertory		Sarabande from Cello Suite no. 3, J S Bach		
Communion	Choir	Tollite Hostias (Adore the Lord, for he comes)		
Marian Antiphon	128	Alma Redemptoris Mater		
Recessional	590	Rejoice in the Lord always.		



St Mary's Cathedral

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



Good News Weekly

Advent Wreath Tradition

The **Advent wreath**, is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western church. It is traditionally a Lutheran practice, although it has spread to many other Christian denominations.

The concept of the Advent wreath originated among German Lutherans in the 16th Century. However, it was not until three centuries later that the modern Advent wreath took shape.

History

Research by Prof. Haemig of Luther Seminary, St. Paul, points to Johann Hinrich Wichern (1808-1881), a Protestant pastor in Germany and a pioneer in urban mission work among the poor as the inventor of the modern Advent wreath in the 19th century. During Advent, children at the mission school Rauhes Haus, founded by Wichern in Hamburg, would ask daily if Christmas had arrived. In 1839, he built a large wooden ring (made out of an old cartwheel) with 20 small red and 4 large white candles. A small candle was lit successively every weekday and Saturday during Advent. On Sundays, a large white candle was lit. The custom gained ground among Protestant churches in Germany and evolved into the smaller wreath with four or five candles known today. Roman Catholics in Germany began to adopt the custom in the 1920s.

Significance

Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite love, and are usually made of evergreen leaves, which "represent the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ. Within the Advent wreath are candles that generally represent the four weeks



of the Advent season as well as "the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ" although each of the candles has its own significance as well; individually, the candles specifically symbolize the Christian concepts of hope (week one), peace (week two), joy (week three) and love (week four) in many traditions. Many Advent wreaths also have a white candle in the centre to symbolize the arrival of Christmastide, sometimes known as the "Christ candle." It is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The Christ candle is coloured white because this is the traditional festal colour in the Western Church.

In many Catholic churches, the most popular colours for the four surrounding Advent candles are violet and rose, corresponding with the colours of the liturgical vestments for the Sundays of Advent.







Clergy & Religious

Administrator: Fr. Keith Herrera

01224 640 160

administrator@cathedral-abdn.org

Assistant Priest: Fr Emmet O'Dowd curate2@cathedral-abdn.org

Deacon: Deacon Tony Schmitz

deacon@cathedral-abdn.org

Holy Family Sr Mary Chidalu

Sisters of Needy: 01224 970 812 or 07741 54 00 39

hfsn@rcd-abdn.org

St Andrews 07754 891 808

Community: standrewscommunity@cathedral-abdn.org

Staff & Administration

9 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday Office Hours:

01224 640 160 Telephone: Robin Harding Manager:

manager@cathedral-abdn.org

Secretary: Cowan Watson

secretary@cathedral-abdn.org Finance: Paul Webster

finance@cathedral-abdn.org

Gift Aid: Peter Simpson

giftaid@cathedral-abdn.org Cathedral Siobhán Gilmour, Patryja Lwaszkiewicz

Safeguarding: safeguarding@cathedral-abdn.org More information: Parish website or

www.scottishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk Music Director: Shelagh Noden

music@cathedral-abdn.org

Shop Manager: Barbara Mearns

shop@cathedral-abdn.org

Bulletin: bulletin@cathedral-abdn.org Notices to be in by Tuesday evening

Hall Bookings: halls@cathedral-abdn.org

Call between 9am & 1pm only Terms & Conditions see Parish website

Liturgical Ministries

Head Sacristan: Jacqueline Armstrong

jacquelinearmstr@hotmail.com

Readers: Kevin O'Carroll 07784317898

kevin.ocarroll@live.com

Euch. Ministers: John MacKinnon 07926 628 941 johnmackinnon2602@hotmail.co.uk

Children's Ruth Paterson 01224 593069

Catechesis: ruthpaterson@hotmail.com Stewards: Diego Mejias Morffe 07960 325 046

dmejiasmorffe@gmail.com **Altar Servers:** George Brand 01224 630 159

geobra@msn.com

Flowers: Yi-pei Chou Turvey: yipeichou@hotmail.com & 07455 479479

Notices

Adoration: Monday - Saturday 6.00am - 12 midnight **Confessions:** Tuesdays 5.30- 6.00pm & 6.30-7pm

Saturdays 10.30am & 6.00pm 10.30am (for Priests) Rosary: Saturdays

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 Margaret Hammond Planning (NFP) nfp@cathedral-abdn.org

Mass Times							
Date	Details	Service	Time	Mass Intentions			
Sun 16th	3rd Sunday of Advent	Mass Solemn Mass Polish Mass Mass	8.00am 11.15am 3.00pm 6.00pm	Rev. Fr James Donnelly RIP Parish Intentions George Purkin RIP			
Mon 17th		Mass Mass	7.00am 12.30pm	Mary Cox RIP			
Tue 18th		Mass Mass	7.00am 6.00pm	Protect & Guide - Lambert family			
Wed 19th		Mass Mass	7.00am 12.30pm	Protect & Guide J. Opara family Cowan, Gabrielle & Amy Watson			
Thu 20th		Mass Mass	7.00am 6.00pm	William Mailey Martha Mou and family			
Fri 21st		Mass Mass	7.00am 12.30pm	Eva Pavlickova Health Mrs Rosemary Ezeogu & family			
Sat 22nd		Mass Vigil Mass	10.00am 7.00pm	Thanks & Protection - James E. family Jeanne and Joel Rodriguez & family			
Sun 23rd	4th Sunday of Advent	Mass Solemn Mass Polish Mass Mass	8.00am 11.15am 3.00pm 6.00pm	Health, Job, Forgiveness - Ekekwe family Parish Intentions Mrs Irene Clarkson			

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

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GIFT AID ENQUIRIES

For all enquiries concerning Gift Aid, please get in touch with Peter Simpson at: giftaid@cathedral-abdn.org

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CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES CHRISTMAS EVE (Monday 24th December) Mass: 7.00am Mass: 12.30pm Carols in Polish: 9.00pm Polish Vigil Mass: 9.30pm Carols in English: 11.30nm followed by Midnight Mass **CHRISTMAS DAY** (Tuesday 25th December) Mass: 8.00am Mass: 11.15am Mass in Polish: 3.00pm FEAST OF ST STEPHEN (Wednesday 26th December) Mass: 7.00am Mass: 11.15am Mass in Polish: 3.00pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Mass: 8.00am

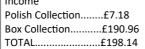
Midnight Mass: 11.45pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY

(Tuesday 1st January)

Mass: 11.15

SVdeP



Spend on Food...... £763.75

Grateful thanks to all our benefactors. Eve Murray

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AT NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

These classes begin in January, 2019. If your child is aged 7 or over and has not received First Confession or First Holy Communion then please register him/her today, on the Cathedral website.

THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE & BOOKSHOP

The Cathedral Office will be closed from lunchtime 24th December until 2nd January. The bookshop will be closed from 24th December until 9th January.

CHANGE TO MASS TIMES

Please note the evening Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays is now being celebrated at 6.00pm for a trial period. Note that the time for confessions on Tuesdays is now from 5.30-6.00pm & 6.30-7pm



The Seniors of the Cathedral (over 60's) are warmly invited to a Christmas lunch today 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.

FAKE EMAILS FROM FR KEITH

If you receive an email purporting to come from Fr Keith and asking for help please do not respond.

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 f18 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."

CATHEDRAL 200 CLUB

Help maintain our cathedral building by subscribing £5 a month to the 200 Club. Each month there are 4 prizes of £50.

December £50 prize winners:

Mrs J Christie Mrs N Booth Mr G Ogbeifun Mrs J Ray

Club Organiser: Irvine Long

stmaryscathedralfinance@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS POSTAGE STAMPS.

If you wish to purchase traditional Christmas stamps with an image of the Madonna and Child, most post offices still have them, but you will have to ask for them specially.

Please consider doing this, or these stamps will be discontinued if there is no demand.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Special Christmas party invitation Sunday 23rd December at 1pm in the Cathedral Halls

The Catholic Women Organisation together with the Holy Family Sisters of the Needy are organising a Christmas party for parishioners and the homeless.

We are sending a special invitation to the homeless and needy to come and dine with us. If Parishioners have anything they want to share with those less fortunate: food items; gifts; sweets; cash donations etc. please bring them along to the church, and give them to any HFSN sister or CWO member

There will be something for everyone!!

Cathedral

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.

PERPETUAL ADORATION AT THE CATHEDRAL

Monday to Saturday 6 am to 12 Midnight 18 hrs a day, 108 hrs a week



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!!

If you would like to sign up for an hour each week please contact: adoration@cathedral-abdn.org or book online: stmarysadoration.youcanbook.me

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

CATHEDRAL SHOP

The Cathedral Shop has: Christmas cards Lots of beautiful gifts for Christmas. 'Keep Christ in Christmas' stickers only 10p each. 2019 Calendars.

Fr Bill's 'Seeds of the Sower Bishop Hugh's, 'Advent and Christmas' from CTS Christmas baubles for the tree.

LUNCHTIME CAFÉ

The Café will be closed during the Christmas & New Year Period.

It will reopen on the 11th January 2019.

Our thanks to our many patrons for their support and contributions. Looking forward to greeting new and old friends after the New Year. Frank.



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.

COMPLITERS

If you happen to have a serviceable PC or Laptop which you no longer require, the Holy Family Sisters of the Needy would love to hear from you. Please give them a call on 01224 970812 or 07741540039. Thank You

Weekly Calendar

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

Magnificat Prayer Group

7.30pm in the Lower Hall after Mass. Contact: Stella Maria Onuoha 0744 9951 415

nnesin@vahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Feeding the homeless Contact: Evelyn Murray murray.evelyn@sky.com

W Light Exercise Class for all

Main Hall at 10:00am

Contact: Laura Walker 0777 3 021 851 laura@laurawalkerlimited.co.uk

Speakers, fun & fellowship

Seniors Club

Main Hall at 2.00 pm every 2 weeks Contact: Jean 01569 765 799

Healing of MemoriesPrayer 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@vahoo.com African Choir

For Africans and anyone else. Upper Hall from 6.00-8.00pm Contact: Patricia Malikebu 07891 714 549

Cenacolo Prayer Group

Exposition & Rosary praying for healing of those with addictions Church after Mass

07774 931 996, liamsharkey@ymail.com

Band Practice

Contemporary music for Sunday 6pm Mass Contact: john.costaschuk@gmail.com

Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

Clergy House at 7.00pm Contact Shelagh Noden music@cathedral-abdn.org

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 | 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

Choir Rehearsal

Leading the music for 11:15 Sunday Mass

Upper Hall 10.00am