

Hymns

52: Awake, awake, fling off the night (Keys)
384: O come, O come, Emmanuel (v. 1) (Mayhew)
775: Wait for the Lord (Refrain only) (Mayhew)
SHEET: I cannot tell (McLennan)

PARISH BULLETIN

St Kieran's, the Catholic Church *in*

Campbeltown and Islay
Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain
27th November 2022

The First *Sunday of Advent*



St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

Sunday, 27th November, 1st Sunday of Advent, Holy Mass, 10.00am.

Monday to Wednesday: Holy Mass, 10.00am

Friday: Holy Mass for the intention of Owain Williams RIP, 10.00am

Devotions: Wednesday: Mid-morning Prayer, 9.50am.

Friday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Mid-morning Prayer, 9.30am.

Scripture discussion: Friday 10.30am



Saturday, 3rd December, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm

Sunday, 4th December, 2nd Sunday of Advent, Holy Mass, 10.00am.

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay

Sunday 4th December, Holy Mass and blessing of Advent wreath, 4pm

Sunday 24th December, Holy Mass, 1pm



*Advent is the season of
the presence and
expectation of the eternal*

Psalm response

*I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house'.*

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.*

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

*The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth
shall yield its increase.*

Take Five

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

Monday, Nov 28, 2022

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Time to get ready!

Catholics yesterday began the Advent journey to Christmas. The word advent comes from Latin for “to come.” All the days from now until the celebration of the birth of Jesus are preparation for His coming. Preparation in this case means remembering to be ready with a spirit of both penance and joy. Did you set out an Advent wreath on your dinner table yesterday? For many, it’s the first of many Christmas decorations to come out — with festooned trees not far behind. The wreath is more than just a pretty adornment but also a daily reminder to pray as you count down each week with a new candle. Start the season out right by blessing your wreath with a prayer.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11.* “Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.”

Tuesday, Nov 29, 2022

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Listen with the ear of a child

Jesus thanks the Father in heaven for revealing to his disciples the wisdom and knowledge of God. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about God and about ourselves? First, it tells us that God is both Father and Lord of earth as well as heaven. He is both Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything and transcendent authority, and at the same time, goodness and loving care for all his children. All fatherhood and motherhood is derived from him (Ephesians 3:14-15). Jesus' prayer also contains a warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. What makes us ignorant and blind to the things of God? Sinful pride springs from exaggerated self-centeredness. It closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. The angels fell into pride and were cast out of heaven. The virtue of humility, the only true remedy against false pride, and which is very different from the feelings of inferiority and low self-esteem, leads us to a true recognition of who we are in God and of our dependence on God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24.* “Although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike.”

Wednesday, Nov 30, 2022

**SOLEMNITY OF SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE,
PATRON OF SCOTLAND**



First responder

Saint Andrew has a special place in the collective heart of Scotland. He is sometimes known as the “first called” apostle because of his early encounter and following of Jesus, alongside his better-known brother and fellow fisherman Simon Peter. When confronting his own crucifixion in the year 60, it is said Andrew chose an X-shaped cross, or saltire, because he felt unworthy to be crucified on the same

kind of cross as Jesus. That saltire is now Scotland's national flag. Follow the example: Give first-called Andrew a special place in your heart.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Wisdom 3:1-9; Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22.* “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Thursday, Dec 01, 2022

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Build on higher ground

Anyone who has followed the news over the past year has seen more images than ever of people coping with the consequences of war. Families waiting on cross borders, people picking through the ruins of a bombed home, neighbours taking in now homeless, and sadly also atrocities inflicted on civilians. Jesus constantly used images to make His point, including the image of discipleship as a solid house that stands firm during storms and floods. “Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies,” Saint Teresa of Calcutta once said. Are you building a strong, flood-proof house in the small things you do for others each day, especially those suffering injustice?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27.* “Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.”

Friday, Dec 02, 2022

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Walk with each other

Today, the Church remembers martyrs Jean

Donovan, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel, and Ita Ford, brutally murdered for standing with the poor in war-torn El Salvador in 1980. Their witness still speaks profoundly to us today as we encounter current wars, violence, and suffering, especially among the most vulnerable. And still, we struggle to know what to do. Let us take courage as we ponder the questions posed by Ita Ford in 1977: "Am I willing to suffer with the people here, the suffering of the powerless? Can I say to my neighbours, 'I have no solution to this situation. I don't know the answers, but I will walk with you, search with you, be with you?'"

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31. "Let it be done for you according to your faith."*

Saturday, Dec 03, 2022

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, JESUIT PRIEST

Missionising begins at home

Many of the practices of the great "missionising projects" of centuries past are seen as problematic in our age, with its greater sensibility of the rights of indigenous peoples to worship freely as they wish. So, while the legacy of one of the patrons of foreign missions, Saint Francis Xavier, is a mixed one, it is significant to note that he always provided for ongoing pastoral care of the communities he missionised and also advocated for an educated native clergy (rather than foreign-born leadership). None of us acts with perfect justice, but each of us finds ourself living in a unique historical moment, called upon to help Church and society live up to the best and most noble qualities of our tradition.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8. "At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd."*

First Sunday of Advent: Cycle A

Isaiah 2:1-5

In days to come, the era of peace will be available to all who seek it.

Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Peace finds its perfect centre in the house of God.

Romans 13:11-14

We can all tell time; it is now the hour to take God's reign seriously.

Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake and be alert for the Great Arrival that is gaining on us.

Words on the Word: Matthew 24:37-44

The advent of people will end when the people stop opposing Christ. Disorder and helplessness will abate when the godless abandon their open warfare against the Gospel, when mendacious hypocrisy will no longer insidiously displace the element of Christ from human elements, and human lawlessness will no longer destroy the Divine order (Cardinal A. Hlond, 1933).

The expectation of a new earth, the liberation of man from slavery to evil, egoism and death is often a subject taken in various cultures. In the sphere of our Greco-Roman culture we encounter this beautifully for example in Greek mythology. These human longings or intuitions are superimposed on the message of Christ, who announces the coming of the Kingdom of God, the new creation, the new earth and heaven. We go deeper into what it means when we ask: "Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness . . .".

Here human yearning is expressed in non-Christian myths:

- In the myth about Prometheus: attempting escape from God;
- In the myth about Narcissus: attempting the defeat of egoism without God.

"In love" with man, Prometheus steals the fire of Zeus and passes it on to people. He believes that thanks to this it will make human self-realisation possible – independent of gods through

work and art. As a punishment, Zeus sent the beautiful Pandora to him. When he opens the present brought by her – a box, all diseases and misfortunes were released into the world. Prometheus becomes the epitome of those people who were “freed” from God. Believing that reason, access to science and technology alone can bring man happiness. Sometimes people also have political power at their disposal (Stalin or Hitler).

Narcissus was the son of the god of the river. He was loved by the beautiful nymph, Echo. However, Narcissus did not reciprocate this love, but fell in love with himself. He was in love with his own reflection he saw in the water. This same infatuation filled him with an insatiable desire which devoured him and turned him into a flower. A person in love with himself is a total egoist. To him, whatever brings him advantage or pleasure is good, and what is bad it that which bring him loss or unpleasantness. He cannot love anyone beyond himself, but that love does not provide happiness, on the contrary it destroys him.

The eternal themes taken up by man – God and people, good and evil, love and hate, life and death – are bound up with the personal human questions: am I wanted? Am I loved? Am I of value? Am I accepted?

These question point to the uncertainty of man as well as the desire for affirmation and strengthening. How valuable are we that God became a man for our salvation?

The contemporary German sociologist and philosopher, Max Horkheimer, described these fears of man like this: “We all feel loved too little, because each of us loves too little”.

Saint Josemaria Escrivá exclaimed: *In this first Sunday of Advent is when we begin to count the days distancing us from the birth of the Saviour. Let's consider the vocation of the Christian: the Lord places His trust in us, to lead souls to holiness, to bring them closer together, to unite them to the Church, to spread the kingdom of God into all hearts. The Lord wants us to be devoted, faithful, delicate and full of love. He would like us to be holy and wholly His. On the one hand, pride, sensuality and boredom, and egoism; on the other love, devotion, mercy, humility, sacrifice and joy. You have to choose. You have been called to a life of faith, hope and love. You can't lower the bar and remain isolated in your mediocrity.*

Prayer



Please pray for those who are sick, in need or have asked for our prayers: Sarah Carmichael, Catherine Walker, Ailsa Stewart, Meg Douglas (Mull), Doleen Durnin, and Russell Carroll.

Please remember in your prayers whose anniversaries occur at this time.

News and Events

Primary School visits by Fr. Tony this Thursday.

The funeral of Owain Williams will be in Wales on Friday at midday.

Live streaming – on [Zoom](#) will continue on weekdays but not on Sundays. (Facebook streaming continues as before, see below for link).



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