

# PARISH BULLETIN

## Hymns

- 418: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Keys)  
384: O come, O come, Emmanuel (v. 1&2)  
(Mayhew)  
775: Wait for the Lord (Mayhew)  
SHEET: Make way, make way (McLennan)

## St Kieran's, the Catholic Church in Campbeltown and Islay



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

*Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain*

4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

*The Second*

## *Sunday of Advent*

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent,** Holy Mass, 10.00am.

Monday: Holy Mass, 6.00m

Tuesday and Wednesday: Holy Mass, 10.00am

Friday: Holy Mass, 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, 10<sup>th</sup> December, Vigil Mass,** 6.00pm

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, Gaudete Sunday of Advent,** Holy Mass, 10.00am.

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December,** Holy Mass, 1pm

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023,** Nuptial Mass, 12pm



## **Psalm response**

*In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.*

## **Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,*

*and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.*

*Alleluia!*

## **Communion Antiphon**

*Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy  
which comes to you from God.*

## Take Five

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

**Monday, Dec 05, 2022**

**ADVENT WEEKDAY**

**Healing power**

Jesus claimed an authority which only God could rightfully give. Jesus not only proved that His authority came from God, He showed the great power of God's redeeming love and mercy by healing a cripple of his physical ailment. This man had been crippled not only physically, but also spiritually. Jesus freed him from his burden of guilt and restored his body as well. The Lord is ever ready to bring us healing of body, mind, and soul. His grace brings us freedom from the power of sin and the bondage to harmful desires and addictions. Do you allow anything to keep you from Jesus' healing power?

*Lord Jesus, through Your merciful love and forgiveness You bring healing and restoration to body, soul, and mind. May Your healing power and love touch every area of my life - my innermost thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and memories. Pardon my offences and transform me in the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may walk confidently in Your truth and righteousness.*

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26.* "We have seen incredible things today."

**Tuesday, Dec 06, 2022**

**OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF SAINT NICHOLAS, BISHOP**

**Secret Santa**

The anonymous generosity of Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, is legendary. So as not to attract praise from others, Nicholas performed charitable deeds on the sly — like the time he saved three poor maidens from destitution because they had no dowry for marriage. Under cover of night, Saint Nick secretly dropped three bags of gold down their chimney to ease their plight. The size, shape, and colour of these bags of gold gave rise to the "Christmas orange" traditionally placed in Christmas stockings. Consider an anonymous act of charity today — and maybe treat yourself to an orange, too!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14.* "It is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost."

**Wednesday, Dec 07, 2022**

**MEMORIAL OF SAINT AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

**Firm stance, gentle hand**

Saint Ambrose of Milan, the esteemed early Church theologian and pastor, was consecrated bishop of Milan on this day in 374, during a trip to the city to quell a succession crisis for the contentious Church post. Known for his conciliatory demeanour, Ambrose was a staunch defender of orthodox beliefs about the divinity of Jesus, but he was also respected by those who believed Jesus not to be God, because of his willingness to listen to them. Among his countless contributions to the Church, he converted Saint Augustine of Hippo with his preaching and baptised the wayward son before his own journey to theological greatness. In this season of charity, may we all emulate Ambrose's devotion to peace and unity on his holy feast.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30.* "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves."

**Thursday, Dec 08, 2022**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Holiness is about more than clean living**

Older Catholics might smile as they recall the imagery for sin that they learned in the mid-20th century. Sin-free meant a clean soul. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception refers to Mary as free from "all stain of original sin." Rather than emphasize Mary's clean soul, today many contemporary theologians choose to emphasize Mary's active faithfulness over a lifetime. That's something each one of us can aspire to.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38.* "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God."

**Friday, Dec 09, 2022**

**MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN**

**Don't lose sight of Mary**

After providing a mantle of roses with the image of Mary miraculously impressed upon it as proof to the archbishop of Mexico City of her appearance to him, Juan Diego spent his days living as a hermit and guide to pilgrims near a shrine built in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a title Mary reportedly chose for herself. The

Mexican bishops define the "Guadalupe Event" as the "beginning of evangelisation with a vitality that surpassed all expectations." The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe now holds the honour of being the most visited Catholic shrine in the world. As with any Marian apparition, spiritual transformation is Mary's primary purpose — all in the hope of leading a new generation to Christ. Draw on the presence of Mary today, as Saint Juan Diego did centuries ago, to help orient you toward God's boundless love.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 48:17-19*;  
*Matthew 11:16-19*. "Wisdom is vindicated by her works."

**Saturday, Dec 10, 2022**

**Prophecy**

God gives signs to show what he is about to do.

John the Baptist is one such sign, who pointed to Jesus and prepared the way for his coming. John fulfilled the essential task of all the prophets: to be fingers pointing to Christ. John is the last and greatest prophet of the old kingdom, the old covenant. The Jews expected that when the Messiah would come, Elijah would appear to announce His presence. John fills the role of Elijah and prepares the way for the coming of Christ by preaching a baptism of repentance and renewal. As watchful servants, we, too must prepare for the Lord's coming again by turning away from sin and from everything that would keep us from pursuing His will.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ecclesiastes 48:1-4, 9-11*; *Matthew 17:9a, 10-13*. "Elijah has already come."

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## *Second Sunday of Advent: Cycle A*

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**Isaiah 11:1-10**

The peaceable Kingdom will be made real when the Just One arrives.

**Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17**

Peace and justice flower together under the rule of the anticipated one.

**Romans 15:4-9**

Scripture keeps our hope alive as we await its fulfilment.

**Matthew 3:1-12**

John arrives to fulfil a prophecy and to call the sinful world to repentance.

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### *Words on the Word: Isaiah 11:1-10*

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What remained after the vision of Isaiah? The coming of a good and just king was alive among the Israelites, the dream of peace accompanied them constantly through the centuries. The hope of a new shoot from the old stump of Jesse protected Israel in many dark times from giving up. The dream of Israel for peace gave it strength to survive wars and oppression as well as occupation.

And when the first followers of Jesus considered in what way they could express all that they experienced with Him, the image of the prophet Isaiah stood before their eyes. Jesus of Nazareth – they said – was a branch growing from the root of Jesse, the new David. His family tree reaches back to David, He also came into the world in the city of David – Bethlehem.

It is He – we had the sense that the Spirit of God rested on, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of God.

It is He – after all, we have experienced it ourselves that He doesn't judge people by looks, appearance or hearsay, but by looking straight into the heart; that He looks for what is good in every person.

It is He – after all, we have seen with our own eyes, that He was concerned for the defenceless and stood up for the poor; that He had no fear before the brutal. We heard with our own ears how in clear words He criticised all injustice.

It is He – who convinced of this: if everyone lived by His will, filled with His spirit, then peace

would be possible.

It is He – said the first Christians: who fulfilled the dreams of Isaiah. In a few days we will agree with their confession of faith and again sing: “O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan’s tyranny”.

So, I wish that in certain areas of worry in my life there was movement again; so that some disappointments are brightened up by the flame of hope; so that some fruitless efforts despite everything suddenly produce fruit.

I wish for the spirit of wisdom, so that my life becomes increasingly clear and unambiguous; the spirit of understanding so that I learn to listen and not just rely on my own judgement.

I wish for the spirit of counsel, so that I can be partner for others in conversation and a companion on the journey; the spirit of fortitude, so that I can hold fast in times of trouble and manage show a strong backbone when others try to make me bend.

I wish to bring something of myself to the peaceful co-existence of people – or to speak the words of John the Baptist, which we hear in the Gospel – I want to be like a tree which gives good fruit.

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## Prayer

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**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** Isabella (Isa) Durnan (2017), Margaret McCoy (2020), Fr. James Cattenach (1836), Ken McCoy (2020), May Dumigan (Islay, 2018) **and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

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## News and Events

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**Tea and coffee** in the hall after Sunday Mass.

**Pastoral discernment process** – Pastoral Letter Regarding the Diocese

Please take home with you a copy of *Bishop Brian’s Pastoral Letter*. The bishop is reflecting on our diocese and how we can best grow in the direction God desires for the future. The bishop invites us all to join in this process of discernment. We begin with a two-month spiritual preparation during which the bishop will visit every parish to explain in person his vision and to listen to your comments and questions. He will visit our parish on Monday 9/1/23 for a meeting at 6.30pm. More details can be found on the Diocesan Website at [www.rcdai.org.uk](http://www.rcdai.org.uk).

**Call for greenery:** holly or evergreens please this week. Drop them off in the church porch, thanks.

**Advent and Christmas, liturgies:** Vigil Mass: Every Saturday, 6.00pm (except 24<sup>th</sup> December)  
Sunday Mass: 10.00am

Rorate Mass – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 6.00pm

The “Shepherd’s Mass”, Christmas Eve, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, 9.00pm

The Mass of Christmas Day, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, 10.00am

The second day of Christmas, Feast of St. Stephen, Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, 10.00am

**Live streaming** – on [Zoom](https://zoom.us) will continue on weekdays but not on Sundays. (Facebook streaming continues as before, see below for link).



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[www.stkieranscampbeltown.org](http://www.stkieranscampbeltown.org)



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