

# PARISH BULLETIN

## St Kieran's, the Catholic Church *in Campbeltown and Islay* *Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain*

### Hymns

#### Christmas Eve

##### Processional

181: God rest you merry gentlemen [vv. 1-6] (Keys)

##### Offertory

618: While shepherds watched their flocks (Keys)

##### Post Communion

477: Silent night (Keys)

245: Infant lowly, infant holy (Hamel)

##### Final

202: Hark! The herald angels sing (Keys)

#### Christmas Day

##### Processional

41: Angels we have heard on high (Keys)

##### Offertory

401: O little town of Bethlehem (Keys)

##### Post Communion

384: Away in a manger (Jackson)

245: Infant holy, infant lowly (Hamel)

##### Final

7[v.1]; Adeste fidelis

382[vv.2-4]: O come, all ye faithful (Keys)



25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## *Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord*

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> December, *Christmas Day*, Holy Mass, 10.00am.**

Monday of the Christmas Octave, the Feast of Saint Stephen: Holy Mass, **10.00am**

Tuesday of the Christmas Octave, the Feast of Saint John, Holy Mass **10.00am**

Wednesday of the Christmas Octave, Feast of the Holy Innocents: Holy Mass **10.00am**

and Friday of the Christmas Octave, Feast of the Holy Family: Holy Mass, **10.00am**

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

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

**Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, *Vigil Mass*, 6.00pm**

**Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, *Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*, Holy Mass, 10.00am.**



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**Christmas Eve**

**Psalm response**

*Today a saviour has been born to us: he is Christ the Lord.*

**Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I bring you news of great joy:*

*today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.*

*Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon**

*The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.*

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**Christmas Day**

**Psalm response**

*All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

**Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*A hallowed day has dawned upon us.*

*Come, you nations, worship the Lord,*

*for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.*

*Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon**

*All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

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**Take Five**

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

**Monday, Dec 26, 2022**

**FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR**

**A day for renewed commitment**

Advent is full of anticipation that finally culminates at Christmas. But once the Saviour is here, there's no time to wait to start Christianity's mission. So today we honour the first martyr of the faith, Saint Stephen, who was stoned to death. One of the first followers of the apostles, chosen by them to serve as a deacon, Stephen preached and performed miracles and forgave his attackers (Saul, later Saint Paul, among them) before dying. As we get ready to start a new year, let Stephen inspire you to reflect on your baptismal call to spread the gospel and how you might renew your efforts in

word and witness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22. "You will be hated by all because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved."

**Tuesday, Dec 27, 2022**

**FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST**

**Love remains**

What should your true love gift you on the third day of Christmas? How about the reminder that Saint John was the "beloved disciple" of Jesus? So beloved that Jesus — even as He was dying on the cross — entrusted His own mother to John's tender care: "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother" (John 19:26). As the dust settles on our often-hectic

celebrations of Christmas, remember that “faith, hope, and love remain . . . but the greatest of these is love.” So don’t fret if your holiday feast doesn’t include a Nigella Lawson masterpiece; simple love should be the main course — and makes for the best leftovers.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8. "Beloved: What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen . . . and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life."*

**Wednesday, Dec 28, 2022**

### **FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS**

#### **Dry every tear**

In the midst of celebrating the great octave of Christmas we are reminded that Jesus was born into a world much like our own: filled with violence and terror, impacting especially the most vulnerable. Pope Francis stated in his 2016 address for the Feast of the Holy Innocents: "Christmas is . . . accompanied, whether we like it or not, by tears. . . . It is the sobbing of mothers bewailing the death of their children in the face of Herod’s tyranny and unbridled thirst for power. Today too, we hear this heart-rending cry of pain, which we neither desire nor are able to ignore or to silence." How shall we respond, to bring some comfort to those who grieve?

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18. "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you."*

**Thursday, Dec 29, 2022**

### **FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

#### **True joy**

Simeon blessed Mary and Joseph and he prophesied to Mary about the destiny of this child and the suffering she would undergo for his sake. There is a certain paradox for those blessed by the Lord. Mary was given the blessedness of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. She received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fuelled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and

his promises. Jesus promised his disciples that "no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35. "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel."*

**Friday, Dec 30, 2022**

### **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**

#### **All in the family**

Families come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. One thing they all share, however, is that they are not perfect. "Perfect families do not exist," said Pope Francis in a 2015 address. "This must not discourage us. Quite the opposite. Love is something we learn; love is something we live; love grows as it is ‘forged’ by the concrete situations which each particular family experiences. Love is born and constantly develops amid lights and shadows." As we remember the Holy Family, let us also recommit ourselves to this kind of love within all our family experiences.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23. "And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection."*

**Saturday, Dec 31, 2022**

### **SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

#### **Slow down to celebrate**

Part of the wisdom coming to us from our long Church tradition is found in the realisation that some mysteries take a while to unfold. That is why during the Christmas season we celebrate the great mystery of God in the world for an entire octave, the eight days between Christmas and the solemnity tomorrow of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. As we approach the end of this great celebration, ponder for a few moments how the mystery of this event has unfolded for you this year. And take a moment to feel the joy of Christmas once again.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

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## *Readings for Christmas Eve*

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### **Isaiah 9:1-7**

A word breaks into the world: light, hope, good news, and new possibility.

### Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13

It's time to talk of always and everywhere, because the world is changed for good.

### Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has come to us: Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy.

### Luke 2:1-14

Through history and humanity, the saving power of God makes its journey to us.

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## *Readings for Christmas Day*

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### Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful the news: Our time in darkness is ended, for we are the delight of God.

### Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

All the ends of the earth sing a new song: The Lord is born for us this day!

### Hebrews 1:1-6

In times past God revealed the divine plan to a few. Now, the blessed hope is for all.

### John 1:1-18

Through all of human history the Word of God hurtles toward us in love.

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## *Words on the Word*

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*Our hearts are gladdened because in the homeless Child we welcome the Redeemer. Let's not be alarmed that the angelic chorus of peace over the hills of Bethlehem, is followed the conspiracy of Herod in Jerusalem. [. . .]. Therefore, we are not afraid that His teaching and Church meets the opposition of society and the negativity of centuries. We are not surprised that in our days the same battle is raging for the Bethlehem of Jesus, for this Divine night, the Child's mission, to which the star of faith led the Wise Men. We believe that even today It is an irreplaceable factor of the world's order, the basis of power, the glue between peoples, the inspiration of their missions, the foundation of their cultures, the content of their spiritual history (Card. August Hlond, 1935).*

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## Prayer

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**Please pray for those who are sick, in need or have asked for our prayers:**

Madge McWhirter, Sarah Carmichael, Catherine Walker, Ailsa Stewart, Meg Douglas (Mull), Doleen Durnin, and Russell Carroll.

**Please remember in your prayers 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 Christmas Day Mass, sherry and mince pies, too. Our visitors are most welcome, please come along. And a joyful, peaceful and holy Christmas to everyone.

**Thanks to all** for their help and support in the preparations for a holy and joyful celebration of Christmas. Everyone's contribution no matter how great or small is greatly appreciated.

**Many thanks to Grace Carlin** for funding the renewal of kneelers and also Wojtek and Stan for their assiduous work.

**Live streaming** – on Facebook (see below for link).



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



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