

# Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (A) 30<sup>th</sup> November / 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

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Canon Michael McMahon and Canon Willie Crawford



**Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick:** Carol McKenzie, Jackie Robson, Danny and John Gibb, Connie Roche and Thomas McGourlick.

**Please Pray For Those Who Have Died Recently:** Gerard Graham and Annie McGill.

**Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now:** Isobel Sheerin, Michael Quinn Snr, Michael Quinn Jnr, David Hunter, Cathie McColgan, William Stewart, Daniel McMahon and for the month's mind of Ann and William McAdam.

**Last Week's Collections:** The first amounted to £815.50 of which £353.65 was gift aid and the second for Catholic Education amounted to £509.75 of which £181.00 was gift aid. Thank you very much for your great generosity.

**Next Weekend** there will be a second collection for the Building Fund which is to pay off the debt to the Diocese.

**Gift Aid Envelopes:** If you pay tax please consider signing a Gift Aid Declaration so that your contribution will be increased by a further 25%. The annual refund which the Parish receives from HMRC makes a massive difference to our funds. Please call into the Sacristy after Mass if you would like to become involved in the Gift Aid Scheme.

**Sunday Teas And Coffees:** Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after the 10.30am Mass each week. Everyone is very welcome for a cuppa and a chat.

**Thursday Evening:** Please note there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession or Mass on Thursday evening as Fr. Michael will be in Edinburgh.

**SPRED Advent Boxes:** Please take away your SPRED Advent Boxes and bring them back as full as you can early in the New Year. SPRED is our Special Religious Education Group for our parishioners with special needs and meets in twenty-one groups around our Diocese, as well as in our local special needs schools, through 200 volunteer parishioners. Last year your Advent Boxes brought in an amazing £12,000.00. We will be holding our annual SPRED Parish collection in February which, last year, raised £23,000.00. Thanks again for your generosity which is helping this wonderful organisation in our Diocese to spread and grow from strength to strength. Along with our *Friends Fundraising Campaign* and our annual collection our Advent Boxes pay for just over 50% of this ministry.

**Advent Prayer Books:** These are available at the back of the Church to buy for £1.00.

**Advent Calendars:** These are available at the back of the Church for the younger members of our community and are FREE!

**Grand Draw - St. Benedict's High School:** Members of the Parent Council, staff and students of St. Benedict's High School will be available after most Masses this weekend and next weekend to sell raffle tickets, priced at £1.00 each. Entry into the Grand Draw provides an opportunity to win one of three fantastic prizes, in the run up to Christmas. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: £500.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: £150.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: A Luxury M&S Christmas Hamper. Please come to Mass prepared to give your support to our School's fund raising event.

**Bingo** every Tuesday morning in the hall after the Tuesday Tea. Money raised goes towards the Building Fund.

**The Advent Jesse Tree:** Our Parish Giving Tree for Advent will go up on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019. In addition to the items requested on the labels hanging from the Tree, hats and scarves and gloves are always wanted. Please take a label from the Tree and donate the item requested. The items gathered will go to families in need, and particularly to refugees, in our area. If possible, please return all presents by Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 so they can be distributed in time for Christmas. Many thanks for your support.

**Parish Website:** Please visit: [www.stconvals.com](http://www.stconvals.com) to take a look and find out more about our Parish, Mass times and Confessions etc.

**Weekly Parish Bulletin:** Any items for inclusion in the bulletin (including names for the sick, month's mind and anniversary lists) should be put through the letter box of the Parish House or sent by email: [stconval@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stconval@rcdop.org.uk) by **12noon on the Thursday** before publication.

**The Hall:** Please note that no one in the Parish House can open or close the hall, take bookings or organise functions. The Hall Keeper – Bridget Macfarlane – has the keys and the Bookings Diary, she has the Booking Forms and the Contract that all users are required to complete for insurance purposes. All these matters will be attended to by her, and by her alone, to avoid double bookings and other confusions. She may be contacted by email: [bridgetmacfarlane992@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetmacfarlane992@gmail.com) or tel. 07874007136 or 01505 674782.

**Lourdes Discipleship Group:** A meeting will be held in St. Ninian's Church Hall, Gourock on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 at 2.30pm. Those eligible for the Pilgrimage Group should be between 18-21. The Pilgrimage takes place from 26<sup>th</sup> June until 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020. For more information please contact Fr. Gerry McNellis, email: [stninian@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:stninian@rcdop.org.uk)

**St. Mirin's Chaplaincy Centre:** Please note there will be no 5.00pm Sunday Mass on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**Evening Prayer And Benediction:** St. Margaret's, Johnstone, will celebrate Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 at 6.00pm. The music will be led by the Schola Benedicti. All welcome to attend this celebration of the start of Advent.

**Advent Service:** There will be an Advent Service on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 at 7.00pm in St. Aidan's, Johnstone with St. Mirin's Cathedral Choir: hymns and readings for Advent. All welcome. Tea afterwards in the Hall.

**Charis Conference 2019:** Charis, the new service for Catholic Charismatic Renewal worldwide, is holding its National Conference in St. Mirin's Hall on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Speakers are Jean Luc Moens, Moderator for Charis (appointed by Pope Francis), Kenny Borthwick, Presbyterian Minister in Wester Hailes and Bishop John Keenan. Cost for full weekend is £20.00 (pay at the door). Each day begins at 10.00am. Email: [tresanded1214@gmail.com](mailto:tresanded1214@gmail.com) for further information.

**All Night Vigil** of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Reparation and in Honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Opening Mass 8.00pm on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - Closing Mass 6.00am on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Clyde Street, Glasgow G1 4JY. For information, email: [liam.coyle1@ntlworld.com](mailto:liam.coyle1@ntlworld.com) or tel. 07806517383 or Facebook - Glasgow Vigils Events. All welcome.

**Migrant Help:** A very big thank you for the overwhelming response to our appeal for 'Migrant Help'. Two van loads of items have been collected from the Diocesan Offices and taken away to help those families who are victims of modern day trafficking. The generosity from all those who donated is very much appreciated.

**SPUC - Volunteer Speakers Required:** SPUC (Scotland) has a network of local volunteers who work hard pro-actively raising awareness of the pro-life movement across parish communities in Scotland. Our local speakers motivate and inspire other parishioners to support SPUC's work, playing an active part in building a culture of life in Scotland. Would you like to be a part of our volunteer team, helping to spread the Gospel of Life? Would you like to join a national movement while being a local ambassador for the most voiceless member of the human family - the unborn? If so, email: [info@spucscotland.org](mailto:info@spucscotland.org) today!