

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

1st Sunday of Advent (C) 27th / 28th November 2021

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Parish Priest: Canon Michael McMahon



Masses

Sunday:	5.30pm	Vigil (Saturday) and 10.30am.
Monday:	11.00am	Our Lady of Peace Primary School.
Tuesday:	10.00am	St. Conval's.
Thursday:	6.00pm	St. Conval's followed by Exposition and Benediction at 6.50pm.
Friday:	10.00am	St. Conval's.
	12.25pm	St. Benedict's High School.

Confessions

Thursday:	6.30pm	Available in the Meeting Room during Exposition as required.
Saturday:	5.00pm	Available in the Meeting Room before Vigil Mass.

Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: Thomas McGourlick, Andrew Irvine, Elizabeth Kelly, Gary Danks, Betty Kerr, Nellie McNamara, Janice Mackin, Joe McAleer, John and Isabella Gilmartin, Terry Porter, Eileen McKenna, Helen Gallagher and for those who are working so hard to care for the sick especially those who work in our hospitals.

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died Recently: Jim Quinn (Funeral on Tuesday, 30th November at 10.00am), Peter Harris (Funeral on Monday, 6th December at 1.00pm), Cathy Degnan (Funeral on Tuesday, 7th December at 10.00am), Betty Glancy and Stephen Riley.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: David Hunter, Isobel Sheerin, Tommy Barr and for the month's mind of Gerry Sheerin, Pauline Garvie, Jim Malley and Sean O'Neill.

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

Post COVID-19 we continue our journey to what will be our new normality with care for ourselves and each other. Accordingly, we will not pass the Collection Basket from hand to hand during Mass at the Preparation of the Gifts (and for Second Collections to avoid interrupting everyone's Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion). So the Basket for the Main Offertory Collection will be in the Porch as you enter and the Basket for the various Second Collections - which will be named - will be on the Altar Rail as you leave. Many of you now support the Parish by Standing Order or Electronically (for which Fr. Michael is most grateful) though for many causes the physical collection is their only opportunity for you to offer your financial support. Please continue to offer these causes your support. (If you forget the Offertory Collection on the way in, please leave your donation *beside* the Second Collection Basket as you leave). Thank you!

Sunday Mass Obligation: A letter has been published from the Bishops' Conference regarding Sunday Mass Obligation. Please take a copy from the Church Porch or the House Porch. Thank you.

Advent Prayer Books are available in the Church Porch costing £1.00.

Tuesday Tea: Please join us in the hall after 10.00am Mass for tea, coffee and cakes. All are most welcome.

Christmas Masses: As Christmas falls on a Saturday this year it gives us a question regarding Sunday Vigil Mass which would take place on Christmas Day afternoon. It is unlikely this would be well attended as there is still no obligation to attend Mass. Fr Michael is inclined to celebrate Mass as follows:

Friday, 24th December: Christmas Vigil at 8.00pm
Saturday, 25th December: 10.30am (No Sunday Vigil)
Sunday, 26th December: 10.30am and 5.30pm

Please let him know what you think.

RCIA: Together with other local Parishes we are going to begin this year's experience of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) the way in which the Church receives new adult members whether Baptised in another Christian Tradition or Unbaptised. If you have been thinking about becoming a Catholic this is the moment to have a word with Fr. Michael to begin the process (which leads to Easter!).

Collection Envelopes: If any parishioners would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, sealed sterile Gift Aid Packs - which are all the same - containing a box of envelopes, a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) Form, a Standing Order Form, a Thank You Letter and Statement of Account are available in the House Porch. Please take the sealed sterile pack home with you. The Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) Form should then be completed and the signed GAD Form posted in the Parish House.

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Census Forms and Standing Order Forms. If you would like a copy of the Bulletin or any of these forms, but cannot get out to collect them, please email the Parish with your address and you can have them delivered by email or by hand.

Church Cleaners: We are looking for volunteers to help clean the Church on a Wednesday anytime during the hours of 10.00am until 2.00pm. If you can help, please put your name and number on the sheet in the porch. Many thanks for your help.

Parish Pastoral Council: We would like to invite anyone who would like to become involved a little more in the life of the Parish and become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council to put their name on the list at the back of the Church. It is good for committees to change membership. This group helps advise and helps Fr. Michael on the Pastoral Priorities of St. Conval's. The meetings are only every second month, it is not a great time commitment, but you would be helping support your Parish and your Parish Priest. If interested, please write your name and a contact telephone number on the list at the back of the Church.

Thanks To Your Ongoing Generosity we have continued to provide 100 meals each week to families in need throughout the year and we will also offer our 'Christmas Dinner and Goody Bag' to 100 people in 30 families who find themselves in particular poverty this Christmas. Fr. Michael would therefore be delighted to receive donations of Food - to prepare, to include in parcels and to have for the Food Bank - or Cash to help with this. We are seeking donations from local firms also and so far Smiths have agreed to match anything we spend on Children's Toys 'Pound for Pound' - thanks to them! At the moment, thanks to your recent generosity, we have enough toiletries. Thank you!

The Diocese has advised that we should continue to ease the Covid safety restrictions. Please continue to sanitise on entry and exit, please wear a face-covering indoors and please continue to observe the 'One Way System'. We are still required to have a record of who is present for the 'Track and Trace' System to contact us if someone else present tests positive.

We are using the same sign up lists for Masses week to week. If you were at Mass any time last week you will be on the list for that day this week, next week and so on, so there is no need to sign up every week. If your name is not on the sign up list for a specific Mass, you can either book in as normal, OR scan our unique QR Code on your phone as you enter - laminated posters with the QR Code are in the Entrance Porch - please let the stewards know your preferred method of registration. Please arrive in good time so that you can be signed in and you do not cause the Stewards, who have been so generous with their time, being late for Mass. Please also pass the word that we are now fully open and able to welcome all who wish to come!

We will continue to ventilate the Church well. The Procession for Holy Communion will be directed by the Stewards and we will come forward to receive Holy Communion row by row as they direct, please come forward by the middle aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles. Our link for Internet booking is:

<https://forms.gle/ZU2pJCq3s2GyFHnA8>

Think Vocation: Advent is a time of watching and waiting. Are you open to the surprising ways God comes to you? If you think God is calling you to be a priest contact our Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison, tel. 0141 889 5056 or email: vocations@rcdop.org.uk

Advent Retreat: An Advent Retreat will be held at St. James', Paisley on Monday, 29th November and Tuesday, 30th November. Both sessions will begin at 7.00pm.

Closing Mass For The Year of St. Joseph: The year dedicated to St. Joseph will be formally closed by Bishop John with Mass at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 8th December - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - in St. Mirin's Cathedral. All welcome to come and celebrate St. Joseph. Lilies, always associated with St. Joseph, will be available for placing around the statue of St. Joseph in the Cathedral. All welcome to attend.

Marriage And Family Webpage: The Diocese has a dedicated page on the website for Marriage and Family life. It contains a wealth of information, support and resources for many aspects of this important vocation. For more information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/edv6spz4>

SCIAF: Real Gifts are SCIAF's range of ethical Christmas Gifts. For more information, please tel. 0141 354 5555 or visit: <https://sciaf.org.uk/realgifts>