

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL & ST ANDREW'S, RAVELSTON

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh

Second Sunday of Advent – Year B  
Sunday, 10th December 2023

## MASS TIMES IN THE CATHEDRAL (*Broughton Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3JR*)

Day	Time	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Sunday 10 December	6.00pm		Richard Lawson, RIP
	9.00am		People of the Parish
	10.30am		Polish
	12.00pm		Ann Allan
	6.00pm		Polish
	7.30pm		Rohan and Rohit Chiramel
Monday 11 December	10.00am	Saint Damasus I	Veronica McCourt, RIP
	12.45pm		Frank Wright, RIP
	6.00pm		Polish
Tuesday 12 December	10.00am	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Annie Berrick, RIP
	12.45pm		Yonni Community
	6.00pm		Polish
Wednesday 13 December	10.00am	Saint Lucy	John Patrick Byrne, RIP
	12.45pm		Anne Sweeney, RIP
	6.00pm		Polish
Thursday 14 December	9.00am	Saint John of the Cross	Polish
	10.00am		Major Michael Lynch, RIP
	12.45pm		Marie Bond, RIP
	7.00pm	Rorate Mass	James Dillon, RIP
Friday 15 December	10.00am		Charles Taylor, RIP
	12.45pm		Special Intention
	6.00pm		Polish
Saturday 16 December	9.00am		Polish
	10.00am		Jean Carroll, RIP
Confessions:	Monday-Friday	After the 12.45pm Mass 5.00pm to 6.00pm 8.00am-9.00am	(English) (Polish) (Polish)
	Saturday	10.30am-12noon, 5-5.45pm	(English) (English)
Exposition	Saturday	10.30am to 12noon	

## MASS TIMES IN ST ANDREW'S, RAVELSTON (*77 Belford Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS*)

Day	Time	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Sunday 10 December	10.30am		Special Intention
Monday 11 December	7.00pm	Saint Damasus I; Rorate Mass	Sheila Boyle, RIP
Tuesday 12 December	6.00pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Special Intention
Wednesday 13 December	6.00pm	Saint Lucy	Special Intention
Thursday 14 December	6.00pm	Saint John of the Cross	Special Intention
Friday 15 December	6.00pm		Special Intention

PARISH OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL & ST ANDREW'S, RAVELSTON  
The Parish Office can be contacted on 0131 556 1798 or [cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk)

Postal Address: Cathedral House, 61 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD  
Website: [www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk)

Parish Clergy:	Monsignor Patrick Canon Burke (Administrator) Father Robert Taylor (Assistant Priest) Father John Peter Sippai Siluvappan (Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain) Father Tadeusz Puton (Polish Chaplain) Father Jose Thomas (In Residence) Deacon Peter Traynor (Permanent Deacon)		
Parish Sister:	Sr Miriam Fidelis Reed, RSM	<a href="mailto:cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk">cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk</a>	0131 556 1798
Finance Officer:	Caroline Reid	<a href="mailto:finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk">finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk</a>	0131 523 0101
(Mon, Weds, Thurs.)			
Complex Manager:	Alice Harrison	<a href="mailto:complexmanager@stmaryscathedral.co.uk">complexmanager@stmaryscathedral.co.uk</a>	
(Mon, Weds, Thurs.)			
Director of Music:	Michael Ferguson	<a href="mailto:directorofmusic@stmaryscathedral.co.uk">directorofmusic@stmaryscathedral.co.uk</a>	
Organist:	Tom Wilkinson	<a href="mailto:organist@stmaryscathedral.co.uk">organist@stmaryscathedral.co.uk</a>	
Safeguarding:	Chris McCabe	<a href="mailto:chris.mccabe@staned.org.uk">chris.mccabe@staned.org.uk</a>	

**Baptisms:** The next Baptism Preparation Course will be held on Microsoft Teams on Saturday 3 February, 2:30pm. To register your child for baptism, email [cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk).

**Marriages:** Couples should contact the parish office at least six months prior to their proposed wedding.

**Hospital Chaplains:** To contact the hospital chaplains, please phone 07970 537 432 for Western General and 0131 536 1000 for the Royal Infirmary and ask for the priest on call.

**Collection:** Sunday, 3rd December 2023, Cathedral Offertory £1,587.87, Roof appeal £1,214.97 (collected in church) St Andrew's Church Offertory £363.45, St Andrew's Supper (for parish rooms refurbishment) £361.90, Bacon rolls fundraiser (for the homeless) £431.85, Advent Appeal (Cathedral roof) £341.00.

### Music for the 9am Mass

Communion reflection: Taizé *Magnificat*

### Music for the 12pm Mass

Mass setting: Victoria *Missa O Magnum Mysterium*  
Offertory motet: Manz *E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come*  
Organ Voluntary: Bach, *Nun komm, der heiden Heiland BWV 661*



1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake, and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2. Then cleansed be ev'ry breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within;  
prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

3. For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

—

1. My soul is filled with joy  
As I sing to God my saviour:  
You have looked upon your servant,  
You have visited your people.

And holy is your name  
through all generations!  
Everlasting is your mercy  
to the people you have chosen,  
And holy is your name.

2. I am lowly as a child,  
But I know from this day forward  
That my name will be remembered,  
For all will call me blessed.

3. I proclaim the pow'r of God,  
You do marvels for your servants;  
Though you scatter the proud-hearted  
And destroy the might of princes.

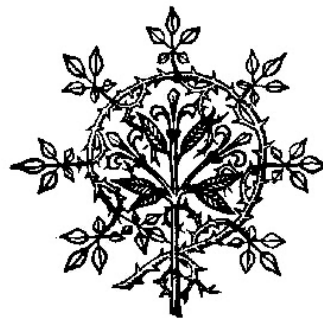
1. Holy Virgin, by God's decree  
you were called eternally;  
that he could give his Son to our race.  
Mary, we praise you, hail full of grace.  
*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*

2. By your faith and loving accord,  
as the handmaid of the Lord,  
you undertook God's plan to embrace.  
Mary we thank you, hail, full of grace.  
*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*

3. Joy to God you gave and expressed,  
of all women none more blessed,  
when in our flesh  
your Son took his place.  
Mary, we love you, hail, full of grace.  
*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*

4. Refuge for your children so weak,  
sure protection all can seek.  
Problems of life you help us to face.  
Mary we trust you, hail, full of grace.  
*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*

5. To our needy world of today  
love and beauty you portray,  
showing the path  
to Christ we must trace.  
Mary, our mother, hail, full of grace.  
*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*



1. Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, take my hands,  
take them for Your work.  
Take them for Your service Lord.  
Take them for Your glory, Lord,  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, take my hands.

2. Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, take my eyes,  
may they shine with joy.  
Take them for Your service, Lord.  
Take them for Your glory, Lord.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, take my eyes.

3. Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, take my lips,  
may they speak Your truth.  
Take them for Your service, Lord.  
Take them for Your glory, Lord.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, take my lips.

4. Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come take my feet,  
may they walk Your path.  
Take them for Your service, Lord.  
Take them for Your glory, Lord.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, take my feet.

—

Immaculate Mary!  
Our hearts are on fire,  
that title so wondrous  
fills all our desire.

*Ave, ave, ave Maria!*  
*Ave, ave, ave Maria!*

We pray for God's glory,  
may His kingdom come!  
We pray for His vicar,  
our father, and Rome.

We pray for our mother  
the church upon earth,  
and bless, sweetest Lady,  
the land of our birth.

For poor, sick, afflicted  
thy mercy we crave;  
and comfort the dying,  
thou light of the grave.



## READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

First reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 ·

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it*

'Console my people, console them' says your God.  
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her  
that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for,  
that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.  
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him.  
The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him.  
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 84(85):9-14

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

Second reading

2 Peter 3:8-14 ·

*We are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

*A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

## PARISH NOTICES

### **Cathedral Roof Appeal**

There has been a tremendous response to our roof appeal – so profound thanks. So far we have raised an incredible £5,000 and remember a very generous donor has offered to double everything that is given for this appeal. The second collection at all Masses today will be for the appeal. If you would like to donate online please visit <https://www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk/roof> , or contact our Finance Office, [finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk).

### **Cathedral Calendars**

As part of the Roof Appeal, we will be selling Cathedral Calendars after all Masses this weekend. These are really beautiful and are an IDEAL Christmas gift for that difficult aunt (!) – or for students to take home to their mums to show they have been at Mass!! Priced at only £10 they are a bargain and should be purchased quickly while stocks last...

### **Rorate Masses**

Our beautiful Advent Rorate Masses continue this week on Monday at 7pm at Ravelston and on Thursday at 7pm at the Cathedral. These are candlelit Masses and are the perfect way to prepare spiritually for Christmas. The Cathedral bookshop will also stay open until 8pm on the evenings of the Rorate Masses at the Cathedral.

### **Extra Times for Confessions in Advent**

Going to Confession is a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas. Two priests will be available for Confession on Saturday mornings from 10:30am until 12:00pm and extra time for Confession will be available on Sundays from 7:00pm. Make time to receive the Lord's healing and forgiveness this Advent.

### **Volunteers required for Christmas and New Year Masses**

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the Christmas Masses and the Mass on New Year's Day. If you are able to help with any of the following Ministries – Reading, EMHC, Passkeeping, Welcoming or Money collecting, please sign up on the sheets at the passkeepers' table or contact Elizabeth Andrews at [Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com](mailto:Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com) – telephone 0131 553 1510.

### **Kathedral Knits on Sale Today**

Joanna Kopystynska's beautiful, knitted goods will be on sale in the Octagon after all Masses today. The items are also available at [www.kathedralknits.etsy.com](http://www.kathedralknits.etsy.com)

**Thank You**

Thank you very much to our parishioners at the Cathedral and St Andrew's for the fantastic response to our request for Christmas gifts for the children of prisoners in Edinburgh (Saughton) Prison. The gifts are very much appreciated by the prisoners as it allows them to give their children a gift at Christmas. Your continued kindness and generosity are very much appreciated.

## **Tonight is Last Youth Group Meeting Before Christmas**

The Youth Group will have its last meeting before Christmas tonight at St Andrew's, Ravelston. Children from P3 to P7 are welcome to join between 6 and 7.30pm for an evening of games, an opportunity to learn something about our faith, prayer and more! Pick up an invitation card with the QR code or you can fill out a form on the night. There is a £1 registration for the whole year. Come along!

## **2024 Marriage Preparation Courses**

Our next Marriage Preparation courses will be in 2024 on the following Saturdays 2nd March, 1st June 24th August and 23rd November at St. Andrew's, Ravelston, 10am-5pm, with presentations by married couples from the parish. Please email [cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk) to register.

## **Catenians Meeting**

The Catenian Association invites all Catholic men, married or single, to a meeting on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, at 7.00 p.m. in 63 York Place. Informal chat to follow in a local pub. Join us! The Association is an international body of Catholic laymen who meet once a month and offer friendship and support to Catholic men at all stages of their lives. For information 01555 728032 or [membership@thecatenians.com](mailto:membership@thecatenians.com).

## **Friendship Group Coffee Afternoon**

Last group meet up this year will be Tuesday 12th December, 2pm - 3.30pm. The group will resume as normal on Tuesday 9th January 2024. A huge thank you to the wonderful staff at Coffee Saints for making us feel welcome, see you all in the New Year.

## **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

The Society had the annual Christmas Mass and lunch 2nd December. The event was well attended and a wonderful lunch was had by all. Thank you to Fr Robert for leading a wonderful Mass. Thank you also to the Young Adult Group and The Legion of Mary for their wonderful support, help with the lunch and their amazing carol singing. If you or someone you know is an older member of the parish and would like to join in with the SSVP events, contact the Cathedral office or speak to a SSVP member when we resume collections in the New Year.

## **Volunteers Needed! Cathedral Flower Arranging**

We ask that you please consider volunteering to assist with arranging of flower displays around the Cathedral. We are very much in need of additional volunteers. Four two-person teams meet once every four weeks, mid-morning on a Friday. Lack of experience is not a barrier if you are interested, as one of the two-person team is an experienced volunteer. To join a team of flower arrangers, or find out more, please contact Elizabeth Andrews at [Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com](mailto:Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com); telephone: 0131 553 1510.

## **Cathedral Rorate Masses**

Volunteers are needed to assist in preparing the Cathedral (laying out candles, welcoming people, etc) prior to the candlelit Rorate Masses and tidying up afterwards. The Rorate Masses will be celebrated on

Thursdays 14th and 21st December. The Masses start at 7pm. You would need to be available from 6pm. If you can assist, then please e-mail Elizabeth Andrews at [Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com](mailto:Elizabeth@rhandrews.plus.com) with a note of your availability.

## **Bacon Roll Donations**

Thank you to all our generous parishioners who donated this weekend and to our great team of workers and cooks who made it a fun and successful morning. We raised just over £430 which will go to an Edinburgh based charitable organisation who feed the homeless all year round.

## **Helpers Needed: Setup and Cleanup for Ravelston Rorate Masses**

Please consider helping us to setup and cleanup for the beautiful candlelit Rorate Masses at St. Andrew's, Ravelston, scheduled for 7pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. We need helpers for each Mass to set up the candles around the church and to tidy them up after the Mass! If you can assist for any of these Masses, please contact [cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk).

## **Become an Altar Server**

We have a dedicated group of servers in St Andrew's, but we are always looking for more to join our ranks. If you have made your First Holy Communion, please speak to Father Robert about serving at the altar during Mass. Adults as well as children are welcome!

## **Parish Project: Voting Slips Available**

Please pick up your voting slip today for our Parish Project. Parish Project. As most of you will know, our current 'Parish Project' is the Rosminian Mission, Fr Binu's seminary in India. It is, however, time for this to be reviewed such that either Fr Binu's seminary will continue as our Parish Project for three more years (commencing 1st Jan 2024) or that another charity will take its place after the end of this year.

As before, the Parish Council would like the parish to vote on this and therefore, today, voting forms will again be handed out at Sunday Mass allowing you, our parishioners, to vote. Brief details of the charities that are listed on the voting forms are on the noticeboard in the Parish Rooms. Please do take this opportunity to cast your vote – a polling box will be at the back of the church in which to place your completed forms and votes will be counted over the coming days. Thank you!

## **Christmas Mass Times**

Christmas Day and Vigil Mass times for our parish and all churches in the Archdiocese can be viewed at [www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/](http://www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/)

## **OTHER NOTICES**

### **Diploma in Catechetics 2024**

Explore the richness and depth of our Catholic faith – all from home – with the Diploma in Catechetics from the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, led by Sr Miriam Ruth Ryan RSM. Tune in each Thursday at 7:30pm for an expert-led Zoom Webinar (or watch the recording at your convenience), and further enjoy guided readings, regular one-to-one support, and an in-person retreat. The Diploma in



Catechetics begins on Thursday 25 January 2024. Concessions available. Registration and info at [bit.ly/archdiploma2024](https://bit.ly/archdiploma2024). Questions? Email [srmiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk](mailto:srmiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk).

## Faith Winter Conference for Young Adults: 'The God Who Speaks'

This new year Fr. Robert will be taking a group of young adults to the Faith Winter Conference from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January to Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January. The conference will be held at the Emmaus Youth Village, Consett, and the theme is "The God Who Speaks: 'This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him.'" Fr. Patrick will also be going, as will Sr. Miriam Fidelis, RSM. The conference is open to anyone between the ages of 16 and 25 and attracts scores of young Catholics from all over Britain with a unique blend of catechetical, spiritual and social activities in a relaxed holiday atmosphere. The cost of the conference for students is £110. If you are interested – please speak to Fr. Robert or Fr. Patrick.

## 'Buffer Zone' Bill

A new bill proposes criminalising prayer and offers of help to women in designated 'buffer zones' around abortion centres in Scotland, including inside private homes within a 200m zone. Please respond to the government consultation which ends on 20 December at [bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey](https://bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey). Please also write to your MSP to express your concerns. Visit <https://rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones> for more information on what you can do to stop this disproportionate and intolerant law being introduced, including help with responding to the consultation and writing to your MSP.

## Donations for Holy Land

Archbishop Cushley is encouraging us to consider donating to Friends of the Holy Land in Advent. A donation page has been set up for the Archdiocese at [bit.ly/archholylan](https://bit.ly/archholylan). Find out more about its work at [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/about-us](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/about-us)

## Explore God's Will: Vocation to the Religious Life

Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the first one takes place on Sunday 28 January, 4-7pm at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. Meetings at same time/venue: 25 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 12 May and 22 June. To register, please email [religiousvocations@staned.org.uk](mailto:religiousvocations@staned.org.uk)

## St Pauls Bookshop

For Christmas gift ideas, cards, bibles, rosary beads, holy images calendars and lots more, visit St Pauls Bookshop at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh (beside John Lewis). It is open seven days a week from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

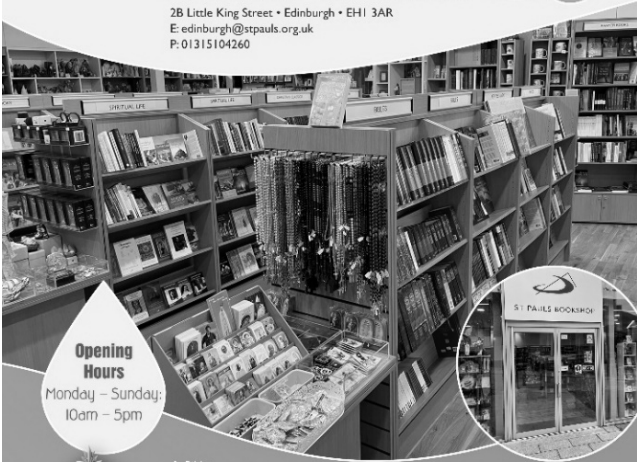


ST PAULS Bookshop



# Books & Gifts

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E: edinburgh@stpauls.org.uk  
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### Opening Hours

Monday – Sunday:  
10am – 5pm



- ❖ Bibles
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- ❖ Sacraments & Sacramentals
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- ❖ Greetings & Prayer Cards
- ❖ Cross & Icons
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