



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

Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A
Sunday 22nd March 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

Although all public Masses are currently suspended, the Cathedral Clergy continues to offer Mass for your intentions. To request a Mass intention, please put an envelope in the box at the back of the Cathedral as usual or contact the Parish Office.

Day	Holy Day	Fr. Patrick	Fr. Jamie	Fr. Tadeusz
Sunday 22 nd		People of the Parish	Mrs E. Gilmartin RIP	śp. L. Szymczak i Marian
Monday 23 rd		Denis Waile	Braulio Rico Bien RIP	AID
Tuesday 24 th		Anna Tana	Margaret O'Rourke	AID
Wednesday 25 th	Annunciation	Special Intention	Thanksgiving	Miasta
Thursday 26 th		Lilian & Joseph Rabbit	Thanksgiving	AID
Friday 27 th		James White	Mrs Margaret Scanlon	Olga o łaski i błog
Saturday 28 th		Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving	AID

Please keep in your prayers the following people and those who care for them: David Aitken, Vittoria Alongi, Margaret Brennan, Barbara Carmichael, Jamie Clark, Gloria Crolla, Monica Davidson, Mary Foster, Joseph Gilhooley, Thomas Kerr, Colette Loir, Francesca Maccagnano, Rose Maughan, Patsy McArthur, William McNair, James McManus, Janette Myles, Mary Nicholson, Theresa Nihill, Kevin Riley, Dolores Storrar, James Robertson, Pat Robson, Bridget Sweeney and Mary Turnbull.

Baptisms If you would like your child to be baptised, please contact the Parish Office. At the moment, the Baptism Preparation course is suspended, and we will do baptism preparation on a one-to-one basis.

Marriages Couples should contact the parish office at Cathedral House 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.

Collections for Sunday the 15th March: £1,481.20 for the Cathedral and £358.97 for Ravelston. Thank you!

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.
In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please do not visit the office in person at the moment.

Postal Address: Cathedral House, 61 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD

Website: www.stmaryscathedral.co.uk

Parish Clergy: Monsignor Patrick Burke (Administrator)
Father Jamie McMorrin (Assistant Priest)
Father Tadeusz Puton (Polish Chaplain)
Father Ephraim Ezulike, Father Jinse Thomas, Father John Peter Sippai Siluvappan (In Residence)
Deacon Peter Traynor (Permanent Deacon)

Parish Secretary: Sister Mary Simone, RSM cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk Tel: 0131 556 1798
Finance Officer: Caroline Reid finance@stmaryscathedral.co.uk Tel: 0131 523 0101
Complex Manager: Andy Hilton complexmanager@stmaryscathedral.co.uk
Director of Music: Michael Ferguson directorofmusic@stmaryscathedral.co.uk
Safeguarding: Chris McCabe chris.mccabe@staned.org.uk

Update on Coronavirus

My Dear Friends, The Bishops Conference of Scotland have decided (upon advice from the Scottish Government) to suspend all public Masses across the country. This decision was not taken lightly and will be reviewed as soon as the Government tells us that it is safe for us to congregate for Mass again. As a consequence, there will be no further public liturgies in the Cathedral or in St. Andrews Ravelston until we have received more instructions from the Archbishop. So, this means that:

- All Catholics are dispensed from their Sunday obligation to go to Mass until further notice;
- The clergy at the Cathedral will celebrate daily Mass privately in the Cathedral House Chapel from now on. We will each remember you all in our Masses;
- As usual, the church will be open every day from 8.00am to 6.00pm. I encourage you all, while we are without the Sacrifice of the Mass, to visit the Blessed Sacrament at the Cathedral to sustain yourselves and your families spiritually;
- Since the Cathedral is open, you will still be able to make the Station of the Cross for Lent privately;
- Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals can go ahead but in the presence of close family who do not display coronavirus symptoms. Please contact the Parish Office about these services;
- There will be confessions at the usual times in our parish: on weekdays at 1.15pm and on Saturday mornings from 10.30-12noon and on Saturday evenings from 5-6pm;
- The sick and the dying will receive the Sacraments when necessary. Contact the parish office if you need a priest;
- I encourage all families to say the Rosary together at the time when you would usually be at Mass.
- While we are unable to be together at the altar, we can still be united in our prayers. You could read the readings that we would have had at Mass. You can also access Mass online;
- If possible, try to make a private visit with your family to the church on Sundays to pray for a time before Jesus in the tabernacle, even though you will not be able to receive Him in Holy Communion;
- The newsletter will still be printed. It can be accessed online or collected at the back of the Cathedral;
- The Parish Council are working with me to coordinate a programme of parish outreach to those who are unable to leave their homes and who may need our help. In the meantime, if you need assistance or you know of someone who may need assistance, call the parish office on 0131 556 1798 to let us know.

Finally, as fear and panic seem to gain the upper hand in the minds of many around us, let us remember how often Jesus told his disciples: "Do not be afraid." We are Christians and as such we are not afraid - neither of this virus nor of anything else. We trust in God, knowing that he never ceases to care for us and that he will never abandon us. So let us be of good cheer. Let us look out for those around us who may be isolated or need our help. And let us use this time of enforced retreat to deepen in our spiritual lives and to grow closer to the Lord. Fr. Patrick

Gift Aid and Other Donations

These are difficult and unsettling times. Under normal circumstances, we would be starting to distribute new gift aid envelope sets this coming weekend for the approaching new tax year. However, these are designed to be used for donations into the weekly offertory collections, of which there will be none over the coming weeks. In addition, many of you may be unable to visit and collect your envelope set for a while. Unfortunately, despite the suspension of daily and weekly Masses, the running costs of our churches will continue to accrue. For those of you who have moved to give by standing order, we thank you, for this provides the parish with a continuous source of income even in these uncertain times. If you currently use weekly envelopes, please consider moving to standing order instead.

A Big Thank You to Our 'Concerts in the Cathedral' Organisers and Volunteers

I am happy to announce that the *Concerts in the Cathedral* raised a fantastic £18K towards Cathedral funds, and a generous donor has promised to match the income from the ticket sales! Thank you so much to Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Barbara Dickson and Nick Holland for giving of their time and talent. Thank you also to Ursula Green, Nicola McDonagh, Oliver Cookson, Valerie Ball, Darlene Newman and all of our parishioners who volunteered during the concerts – this really would not have been possible without your generosity!

New Archivist Needed

Oula Jones, our archivist, has retired after many years of faithful service. If you would like to succeed her in helping to care for the historic legacy of the Cathedral, please contact the Parish office.

Do You Need Help Getting Groceries Home?

Are you unable to get to the store to buy food? Or would you like to join the team of volunteers who will be bringing groceries to our elderly and housebound parishioners? Please contact Marie McQuillan on 0131 332 6028.