





## For parish newsletters 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

### Weekly Celebrations Schedule: 4<sup>th</sup>– 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Day Off	Day Off	Day Off	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	9:20 pm	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	<i>Christmas Time</i>
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Sunday Mass	<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sunday Mass	

**Covid-19:** As most of you will now be aware, from Boxing Day, all of mainland Scotland will have Level 4 restrictions applied, initially, for three weeks, from Saturday 26 December to Saturday 11 January.

#### That means for all parishes in the Archdiocese that

-  Mass capacity: 20 (*children under 12 do not count towards this number*)
-  Weddings: 20 (no receptions)
-  Funerals: 20 (no post-funeral gatherings in church hall)
-  Baptisms: 20

So, we still have two Sundays requiring Mass booking system (3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021).

**Booking for St Anthony's church:** please contact Clare Cushing at 01360 550166

**Booking for St Kessog's church:** please contact Patricia Orr at 01360 770202.

#### Best Wishes from Fr Jacob

Dear parishioners, 2020 has been an unprecedented hard year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. "But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. (2Peter 3:8-9).

Happy and Blessed New Year 2021! Peace and joy from Our Saviour Jesus Christ to all of you!

#### Offer of help:

We have had a kind offer of help from a 21-year-old and a 16-year-old who would be happy to run errands or pick up messages for anyone who needs it, or is shielding. Based in Strathblane, but the older one has access to a car.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** This takes place from 18-25 January. Resources are available at <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/>

### Sacramental Talks

Rediscover the power of the Sacraments in a new online talk titled *Fire & Water*, covering confirmation and baptism. Sign up for your deanery area by emailing [sranna.marie@staned.org.uk](mailto:sranna.marie@staned.org.uk). All talks on Zoom. Fife: Mon 11 Jan 2:00pm; West Lothian Mon 11 Jan 7:30pm; Mid/East Lothian & Borders; Mon 18 Jan 2:00pm; Edinburgh Mon 18 Jan 7:30pm; Falkirk & Stirling Mon 25 Jan 7:30pm.

### ‘DIY’ Home Abortion

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation around this unsafe method of abortion. The Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office has produced guidelines on how to effectively answer the questions. For copies email Paul Atkin: [prolife@staned.org.uk](mailto:prolife@staned.org.uk). Closing date for submissions is 05 January 2021.

### Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis has proclaimed a year of St Joseph which runs until 08 Dec 2021. He has issued a new Apostolic Letter, which is available online. Just type *Patris Corde* into your web browser. The letter marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX’s declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

### Say NO to Assisted Suicide

The assisted suicide lobby have launched a large campaign to put pressure on the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide by conducting a review of the law. Thankfully, the Government has recently [resisted](#) these attempts and emphasised their commitment to neutrality on this issue. It is vital that it is clear to the Government that the public want them to continue to hold strong against this pressure from assisted suicide campaigners and rejects their demands and so ***we are encouraging members of the public to write to their MP asking them to support this sensible piece of legislation.***

**Parish Bulletin :** If you have any news you would like included in our Sunday Parish Bulletin, please email it to Frances: [fmdouglas61@icloud.com](mailto:fmdouglas61@icloud.com) (Mobile: 07901336305) by Thursday evening. If you know of anyone who would like to receive the bulletin by email, please let Frances know. The current bulletin and previous ones can also be seen on the parish website.

**Gift Aid :** If you would like envelopes for Gift Aid, or have any questions regarding donating to the parish, please contact George Edwards on Tel: 07776 683172 or e-mail: [geojoedwards@yahoo.com](mailto:geojoedwards@yahoo.com)

### Cleaning & Flowers Rotas

	St Anthony’s Balfron	St Kessog’s Blanefield	Date
Cleaning	Justyna & John (1st - 3rd Jan 2021)	Mirzi Clark	Week beginning 4th Jan 2021
Flowers	Moyra & Frances	Elizabeth Taylor	2nd - 9th Jan 2021.