

# St Kessog's Catholic Parish: One Parish, two churches

## St Anthony's Balfron and St Kessog's Blanefield

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### Weekly Celebrations Schedule: 3rd – 9th January 2022

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
<b>Monday</b> 3rd January			NO MASS	
<b>Tuesday</b> 4th January	Day Off	Day Off	Day Off	
<b>Wednesday</b> 5th January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
<b>Thursday</b> 6th January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
<b>Friday</b> 7th January	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Daily Mass <b>First Friday</b>	
<b>Saturday</b> 8th January	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
<b>Sunday</b> 9th January	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Sunday Mass	The Baptism of The Lord
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sunday Mass	

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of January, the *Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God*, there will be *only one Mass at 10:00am in Blanefield for all of us in the Parish.*

### Synod 2021-23

A Synod of Bishops takes place in 2023 on the subject of *Synodality* of our Church. Pope Francis has asked each diocese across the world to prepare for that Synod through a period of discussion and discernment. We now begin that synodal process here in our Archdiocese. There are three themes to discuss and discern in the coming months: *communion, participation* and *mission*. This comes at a time when we face several important considerations in the Church and in the world:

-  A growing hostility to the message of Christ in all its richness;
-  The problem of the present pandemic, which touches the life of all;
-  The threat to God's good earth caused by human economic activity.

In the light of the above, the Archbishop Leo invites us to get involved in any discussions that take place in our parish community. As we cannot meet together at this moment, we will send you some questions shortly and wait for your answers which will be sent to the diocese.

Meanwhile, Sister Anna Marie McGuan RSM and Fr John Deighan are helping to lead discussion at various levels in the diocese and deaneries. There will be two events in each deanery in our Archdiocese. The hosting Parish in our deanery is **St Francis Xavier's in Falkirk**. So *we are*

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St Kessog's is a Parish of the Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrew and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland – number SCO085. Contact: Tel. 01360770300. Parish Website: [www.parihofstkessog.org](http://www.parihofstkessog.org) Email Address: [stkessogs1@gmail.com](mailto:stkessogs1@gmail.com)

Mail Address: St Kessog's Presbytery, 4, Campsie Dene Road, Blanefield, G63 9BN. UK.

**looking for volunteers** who can represent our Parish at those deanery Events in St Francis Xavier's Falkirk.

✚ The first event is a preparatory Holy Hour: **4 January 2022**, starts at **7:30pm**

✚ The second event is the synodal meeting itself: **4 January 2022**, starts at **7:00pm**.

In each deanery, *every parish should send up to five delegates to its deanery-specific event*. This will help to ensure adequate representation from across the deanery.

✚ Delegates should attend both the Holy Hour and the synodal meeting.

✚ There is no need to submit names or numbers in advance

✚ **The meetings are open to all**. So, as well as the 'official' delegates, all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

To volunteer, please contact Fr Jacob by email at [stkessogs1@gmail.com](mailto:stkessogs1@gmail.com) or call him at **01360770300**.

## **Suspension of the Sunday Obligation**

"At the beginning of Advent the Bishops of Scotland looked forward to welcoming the faithful back to Holy Mass and anticipated that the restoration of the Sunday Obligation might be possible as we begin the New Year. Sadly, there has been a serious worsening of the situation and **the restoration of the obligation will be postponed until a more favourable time**. For us Sunday is always a Holy Day and we invite those who are unable to be with us in person to continue to join with us in prayer and spiritual communion either by personal or family prayers or by online celebrations of Mass. We ask everyone to continue to pray for a speedy end to the Pandemic and for the good health of you and your loved ones in 2022. We also pray for all those who passed during 2021 and those who grieve. May Our Lady Health of the Sick pray for us and may Saints Andrew and Margaret protect us."

## **Scottish Government: C19 & places of worship**

As regards Covid guidelines, the Bishops' Conference of Scotland inform us that "**there are no further changes for places of worship**. That means there are no new measures regarding capacity of physical distancing. Please continue best practice: ensuring face coverings are worn (unless exempt); that buildings are as ventilated as they can be; encouraging sanitising of hands. Tea/coffee gatherings after Mass are permitted. If you host these in your hall please ensure it is done as safely as possible."

## **Diploma in Catechetics 2022**

The Diploma in Catechetics lasts one year, begins in January 2022 and costs £200. Students £150. Other concessions are available. Sr Anna Marie McGuan and a range of guest speakers bring you ***online lectures each Thursday, guided reading, one-to-one support, retreats and supplementary courses on Zoom and YouTube***. For information please email Sr Anna Marie using the address [sranna.marie@staned.org.uk](mailto:sranna.marie@staned.org.uk) . Register at [bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022](https://bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022)

## **Food Bank collection in our Parish**

The food bank collection has started again in our Parish (St Anthony's church and St Kessog's church). There will be a box at the back of each of our churches for the collection of donations to the Food bank. Please no perishables, as usual, but tins, long-life cartons and dry goods all welcome. Thank you

## **Save the Date**

***Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love***. There will be three talks explaining this important document, an apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis, ***beginning 10 January*** and led by Sr Anna Marie, the

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Archdiocese's Catechetics Advisor, and Fr Nick Welsh, vice rector of the Scots College in Rome. Details to follow soon.

### Save the Date

**Music Day.** This takes place on **Saturday 22 January** at the **Gillis Centre**, Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, **10:00am-3:30pm**. The theme is *Liturgical Music Making in a Post-Pandemic World*. The day is open to everyone, especially those involved in leading and playing music, as well as singers. Details to follow soon.

Happy and Healthy New year 2022 to all of You !

### Cleaning & Flowers Rotas

	St Anthony's Balfron	St Kessog's Blanefield	Date
<b>Cleaning</b>	Brenda & Martin	Patricia Orr	3rd - 9th Jan 2022
<b>Flowers</b>	Frances	Elizabeth Taylor	8th Jan 2022

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