

St Kessog's Catholic Parish: One Parish, two churches
St Anthony's Balfroon & St Kessog's Blanefield

Parish Sunday Bulletin 5th December 2021

Weekly Celebrations Schedule: 6th December - 12th December 2021

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
Monday 6th December	10.00am	St Anthony's Balfroon	Daily Mass	
Tuesday 7th December	Day Off			St Ambrose Memorial
Wednesday 8th December	10.00am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity
Thursday 9th December	9.20am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Eucharistic Adoration	
	10.00am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Friday 10th December	10.00am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Saturday 11th December	9.30am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Holy Rosary	
	10.00am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Sunday 12th December	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfroon	Sunday Mass	Third Sunday of Advent
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sunday Mass	

Advent as a spiritual journey to Christmas

“A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.” (Luke 3:4). Advent is a time of spiritual preparation leading to Christmas but not Christmas yet ! Since last Sunday (1st Sunday of Advent) we have started this spiritual journey to Christmas, striving to prepare a spotless place in our hearts and lives where Jesus can be born again. Following the Voice which cries in today's Gospel, let us make this Advent a favourable time of Penitence and Prayer, time of Reconciliation with God and with one another. Moreover, in this time of expectation of our Salvation in Jesus Christ, with eyes and hearts turned to the future, let us strive “to become pure and blameless, and prepare [ourselves] for the Day of Christ, when [we] will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.” (Philippians 1:11) .

Advent talks: Faith, Hope & Love

Find out more about the season of Advent and the virtues of Faith, Hope and Love in a series of online talks held each Monday in Advent. Hosted by the Archdiocese, the second talk is on **Monday 6 December 7:30pm-8:00pm**, led by Canon Hugh White. No registration required, simply use this link each week to join: bit.ly/AdventTalk (or webinar ID: 891 8951 4801).

Advent: Rosary for Life

Join parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese each Tuesday throughout Advent to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. It continues this **Tuesday (7 December)** at **7:45pm** and includes a reflection from Fr Bobby Taylor who is based in Rome. Event on Zoom, register at <https://bit.ly/7DecRosary>

Mass for Vocations

The monthly Mass for Vocations is a time for people in the Archdiocese to pray that more young people will listen and respond to God's call to the priesthood or religious life. It takes place at **7pm on Monday 6 December** at **St Francis Xavier's in Falkirk**. All welcome.

40 Hours' Devotion

The 40 Hours' Devotion has started and takes place at parishes across the Archdiocese throughout this new liturgical year. It continues this weekend in the Parish of St Serf's in Kirkcaldy (St Marie's and St Pius, Kirkcaldy, St Ninian's, Cardenden) and St Mary's Haddington/St Gabriel in Prestonpans. Full parish schedule for the 40 Hours' Devotion: bit.ly/40hoursschedule

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

The Archdiocese is recruiting

The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh is looking to recruit a full-time Religious Education Adviser (Primary Schools). Closing date for applications is **13 December**. Details at bit.ly/vacancy_2021

Restoration of Sunday Obligation

The Bishops of Scotland have decided that the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation will be reinstated from **Sunday 2 January 2022**. Their pastoral letter can be read at bcos.org.uk

Getting married?

You should be in touch with the parish priest at least six months before getting married. A Marriage Preparation Course is a requirement for those wishing to get married in the Catholic Church. Courses fill up fast so please register via bit.ly/ArchMarriagePrep2021-22

Mary's Meals *Double the Love* Campaign

"Mary's Meals are pleased to announce their [Double the Love](https://marysmeals.org.uk) campaign. From 1st November 2021 to 31st January 2022, all donations up to a total of £1.6 million will be matched by a generous group of private donors. Every little act of love for the hungry children who eat Mary's Meals will be doubled during this period, so please consider supporting this campaign and praying for its success. There are many ways to donate, including choosing Mary's Meals gift cards as a meaningful gift this Christmas, or setting a virtual place at your Christmas table – find out more at [Home | Mary's Meals UK \(marysmeals.org.uk\)](https://marysmeals.org.uk)."

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Standing Order Payments:

Message from George : This is specifically aimed at our parishioners paying by Standing Order into the current St Anthony's bank account. Central Finance of the Archdiocese have instructed us that only one bank account should be operated in each parish and we should comply with this instruction. Therefore can I ask that all our parishioners currently paying through the bank amend their standing orders and make all donations to the account detailed below:

Bank: Royal Bank of Scotland

Account Name: Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, St Kessog's Blanefield

Account Number: 10423646 **Sort Code:** 83-06-08

Finance

We thank you for your financial support to our Parish. Nevertheless, we still need your support to face our regular bills or invoices. That is why, we still encourage you to make a standing order through the Parish **Bank Account Name:** Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, St Kessog's Blanefield; **Account Number:** 10423646; **Sort Code:** 83-06-08; or to send a cheque to Parish Priest House in Blanefield (See the Postal Code in the footer).

Gift Aid: For any questions regarding donating to the parish, please contact George Edwards on Tel: 07866 683172 or e-mail: geojoedwards@yahoo.com

Parish Bulletin: If you have any news you would like included in our Sunday Parish Bulletin, please email it to Frances: 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.

Cleaning & Flowers Rotas

	St Anthony's Balfron	St Kessog's Blanefield	Date
Cleaning	Justyna & Katie	Marion Hoyle	Week 6th - 12th December
Flowers	Advent- no flowers	Advent - no flowers	Saturday 11th Dec