

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




St Anthony's Balfron and St Kessog's Blanefield

Weekly Celebrations Schedule: 20th – 26th December 2021

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
Monday 20 th December	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Daily Mass	
Tuesday 21 st December	Day Off	Day Off	Day Off	
Wednesday 22 nd December	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Thursday 23 rd December	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Friday 24 th December Christmas Eve	6:00 pm	St Anthony's Balfron	Eve Mass	Christmas Eve
	7:30 pm	St Kessog's Blanefield	Eve Mass	
Saturday 25 th December Christmas Day	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Christmas Mass of the Day	Christmas Day
Sunday 26 th December	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Sunday Mass	The Holy Family
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sunday Mass	



Covid Update

As of today, there is no change to the current Covid guidance for places of worship, so please continue with the procedures you have in place. The BCOS Infection Control Group has highlighted the following:

-  Ensure ventilation in churches during Masses, even in the winter months. Sir Harry Burns, chair of the group, has said this is the most important factor in preventing the spread of Covid.
-  There is no requirement for cleaning of pews between Masses. It is sufficient for parishioners to sanitise their hands and to wear a mask, **unless exempt**.
-  A QR code placed on pews to enable 'track and trace' dispenses with the need to take names, thus preventing queues at church entrances.

Christmas Masses Schedule

As displayed in the table above, there will **two Christmas Eve Masses** in our Parish:

-  **6:00 pm in St Anthony's church in Balfron**
-  **7:30 pm in St Kessog's church in Blanefield.**

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 Email Address: stkessogs1@gmail.com

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

With regard to physical distancing and considering the size of our churches, a booking mass system is helpful for us. Please contact Clare Cushing or Patricia Orr and let them know to which of the above Eve Christmas masses you would like to attend and how many you will be.

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

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

Only **one Mass of the Day** on **December 25th**, 2021, at **10:00 am** in St Anthony's **Balfron**.

Individual Confession: *Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd after daily mass or by arrangement.*

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

Diploma in Catechetics 2022

Get ready to explore the richness and depth of the Catholic faith with course leader Sr Anna Marie McGuan from the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. She 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. The Diploma in Catechetics lasts one year, begins in January 2022 and costs £200. Students £150. Other concessions are available. For information email Sr Anna Marie McGuan: sranna.marie@staned.org.uk . Register at bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022

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

40 Hours' Devotion

The 40 Hours' Devotion takes place in parishes across the Archdiocese throughout this new liturgical year. It is on Fri 17 to Sun 19 December at Ss John Cantius, 34 West Main Street, Broxburn. Details at broxburncatholicchurch.co.uk. There is no 40 Hours' Devotion over the Christmas period. It restarts on the weekend of 9 January at Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael's, Musselburgh. Come and pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Full schedule for parishes: bit.ly/40hoursschedule

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 final talk is on Monday 20 December 7:30pm-8:00pm, with Sr Anna Marie McGuan. No registration required, simply use this link each week to join: bit.ly/AdventTalk (or webinar ID: 891 8951 4801). All talks are recorded and available to watch on YouTube: bit.ly/ArchYouTube

Advent: Rosary for Life

Parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese having been praying the Rosary online each Tuesday throughout Advent for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. The **final Rosary** is at **7:45pm** this **Tuesday (21 December)** and includes a reflection from Archbishop Cushley. Event on Zoom, register at bit.ly/21DecRosary

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Feast of the Holy Innocents

Archbishop Cushley will celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB, at midday on Tuesday 28 December. The Mass has been organised by our Pro-Life Office and will be followed by refreshments, covid guidelines permitting. Register at bit.ly/InnocentsMass21

Mary's Meals: Double the Love

Until 31 January 2022, all donations up to a total of £1.6 million will be matched by a group of private donors, 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 marysmeals.org.uk

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 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.

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).

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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	Brenda & Martin	Elizabeth Taylor	20th -26th Dec
Flowers	Frances	(to be decided)	Christmas Flowers