

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

Parish Sunday Bulletin 17 December 2023

Celebrations Schedule: 17 – 25 December 2023

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
Sun. 17 Dec.	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Sunday Mass	3rd Sunday of Advent Year B
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield		
Mon. 18 Dec.	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Weekday Mass	
	10:30 – 11:30	St Anthony's Balfron	CONFESSIONS	
Wed. 20 Dec.	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Mass of the Memorial	
Thu. 21 Dec.	9:20 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Eucharistic Adoration	
	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Mass of the Memorial	
Fri. 22 Dec.	4pm – 6pm	St Kessog's Blanefield	CONFESSIONS	
Sat. 23 Dec.	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Weekday Mass	
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sophie Joan Gorham's Baptism	
	5:30PM	St Anthony's Balfron	4th Sunday of Advent VIGIL MASS	4th Sunday of Advent Year B
SUN 24 DEC	11:00am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Sunday Mass	
	7:00PM	St Anthony's Balfron	CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
MON 25 DEC	10:30AM	St Kessog's Blanefield	CHRISTMAS MASS OF THE DAY	JESUS CHRIST

Confessions: It is highly recommended to go to confession before celebrating Christmas and Easter. This week, there will Confessions on **Monday 18th** in **Balfron St Anthony's church** at **10:30-11:30am**, and **Friday 22nd** in **Blanefield St Kessog's church** at **4-6pm**. Also any day by arrangement with the Priest. Please click on the following link and listen to the video message from the Archbishop Leo Cushley about the importance of Confession as a spiritual preparation for Christmas : <https://youtu.be/eGiLYxUWbeo>

Advent Rosary for Life [zoom event]

Pray with parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese at our Advent Rosary for Life. This **online Rosary** takes place on **Monday 18 December 2023** at **7:45pm**. This includes a reflection from **Monsignor Allan Chambers** of St Mary's Parish in Bathgate. To register click on [Advent Rosary for Life - 21 December - with Archbishop Cushley Tickets, Wed 21 Dec 2022 at 19:45 | Eventbrite](#)

Organised by the pro-life office of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. All pro-life events at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/pro-life-events-150559>

Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents

Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the **Feast of the Holy Innocents** at **12 noon on Thursday 28 December**. He will celebrate Mass at **St Margaret's Chapel in the Gillis Centre**, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. **Refreshments will be served afterwards** in the Islay room of the Gillis Centre.

Parking: **Gillis parking** is available but limited. Come early to secure a space. Metered parking is available outside Gillis on Strathearn Road, Whitehouse Loan and Thirlestane Road.

Bus: Edinburgh's **Number 5** bus stops directly outside the Gillis Centre.

Driving: **Postcode** for the Gillis Centre is **EH9 1BB**.

Explore: A Retreat for Young Women

Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, **the first one takes place on Sunday 28 January, 4-7pm at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh**. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. The series continues each month at the same time/venue: **25 Feb; 17 Mar; 21 Apr; 12 May; 22 June**.

Diploma in Catechetics 2024

The Diploma in Catechetics is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith in 2024!

- Register now and receive an early bird discount of 20%.
- The year-long course **begins on Thursday 25 January 2024**.
- **Sessions delivered on Zoom each week** by a range of expert speakers.
- Regular one-to-one sessions with course leader Sr Miriam Ruth.

To register, please go to www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diploma-in-catechetics-2024-registration

Joint Christmas Message

Archbishop Cushley and The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland have released a joint Christmas message. The collaboration between Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton and the Archbishop Cushley (who is the Bishop President for Ecumenical Relations for the Bishops' Conference of Scotland) is a symbol of Christian unity in a deeply troubled world. It follows the signing of the historic St Margaret Declaration last year, which recognises that the two churches have more in common than divides them and are brothers and sisters in Christ. [[See Attached](#)]

Last Sunday Collection.

Many thanks to all of you for your generosity. We also thank those who donate by direct debit.

Parish Census: In order, for us, to function well as a Parish it is important that we have up to date contact details for all our parishioners. Please take a few minutes to complete the registration form on the website: <https://parishofstkessog.org/> (in the 'Connect' section, under the 'Welcome' heading). Thank You.

Gift Aid: 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 at fmdouglas61@icloud.com or to Fr Jacob at stkessogs1@gmail.com .

You can find this Bulletin and previous ones on our Parish website: www.parishofstkessog.org