

15 December 2024

SAINT KESSOG'S

ONE PARISH - TWO CHURCHES

MASS | SAINT ANTHONY'S
SUN | 9.30AM

SAINT KESSOG'S
SUN | 11.00AM



Celebrations in the Parish

If you have a special event to celebrate, such as a birthday, wedding anniversary, or memorial for a departed loved one, and would like to share it with other parishioners by having it included in the bulletin, please contact Fiona Radif stkessogsparish@gmail.com

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel Luke 3:10-18

What must we do?

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called "Gaudete"

Sunday from the Latin for "rejoice." It marks the midpoint of Advent when the "vestments become a little lighter and the rose candle on the Advent wreath is lit.

John the Baptist shows us the way to the profound joy that is at the spiritual heart of this season. In the Gospel, several groups of people ask him how they should prepare for the Messiah. John tells the crowds to share what they have with others, that is, to shun selfishness and greed. He tells the Tax collectors not to extort money from people. He admonishes the Soldiers not to abuse their power. In other words, John tells us today that to prepare for Christ at Christmas is not by singing or decorating but by **repentance**.

The joy of this Gaudete Sunday, comes from appreciating the fact that our Christmas doesn't have to be picture-perfect to be truly Christmas. Christ can come to us in our imperfection.

His Kingdom can begin to take root in our life today. But we need to prepare the way for the Lord, to clear Him a straight path and He will come. Whatever the limitations of our life, we will be able to experience the joy of His presence. In John the Baptist's words today, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire," that burns out the phony, releases the genuine and ignites others.

cont'd over

THANK YOU

Last Sunday's cash collection

SAINT ANTHONY'S
£110.50

SAINT KESSOG'S
£161

TOTAL
£271.50

We also thank those who donate by direct debit.



PARISH NEWS

Repentance is the key to a joy-filled Christmas. With repentance, Christ becomes and remains an important part of our life. There are many ways of clearing a way for the Lord. For us Catholics, one way is very specific and concrete. That way is **the sacrament of Penance with its honest self-examination, confession and intention to change our life; absolution and God's grace.** Repentance is the door to a magnificent Christmas. St. Francis de Sales once wrote that real repentance is strong, settled, constant and tranquil not turbulent and occasional.

So let us take some time today to reflect on the words of John in our Gospel and examine the grey areas of our lives that requires attention. Then we can truly rejoice in the Lord.

God bless you!

Fr. John Adesotu

Message from Fr. John Adesotu

Dear friends, I wish to thank you for the warm welcome I have received since I arrived. I thank Fr. Jacob Kabamba for the great work he did as Administrator here. I am delighted to be here. I am grateful to Archbishop Leo Cushley for appointing me as Parish administrator of St. Kessog's and St Anthony's. I pray the Lord to bless us all as we work together to advance his kingdom here on earth. Once again, thank you.

Brief Profile: Fr. John Emokpae Adesotu is a priest from Nigeria and ordained on 16th August 2014, for the Archdiocese of Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. He served in various capacities in his Archdiocese (as Vice Principal, Secretary to the Archbishop, member of the Diocesan Curia, Administrator to various parishes etc), before he was sent to Rome to study in 2020. He has bachelor's degrees in philosophy and theology, a Post Graduate Diploma in Education and a licentiate degree in Patristics Science from the Pontificium Institutum Patristicum Augustinianum, Rome. He is on mission in the Archdiocese of St. Andrews & Edinburgh.

Mass for the Opening of the Jubilee Year

Archbishop Cushley will solemnly open the Jubilee Year 2025 for the Archdiocese with Holy Mass and the blessing of the Jubilee Cross at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, at midday on **Sunday 29 December.**

Follow 'Holy Year Scotland 2025' on Facebook & visit www.iubilaum2025.va for more details about this special year.

Lourdes 2025

The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Holy Year 2025 takes place from **11-18 July**. For more details please visit <https://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25>

Explore the new Lectionary

Join Fr Jamie McMorrin at 7:00pm this Wednesday (18 Dec) on Zoom as he continues his series exploring the new Lectionary. Register at bit.ly/lectionaryadvent. Catch up on the YouTube channel of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh.

Marriage, Family and Life

The Catholic Families for Life Newsletter is available to read online. Visit <https://marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk/newsletter/>



Advent Rosary

The annual Advent Rosary continues on Zoom this **Monday 16 December** at 7:45pm, with a reflection from Sr Mary Joseph who is based in Aberdeen Diocese. Join us to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/adventrosary

Diploma in Catechetics

The Diploma in Catechetics is a year-long course beginning in January. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, readings from the Catechism and regular one-to-one support. Holy Year discount: £125 (normally £200). Register at bit.ly/diploma2025

Lourdes Carol Service

The annual Carol service organised by the Lourdes Hospitalité Committee takes place today (**Sunday 15 December**) at 3pm in St Margaret's Church, Davidsons Mains, Edinburgh. All welcome.

Feast of the Holy Innocents

Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents at St Margaret's Chapel at The Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB on **Saturday 28 December** at midday. Complimentary refreshments and social afterwards. Register at bit.ly/proliffevents or just come along on the day.



CHRISTMAS

SERVICES

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Confession
St. Anthony's Balfour	Carol singing at 5.30pm followed by Mass at 6pm	9.30am	Dec 22 after 9.30am Mass
St. Kessog's Blanefield	Carol singing at 7pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm	11am	Dec 22 after 11am Mass

15 December – 22 December 2024

	Sun 15	Mon 16	Wed 18	Thu 19	Fri 20	Sat 21	Sun 22
Saint Anthony's	9.30am	10am					9.30am
Saint Kessog's	11am		10am	10am	10am	10am	11am
Feast/Event	37th Sun B						38th Sun B

For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit
<https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/>



PARISH CENSUS

In order, 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:

www.parishofstkessog.org

see the 'Connect' section, under 'Welcome'.

St Kessog's is a Parish of the Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, a registered Scottish charity (No. SCO085)

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