

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 3:1-6

**"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."**

The coming of God's Son, Jesus Christ, into the world was not only foretold but also prepared by the prophets. Among them, John the Baptist held a singular mission: to ready the people to receive the Messiah and to reveal His presence among them. In this Sunday's Gospel, St Luke identifies John the Baptist as **"the voice of one crying in the wilderness"** quoting Isaiah 40:3-5. In this passage, the prophet offers hope and consolation to the people of Israel during their Babylonian exile, proclaiming a divine intervention in which God would lead His people out of captivity and restore them.

Luke's inclusion of Isaiah 40:5, **"All flesh shall see the salvation of God"** underscores the universal nature of God's Salvation in Jesus Christ. While Isaiah's original message focuses on the restoration of Israel, Luke broadens its scope to encompass all humanity, emphasising God's unwavering faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. This establishes Jesus as the culmination of Israel's hopes and the centrepiece of God's redemptive plan for all people.

The wilderness, or desert, holds profound theological significance in Israel's story. It recalls the Exodus, the journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, during which God's salvific power was revealed and His covenant with His people was forged (Exodus 19-24). Just as Israel's identity was shaped in

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THANK YOU

Last Sunday's cash collection

SAINT ANTHONY'S
£63

SAINT KESSOG'S
£74.95

TOTAL
£137.95

We also thank those who donate by direct debit.

the wilderness, John's call for repentance in the desert invites us to embrace a spiritual renewal.

The metaphorical imagery of levelling paths, filling valleys, and straightening crooked ways points to repentance and renewal, which require a moral and spiritual transformation. John the Baptist's voice and mission are not confined to a specific time or place but resonate with us today. His call challenges us to prepare ourselves, through repentance and good deeds, to welcome the Saviour into our hearts, our families, and our society. Let us take John's message seriously, so that all in our own time may witness God's divine intervention. Thus, **"all flesh shall see the salvation of God."**

Fr. Jacob



We are delighted to warmly welcome Fr. John to our parish community. We look forward to his ministry among us and pray for God's blessings on him as he begins this new chapter with us. May we all join together in offering our support and friendship.

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 and visit www.iubilaeum2025.va for more details about this special year.

Explore the new Lectionary

Join Fr Jamie McMorrin at 7:00pm this Wednesday (11 Dec) on Zoom as he continues his series exploring the new Lectionary. [Register at bit.ly/lectionaryadvent](https://bit.ly/lectionaryadvent). Catch up on the YouTube channel of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh.

Advent Rosary

The annual Advent Rosary continues on Zoom this Monday (9 Dec) at 7:45pm, with a reflection from Fr Peter Shankland (St Francis Xavier's, Falkirk). Join us to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. [Register at bit.ly/adventrosary](https://bit.ly/adventrosary)

The Diploma in Catechetics is filling – Register now

Live your faith more integrally in 2025 through the Diploma in Catechetics. The course explores the fundamentals of Catholicism in an engaging manner. 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). Non-Catholics welcome. Learn more and register at bit.ly/diploma2025

Lourdes Carol Service

The annual Carol service organised by the Lourdes Hospitalité Committee takes place on Sunday 15 December 2024 at 3pm in St Margaret's Church, Davidsons Mains, Edinburgh. All welcome.

Help after abortion

Abortion Recovery Care & Helpline (ARCH) helps anyone struggling after an abortion with counselling and supportive help. All services are provided confidentially, compassionately, without judgement and free of charge. Call the UK Helpline: 0345 603 8501, 7pm-10pm daily & 9am-5pm Mon-Fri or email info@archtrust.org.uk

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. Complimentary refreshments and social afterwards. [Register at bit.ly/proliffevents](https://bit.ly/proliffevents) or just come along on the day.

Justice & Peace Scotland updates

See all the latest activities and campaigning across the J&P network in the latest newsletter, available at www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk. Includes info as to how you can become involved and play your part.

COMMUNITY CORNER

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES 2025

Sacramental Preparation Classes will begin at the end of January. If you would like your child to join the classes and prepare to receive these sacraments, please contact Fr. John or one of our Parish Catechists – Anne, Sara and Louise louise.young1979@outlook.com

ST KESSOGS PARISH WHATSAPP GROUP

Joining is easy! Simply scan the QR code with your **WhatsApp camera**, and you'll be added right away.



WEEK AHEAD

8 November – 15 December 2024


	Sun 8	Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thu 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	Sun 15
Saint Anthony's	9.30am							9.30am
Saint Kessog's	11am							11am
Mass	Sunday							Sunday
Feast/Event	36th Sun B							37th Sun B

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

PARISH BULLETIN

If you have any news you would like included in our Sunday Parish Bulletin, please email it to stkessogparish@gmail.com. You can find this Bulletin and previous ones at

www.parishofstkessog.org

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Please contact
George Edwards

07866 683172
geojoedwards@yahoo.com

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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