



SAINT KESSOG'S

ONE PARISH – TWO CHURCHES
St Anthony's Balfron & St Kessog's Blanefield

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD, C

Weekly celebrations: 26 January, 2025 – 2 February, 2025

	Sun 26	Mon 27	Tue 28	Wed 29	Thu 30	Fri 31	Sat 1	Sun 2
Saint Anthony's	9.30 am							9.30 am
Saint Kessog's	11.00am			10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	11.00 am
Mass	Sunday						Saturday memorial of the BVM	Sunday
Feast/Event	Sunday of the Word of God		St. Thomas Aquinas			St. John Bosco		Presentation of the Lord



Last Sunday's
Cash Collection

BLANEFIELD
£97

BALFRON
£168

TOTAL
£265

We also thank those who donate by direct debit.

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 1:1-4. 4:14-21)

Hope in God's word

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is Sunday of the Word of God. The celebration was established by Pope Francis on September 30, 2019, with his Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis*. The theme this year is "I hope in your word". Today's celebration offers us all an opportunity to renew our commitment to reading and meditating on the Bible as a fundamental tool for growth in faith and spiritual life, as well as a source of hope for all Christians.

Our Gospel describes the powerful moment that marks the inauguration of Jesus' mission in Luke's Gospel. Jesus identifies Himself as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy and outlines His mission to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. Jesus' proclamation is a declaration of God's love and mercy for all people, especially those who are marginalized and suffering. It is a declaration of hope.

As we reflect on this Gospel passage, we are called to consider how we can participate in Jesus' mission in our own lives. How can we bring good news to those who are struggling? How can we work for justice and freedom for those who are oppressed? How can we be instruments of hope, bringing God's healing and mercy to our communities?

This Sunday of the Word of God affords us an opportunity to renew our commitment to living out the teachings of Scripture. It is a reminder that God's Word brings us hope, because it is alive and active, calling us to be agents of transformation in the world. Let us approach Scripture with open hearts and minds, allowing it to shape our lives and guide our actions.

God bless you.

Fr. John Adesotu

Synodal event

The Archdiocese welcomes Fr Matthew Nunes from the Archdiocese of Liverpool who leads an event titled *Conversations in the Spirit*, to help guide us on leading and participating in parish Synodality. It takes place on Saturday 1 February at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB, from 11am-3pm (optional Mass at 10am). Details and registration at bit.ly/inthespirit25

World Day for Consecrated Life

Join Religious brothers and sisters at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 2 February to celebrate the World Day of Consecrated Life with midday Mass. It is a chance to meet some of those who live and work in the Archdiocese and to pray for more vocations to the Religious Life.

Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome

Archbishop Cushley leads our Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome for young adults (18+) which takes place 28 July to 4 August 2025. Cost £1,175 includes return flights from Edinburgh to Rome, coach transfers, bed and breakfast at Casa Santa Lucia and an opportunity to take part in the Jubilee for Young People programme, including attending Mass with the Holy Father. Limited single rooms available. Email frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk by Sunday 2 February.

Rise in Faith, Live in Hope

The Archdiocese invites high school pupils to 'Rise in Faith, Live in Hope' at St Francis Xavier's Church, 11am-3pm on Saturday 15 March. The event will provide encouragement and inspiration to help our young people grow in their faith amidst the challenges they face. Includes Mass with Archbishop Cushley. Register at bit.ly/archyouth

Workshop for Children's Liturgy Leaders

If you are involved with Children's Liturgy in your parish, the Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission invites you to The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, for a workshop on Children's Liturgy of the Word. The day takes place on Saturday 22 February from 9:30am-12:00pm and will include Mass, discussion groups, a presentation on resources, and a presentation on the Liturgy of the Word within Mass. Registration and full event schedule at <https://forms.office.com/e/yRxbbsJ5kL>

Afternoon retreat for couples

The Archdiocese has organised a Valentine's mini-retreat for married and engaged couples from 2-5pm on Saturday 15 February at St Kentigern's Church, 26 Parkgrove Avenue, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR. The speaker is Fr Andrew Garden (St David's, Dalkeith) and the event is free. Register at bit.ly/valretreat25

Religious Observance in schools

A Scottish Government consultation seeks views on proposed changes to the current legislation on Religious Observance and Religious and Moral Education in all schools. The Scottish Catholic Education Service is calling for parishioners to respond and reflect the viewpoint of the Church. Please complete the consultation by today's deadline (26 January) using the help guide with suggested responses at bit.ly/reguide2025

Lourdes 2025

The February Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes will take place at 4:00pm on Sunday 2 February in St Cuthbert's Church, 104 Slateford Road, Edinburgh, EH14 1PT. Archbishop Cushley will be the principal celebrant. The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Holy Year 2025 takes place from 11-18 July. For more details please visit www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25

Sacramental Preparation Classes

Sacramental Preparation Classes will begin on 16 February 2025. The normal age for receiving the sacrament is:

- First Reconciliation (P3 and upwards)
- First Holy Communion (P4 and upwards)
- Confirmation (P7 and upwards)

This Year the celebrations will take place as follows:

- **First Reconciliation Service:** Tuesday 25 March 2025, 7pm
- **First Holy Communion:** Saturday 31 May 2025, 10 am
- **Confirmation:** Wednesday 28 May 2025, 7pm at St. Machan's Lennoxton

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



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:

www.parishofstkessog.org
see the 'Connect' section, under 'Welcome'.

Thank You

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Please contact
George Edwards on Tel: 07866 683172
or email: 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 at **www.parishofstkessog.org**

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