

TIMETABLE FOR THE COMING WEEK

Saturday 26th December <i>Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family</i>	(I) 4.15pm Confessions (I) 5.00pm Holy Mass (<i>Caroline O'Kane RIP</i>)
Sunday 27th December <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>	(I) 9.30am Holy Mass (<i>Pro Populo</i>) (R) 11.00am Holy Mass (<i>James Mulholland RIP</i>) (R) 2.00pm Msza w Polsce
Monday 28th December <i>Feast of the Holy Innocents</i>	(I) 10.00am Holy Mass (<i>Grace Lafferty RIP</i>)
Tuesday 29th December <i>Christmas Octave</i>	((R) 6.30pm Confessions (R) 7.00pm Holy Mass (<i>Jim Purcell RIP</i>)
Wednesday 30th December <i>Christmas Octave</i>	<i>No Mass—Fr's Day Off</i>
Thursday 31st December <i>Christmas Octave</i>	(I) 7.00pm Holy Mass (<i>William Gray RIP</i>)
Friday 1st January <i>Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God</i>	(R) 10.00am Holy Mass (<i>Fr Michael Milton RIP</i>)
Saturday 2nd January <i>Memorial of Ss Basil & Gregory Nazianzen</i>	(R) 10.00am Holy Mass (<i>Jack Linn RIP</i>) (I) 4.15pm Confessions (I) 5.00pm Holy Mass (<i>Mgr James Rae RIP</i>)
Sunday 3rd January <i>The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</i>	(I) 9.30am Holy Mass (<i>Grace McLaughlin RIP</i>) (R) 11.00am Holy Mass (<i>Pro Populo</i>)

Prayer to Saint Michael

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and the snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen



Newsletter available online at: www.catholicswfife.wordpress.com

and on Facebook: *The Catholic Parishes of St Peter in Chains and Ss John & Columba*

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Ss John & Columba and St Peter in chains are parishes of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. A Charity registered in Scotland Number SC008540



THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
Ss JOHN & COLUMBA ROSYTH
AND
ST PETER IN CHAINS INVERKEITHING

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (c)
26th/27th December 2015

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

Please address all communications to the Parish Priest:

Fr Kevin A. Dow

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Mary and Joseph take Jesus to Jerusalem to take part in one of the three pilgrimages (the Passover, Pentecost and the feast of the Tabernacles) prescribed by the Law. During the seven days of the feast, people took part in the cult and listened to the Rabbis who discussed beneath the portico of the Temple. "The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem", the city the Lord chose for his throne, and where the Temple is found, the only place of worship for the Jews. Jerusalem is the place where "all that was written by the prophets concerning the Son of man will be fulfilled", the place of "his departure" and of his appearances after the resurrection. His parents "sought him" anxiously and troubled. How is it possible to lose a son, not to realise that Jesus is not in the caravan? Is it Christ who has to follow others or vice versa? "Three days later" the "passion" ends and they find Jesus in the Temple, among the doctors, teaching to the amazement of all. The characteristics of his mission begin to unfold and this mission is summarised in the first words that Jesus speaks in Luke's Gospel "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?"

May we take the time to be about God's affairs, now and in the new year!

Today's Mass Responses:

Psalm: *They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation

Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.

PARISH NEWS

Please remember in your prayers the sick and infirm

John Ash, Ronnie Gorman, Sandy Rankin, Paddy McCafferty, Pat Coyne, Susan Stevenson, May Lannan, Margaret Thomson, Pat Condon, Theresa Murphy, Marie Boyle, Mrs Doig, Alvaro Gagliardi, Jean King, Joan McBride, Brian Mackenzie, Franki Murray, Helen O'Neill, Mary McManus, James McElhinney, Christine Milligan, Joe McBride

Of your charity, please pray for the recently deceased

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Lisa Quinn & Theresa Hughes (*Rosyth*) Bill Kirkton & Patricia Watt (*Inverkeithing*)

Baptisms

By arrangement with Fr Dow

Marriages

Arrangements for weddings (for which six months notice is required) should be made by appointment with Fr. Dow

Sacrament of the Sick / Hospital Visitations

Those who require the Sacrament of the Sick at home should contact the Parish House to arrange for Fr. Dow to visit. The Anointing of the Sick should ordinarily be arranged prior to any prolonged hospital visit. The Catholic Chaplain to the Victoria Hospital is Fr Wanat SDS of St Marie's Kirkcaldy (Tel: 01592 592111). In cases of emergency where you or a family member require the pastoral assistance of the Catholic Chaplain please request this from the nursing staff at the hospital. For patients in Queen Margaret Hospital please contact Fr Chris Heenan at St Margaret's (625611)

Please note that a patient/family request must be made before the clergy can visit.

Names for sick list

Names can only be added by the person themselves or by a member of the family. Please advise Father of any name to be added or removed.

Mass Intentions

Please try to have any intention that is required to be said on a particular date in a month before hand. On occasion when a funeral takes place, the stated intention will be moved to the next available date.

Bulletin Notices

All notices should be dropped through the Presbytery letter box or sent by email by [Thursday evening](#)

Mass	Gift Aid	Non Gift Aid	Total
St Peter in chains (5.00pm)	£275.00	£132.29	£407.29
St Peter in chains (9.30am)	£62.50	£99.94	£162.44
Ss John & Columba (11.00am)	£68.00	£82.58	£150.58
Building Fund (R)	£28.00	£107.90	£135.90

Welcome: If you are a visitor to the parish, we want you to know how welcome you are whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world or simply from another parish.

We welcome this weekend Fr Wojciech Parfianowicz, a priest of the Diocese of Koszalin-Kołobrzeg, and an old friend of Fr Kevin. I'm sure you will make him feel welcome as he stays with us on holiday.

Come and pray with us at our Christmas Crib:

Let God love you in Jesus, the child of Bethlehem. There are no conditions. There are no interviews to get through, no exams to pass, no points to notch up. Come as you are, without masks, without pretence. There is no need for that when approaching a baby. There is room for everyone around the crib. Friends, enemies, rich, poor, sinners, saints; no one who approaches with sincerity is turned away. There we begin to understand that He is the Gift and the Giver. As St. John says: "From His fullness we have all received." *Father, as we celebrate the birthday of Christ, our Saviour, may we come to appreciate more deeply the meaning of what is being offered to us. May we too share in the joy of the Angels who gave Glory to God in the highest and sang of peace to the people on earth.* The donations made from the Crib offerings are forwarded to the Archbishop for him to distribute for the good of less well off children.

Christmas Masses: Thankyou to all who prepared the churches, with the trees, cribs and flowers and to all who assisted in the liturgy over the various days.

Msza Święta w języku polskim zostanie odprawiona w niedzielę, 27 grudnia o godz.14.00, w kościele pw. Ss Jan & Kolumba's Church, Rosyth. Ks Dr Wojciech Parfianowicz; Diecezja Koszalińsko-Kołobrzaska

SSVP Name the Teddy: The winner was Sophie Webber, aged 6. No-one guessed the correct name—Horatio, so all names went in a hat and Sophie won. £41 was raised to go to the Christmas Hamper Appeal, Many thanks to

all who participated. *Elaine & Isobel.*

Stewardship Reflection: "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 John 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember the most important gift we have received – being children of God. As God's children, it's important that we express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children and other family members and friends that you love them, frequently.

Sanctuary of Life: This weekend as we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, let us ponder that even though he was conceived of a virgin, Jesus nevertheless lived as a son in a human family -- a family which points the way for the rest of us. The family is the sanctuary of life. There can be no life without family, and there can be no family without life. The family, above all, is where life is to be welcomed, no matter how fragile or inconvenient it may be. One of the many reasons why the Pope and bishops identify abortion and euthanasia as pre-eminent issues is because these crimes are committed by one family member upon another. *May the Holy Family lead us to a Culture of Life!*

Epiphany House Blessings: Around January 6, the symbol +C+B+M+ with two numbers before and two numbers after (for example, 20+C+B+M+16) is sometimes seen written in chalk above the doorway of Christian homes. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the Three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. These letters also abbreviate the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The beginning and ending numbers are the year, 2016 in the example above. The crosses represent Christ. Marking the lintels of doorways is an old European practice that originally had overtones of magic (protection of the house). However, the symbols are now used throughout the world and usually represent a traditional Epiphany prayer and blessing. Next weekend, Fr Kevin will bless chalk to be taken home and used in conjunction with the prayers provided in blessing our homes and our families.