

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-Kołobrzęska

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.