

The week ahead 24 November—1 December 2024



SCAN ME

Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 23 November Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	33rd Ordinary Time Solemnity of Christ the King	Jacqueline Heron Douthart
Sunday 24 November	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	Solemnity of Christ the King	Carlo Marrocco RIP People of the Parishes
Monday 25 November	No Service		34th Ordinary Time	
Tuesday 26 November	St Columba's	9.30am	34th Ordinary Time	Maisie and Jimmy Doherty RIP
Weds 27 November	St Peter's	9.30am	34th Ordinary Time	Jim Clarke RIP
Thursday 28 November	St Columba's	9.30am	34th Ordinary Time	Cassie and Michael Doherty RIP
Friday 29 November	St Peter's	9.30am	34th Ordinary Time	Tommy Douthart RIP 1st anniv.
Saturday 30 November Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	34th Ordinary Time 1st Sunday of Advent	Tommy Douthart RIP
Sunday 1 December	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	1st Sunday of Advent	People of the Parishes John Byrne (RIP)

Confessions
St Peter's: Saturday 11am (during Adoration) & 4.30pm
St Columba's: Sunday before 6.30pm Mass
Adoration:
 St Peter's: Saturday 11am

Sunday's readings on page 160
First reading: Daniel 7: 13-14
Psalm: 92:1-2,5 response v1
Second reading: Apocalypse 1:5-8
Gospel: John 18: 33-37

Advent retreats

Riches Stored in Secret Places: online reflection series for Advent 2024
 A weekly audio reflection and material to read. Cost: £25, includes printed booklet. Information and booking: <https://heartinpilgrimage.org.uk/riches-stored-in-secret-places/> or email info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk.

"I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places..." (Isaiah 45:3)
 Most don't relish the coming dark days of winter. But they have their own riches, invitations to rest, look after ourselves, dream new dreams. Time spent in darkness encourages us to journey inwards, think about living with mystery. And, just at the darkest point of the year, we celebrate the arrival of the small, unquenchable Light of the World.

The Gifts of Winter: A Quiet Day for Advent. Saturday 30 November, 10.30—4, St Columba's by the Castle
 Cost £35 (£25 concession, or pay what you can) includes lunch, coffee & cake. The day draws on reflective approaches and creative material including art, poetry and music, and will include guided reflections and individual quiet time.
 Information & booking: <https://heartinpilgrimage.org.uk/the-gifts-of-winter/> or email info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk.
 Take time out, as Advent begins, to consider the blessings of the season of winter: bright frosty mornings, the robin's song, the invitation to slow down and recoup our energies. If we enter fully into this season, it has much to show us about rest, resilience, faithfulness, mystery, and the God who is with us in the dark as much as in the light.

Ignatian Spirituality Centre Glasgow Advent online Calendar
 Daily reflections with art and music from the beginning of Advent.
<https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk>; www.onlineprayer.net and on their free app

Advent Rosary. The annual Archdiocesan Rosary starts 2 December on Mondays, 7.45pm through Advent. Join us to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register bit.ly/adventrosary

Items for inclusion in the Newsletter to Sharon Kedney at office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk by Wednesday evening please. St Peter's website contact Juliet MacKellaig 447 4210 or julietmackellaig@gmail.com. * You can find our Privacy Notices on the websites * The Newsletter is posted on the parish websites * St Peter's and St Columba's are parishes of the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland—number SC008540

St Columba's and St Peter's, Edinburgh
Solemnity of Christ the King —Year B
 24 November —1 December 2024

The gospel, where the Lectionary once again shifts to John, contains a section from the passion narrative. There is no doubt but that Jesus was crucified on the charge of being a messianic pretender. The title 'King of the Jews' posted on the cross makes that clear.

In our passage Jesus is being interrogated by Pilate. The issue here is the nature of Jesus' kingship. Jesus declares that he is indeed a king, but not the kind of king the world understands. Jesus has come into the world as the bearer of divine revelation.

Fulfilling that role is what being king means to him. This refutes recent attempts to portray Jesus as a political revolutionary.

Flor McCarthy SDB



Canon Kenneth writes ...

On Friday we prayed for the repose of the soul of Fr. Gordon Brown who was with us here in St Peter's for many years. We give thanks for his example and priestly ministry.

Fr. Brown was ordained to the priesthood at St. Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh on 1 March 1969. He was a professor at St Andrew's College in Drygrange (the Archdiocesan seminary) from 1970 - 77, and then became its rector from 1977 - 84. He served in several parishes across the Archdiocese and is remembered as an intelligent, gentle and kind man.

- Parishes served:
- St Patrick's, Edinburgh, 1984-85
 - St Luke & St Anne, Newbattle, 1985-88
 - St Mary's, Bathgate, 1988-89
 - St Joseph's, Burntisland, 1989-93
 - St Ninian's, Bowhill, 1994-96
 - St Patrick's, Lochgelly, 1994-96
 - St Martin's, Tranent, 1996

I met Gordon first when we was on the interview panel when I applied to seminary. I was always struck by his gentleness, compassion and concern for others. May he now rest from his labours as his good deeds go before him.

Parish Priest: Canon Kenneth Owens
frkenneth.owens@staned.org.uk 0131 447 2502
 St Peter's: 77 Falcon Avenue EH10 4AN; www.stpeterchurchedinburgh.org.uk
 St Columba's: 9 Upper Gray Street EH9 1SN; www.stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk
Deacon: Rev John E Smith: johnesmith@blueyonder.co.uk
Parish Secretaries:
 St Peter's: Sharon Kedney Office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk (10-1 Thursdays)
 St Columba's: Sr Karin: sister@stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk
St. Columba's Hall hire:
 James Meehan: Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com

This Week in our Parishes ...

Sunday 24	Solemnity of Christ the King Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today Special collection today for the Beit Afram Home of the Elderly* Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in each Parish
Tuesday 26	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's 7pm, Readers meeting—new lectionary, St. Columba's Church
Wednesday 27	7pm, Readers meeting—new lectionary, St. Peter's Church 7-8.30pm Catholic Teens Group, Middle hall (first floor)
Saturday 30	12 noon Mass today at St. Peter's, will be celebrated by Fr Peter Krakowiak
Sunday 1 Dec	First Sunday of Advent—Year C Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today 10.30 St. Columba's: Sister Karin's Sacramental Preparation groups for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in each Parish



Congratulations to Alexander Swann Baptised Saturday 23 November at St. Peter's.

Congratulations to Sophie Dunne Baptised Saturday 23 November at St. Columba's.

The family and friends of Fr. Gordon Brown wish to thank Canon Kenneth, other Parish Priests and Parishioners, for the love, care and support offered to him during his years at St Peter's. He much enjoyed being part of the Parish family and greatly valued the friendship and generosity shown to him for over twenty years.

*Cardinal Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, visits Edinburgh 1-3 December. Archbishop Leo Cushley has asked for a **special collection on 23 and 24 November for the Beit Afram Home of the Elderly**. The elderly are often alone and overlooked and are among the *Anawim* of the region. Please be as generous as you can.

Many thanks to all who contributed, in any way, to our Curry Nights. Your generosity means **£1600** was raised for Mary's Meals, doubled up by the government to **£3200**.

The Real Advent Calendar £5 on sale at St. Columba's today at teas and coffees after 09.30 Mass or email paul_atkin@outlook.com. The UK's only Fairtrade Advent calendar, 25 festive Fairtrade chocolates and free 24 page Christmas story-activity book. Supports charitable causes.

Teens Group Wednesday 27 November 7-8.30pm (for P7-S4). The teens group had a great October meeting. We thought about how Mary's "yes" to God can inspire us to be courageous in our own lives, and prayed a decade of the rosary together. As well as games, chat and snacks. New members (from any school/Parish) warmly welcomed. Email teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk

Diary date for readers: new lectionary. We use the new lectionary for the first time on the 1st Sunday of Advent.

- 7pm Tuesday **26 November, St. Columba's**
 - 7pm Wednesday **27 November, St. Peter's**
- Readers welcome to join the meeting that suits them best.

From the first Sunday of Advent we introduce the new translation of the lectionary. Published by the Catholic Trust

Society (www.ctsbooks.org) the 'People's Edition' is £19.95. Other publishing houses e.g. Redemptorist Publications (www.rpbbooks.co.uk) offer other versions.

This coming Saturday, 30 November, Canon Kenneth is at a conference and we thank Fr Peter Krakowiak of St. Ninian's, Restalrigg for celebrating 12 noon Mass with us.

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent when we'll light the Advent wreath.

Advent Alternativity lunch Saturday 14 December directly after 12 noon Mass, St. Peter's. Hosted by Outreach Justice & Peace Group, raising funds for SCIAF. Tickets £10 on sale after Sunday Mass. Reflect on the true meaning of the season, enjoying a meal of soup and cheese. Details from Norma Daniels Emm - normaemm@yahoo.co.uk

St. Columba's Nativity Play Sunday 15 December. Rehearsals start **Sunday 1 December.** If you'd like your child (ren) to join fill out sign-up sheet with Sister Mirjam or contact her and Sister Karin at edin@thework-fso.org.

Fresh Start Christmas appeal: Grateful thanks for the goods donated so far which have been delivered to the warehouse. Please continue to remember needy families during this Advent period. There's a November collection of festive fare hamper items for needy families (mince pies, biscuits, sweets, non perishable foods e.g. tinned meat/fish, pasta). Donations can be left in the box at rear of St. Peter's Church and at St. Columba's. Meanwhile Fresh Start is in great need of pots, pans and kettles for the starter packs.

St Peter's: Many thanks for the very generous response to the appeal for warm clothing etc for Refugees and Stella Maris. We appeal again in a few weeks.

Parliament votes this week on proposals to allow assisted suicide for England and Wales. This vote will influence Holyrood when they vote. Experience from other countries shows 'strict safeguards' never work and the law is always extended, leaving vulnerable people feeling they should die rather than be a burden. Please write a short letter to your MP. The easiest way is using <https://writetothem.com>

Helping Children Understand Death

Death is a fantasy topic that arises in drama, story, cartoon, or part of games - even peek-o-boo is a derivative of the Old English game of "Alive or dead."

Children's pets die, and so do their grandparents, neighbours and friends. They begin to detect early that some things go away, but can come back and some things, like people, go away and never come back, and some cannot come back - the differences are confusing.

The notion of death is a natural one which is covered over with emotional meanings which children acquire from adults - there is no automatic trauma or psychological danger for children unless the adults cannot handle it.

The way death is perceived has a great deal to do with the intellectual/cognitive capabilities of the child and the emotional life of the child.

For example, in the early years of 4-6, children are rather literal about the issue and language. Where did they put Grandpa? They put his body in a casket and they buried him. Then, where did they put his head? Or, if Grandpa went to his final rest, when will he finish?

How can I protect my child's mental health following the death of a loved one?

Here are some important ways you can help your child feel better and protect their mental health:

- Continue to provide the child with loving and consistent care from you, a parent, relative or carer, whom they trust and know well.
- Infants and young children continue to feel secure and loved through loving physical contact, singing, cuddling and rocking.
- Normal life routines and structure are maintained as much as is possible. Try to keep a regular pattern to the day with time for activities, such as cleaning, schoolwork, exercise and play.
- If children display challenging and/or regressive

behaviour, try to understand it is their way of showing what they cannot verbalise, and do not punish them.

- Ensure that other children in the child's life are informed through their teachers or parents about what happened, so that they can support the child on their return to school.
- Remember to also take care of your own physical and mental wellbeing. You are grieving as well. It can be hard to support your children while dealing with your own feelings, which is why it is very important that you take time for yourself and take care of yourself.
- You cannot help your children if you are unwell. Get sufficient sleep, eat properly, exercise, take time to relax (for example through listening to music) and also have someone to whom you can turn to for emotional support.

This is from a Family Systems retreat given by Canon Kenneth at St. Mary's, Perth



Reflection

Jesus had no palace, no throne, no crown, and no army.

Yet we call him our King,
And we give him an allegiance and a loyalty
we would not give to any other person or institution on earth.

Lord Jesus, our King and our Shepherd,
gather your flock from the ends of the earth
into the peace and joy of your Kingdom.

To you belong glory and power forever and ever.
Amen.

