**CHRISTMAS TIMTABLE**

Please take a home a copy of the Christmas timetable available at the back of the church.

Christmas Eve vigil: 4.30pm

Carol Service: 11.30pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Morning: 11.00am

**HOUSE BLESSING**

If you wish your house blessed in preparation for Christmas, please complete one of the forms at the back of the church and return it to Fr Joe or Deacon Tommy.

Visits will take place on Mon 17th Dec, 6.30-8.00pm, Tues 18th 2.00-4.00pm & 6.30-8.00pm.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC**

Anyone wishing to help with the music at Christmas is welcome to come to a rehearsal on Tuesday evening at 7.00pm

**ST NICHOLAS CARE FUND**

‘Wee Boxes’ are available for donations to the St Nicholas Care Fund. Please take one home for your spare change. A special collection will be taken up this weekend for the archdiocesan charity.

**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK**

Last week’s Offertory Collection came to £654

*Many thanks for your ongoing support of the parish.*

**DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

To help us prepare for Christmas, priests will be available to celebrate the sacrament of Confession in St Andrew’s Cathedral on Thurs 20th Dec 2018 from 7.45am until 5.45 pm.

**AGAP**

The Archdiocese of Glasgow Arts Project has organised a variety of events to mark Christmas. Leaflets with details are available at the back of the church.

**CAROLS FOR PEACE**

This annual event will taker place in the City Chambers, George Square, at 3.00pm on Sunday 16th Dec 2018. All welcome.

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Join the Academy of Sacred Music of an evening of Christmas music in Turnbull Hall, on Tuesday 18th December 2018 at 7.00pm. Mulled wine and Christmas cake to follow. Donations at the door.

**VOCATION DISCERMENT**

A series of evening of catechesis, prayer and support has been organised for next year. Anyone considering their future and what God is calling them to do is welcome. The first event is at 7.00pm pm on Fri 11 January 2019 in Turnbull Hall, Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.

**FAITH FORUM: EXPLORING CATHOLIC DOCTRINE**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).  Keen to learn more about the Church’s magisterial teachings? Come along to the Glasgow Faith Forum’s fortnightly series of talks in 2019: 10 January – *The Most Holy Trinity* (Archbishop Tartaglia); 24January - *Creation* (Fr Jamie McMorrin); 7 February - *The Incarnation (*Canon Luiz Ruscillo); 21 February -  *Ecclesiology: Models of the Church* (Fr Nick Welsh); 7 March *-  The Life of Grace* (Fr David Barrett); 21 March - *The Four Last Things* (Fr Michael John Galbraith).  These sessions will take place at 7.30pm at Turnbull Hall, University of Glasgow Catholic Chaplaincy, 13-15 Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.  All young people welcome.

**SPRED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**

For 34 years SPRED has provided friendship, catechesis and opportunities for people with learning disabilities to be fully included in the liturgical life of Glasgow parishes. To help us continue this journey we require new volunteer drivers. Commitment involves, only 14 times a year (during school term time), going to a friend’s home to drive them to the SPRED centre at Provanmill for 7pm and returning at 9pm to take the person home. Please contact SPRED on 0141 770 5055 or email:

glasgow.spred@btconnect.com

or drop in and visit us at the SPRED OFFICE: 20 Robroyston Road, Glasgow G33 1EQ

**POPE FRANCIS TWEETS**

Even when we pray alone, we pray together with all the people of God.

@Pontifex

**POPE FRANCIS WRITES:**

**REJOICE AND BE GLAD**

Pope Francis renewed the Lord’s call to holiness in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*. The full document can be purchased in the Pauline Multimedia store in St Enoch’s square or downloaded from the Holy See’s website: [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled”*

77. Hunger and thirst are intense experiences, since they involve basic needs and our instinct for survival. There are those who desire justice and yearn for righteousness with similar intensity. Jesus says that they will be satisfied, for sooner or later justice will come. We can cooperate to make that possible, even if we may not always see the fruit of our efforts.

78. Jesus offers a justice other than that of the world, so often marred by petty interests and manipulated in various ways. Experience shows how easy it is to become mired in corruption, ensnared in the daily politics of quid pro quo, where everything becomes business. How many people suffer injustice, standing by powerlessly while others divvy up the good things of this life. Some give up fighting for real justice and opt to follow in the train of the winners. This has nothing to do with the hunger and thirst for justice that Jesus praises.

79. True justice comes about in people’s lives when they themselves are just in their decisions; it is expressed in their pursuit of justice for the poor and the weak. While it is true that the word “justice” can be a synonym for faithfulness to God’s will in every aspect of our life, if we give the word too general a meaning, we forget that it is shown especially in justice towards those who are most vulnerable: “Seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow” (Is 1:17).

Hungering and thirsting for righteousness: that is holiness.

**PARISH PRAYER**

*Father, almighty and eternal God, whose praise is sung throughout all creation and whose glory is proclaimed by all peoples. You create us in love and call us to our eternal destiny of loving communion with You. May the parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel be a place where Your Name is hallowed and Your chosen ones are united in Holy Mass with Your Son in praise and thanksgiving.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, Word of God, Incarnate of the Virgin Mary, You manifest the Father’s love and reveal His will for us. May we always be aware of our Baptismal dignity as the Children of God by our sharing through the Holy Spirit in Your Sonship, and so respond to Your call in service of each other, our parish, Holy Mother Church and the world.*

*Holy Spirit, Advocate and Spirit of Truth, You breathed your life into the Apostles at Pentecost, inspiring them to be preachers of the Word. May we always be open to Your promptings that our parish may be renewed in praise of God and in living the truth in charity.*

*Our Lady, Mother of the Church*

*Pray for us.*

*Our Lady of Good Counsel*

*Pray for us*



**VOCATIONS**

The monthly meetings for men who are considering a vocation to the priesthood held in Turnbull Hall, the Catholic Chaplaincy, University of Glasgow. Meetings, which are informal and involve no commitment, take place on the second Friday of each month. A period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a talk on priestly life will be followed by supper and the chance to share with other men who are undertaking a similar time of discernment. The next session will be on Friday . For further information contact Fr Ross Campbell: 0141 339 4315. Email:

Ross.Campbell.2@glasgow.ac.uk