**CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE**

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

**CRIB**
Donations at the crib are for the St Margaret Adoption Society. ‘Wee Boxes’ are available for anyone who wishes to take one home.

Thanks to the Coates brothers for assembling the crib.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE SCOTLAND**

The annual collection to support the Church’s work in promoting a just and peaceful world will take place on 5/6 January 2019.

**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK**

Last week’s Offertory Collection came to £654

£660 was donated to the St Nicholas Care Fund.

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

**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.

**SPUC 2019 YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Join young people from around the country to learn how to be a voice for the voiceless. 15-17 March 2019, Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Milton Keynes. Cost £115 covers accommodation, food and conference costs. [www.spuc.org.uk](http://www.spuc.org.uk) for further information and booking.

**HOGMANY WATCHNIGHT**

Hosted by Glasgow Churches Together, this is an ecumenical service of prayer on the theme: ‘Hope for the Traveller’ in Glasgow Cathedral, 11.00pm, Monday 31 December 2018. All 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**

Advent is a time for us to prepare for the coming of Jesus, Prince of Peace. It’s a time for us to make peace with ourselves and our neighbours.

@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 the merciful, for they will receive mercy”*

80. Mercy has two aspects. It involves giving, helping and serving others, but it also includes forgiveness and understanding. Matthew sums it up in one golden rule: “In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you” (7:12). The Catechism reminds us that this law is to be applied “in every case”, especially when we are “confronted by situations that make moral judgments less assured and decision difficult”.

81. Giving and forgiving means reproducing in our lives some small measure of God’s perfection, which gives and forgives superabundantly. For this reason, in the Gospel of Luke we do not hear the words, “Be perfect” (Mt 5:48), but rather, “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you” (6:36-38). Luke then adds something not to be overlooked: “The measure you give will be the measure you get back” (6:38). The yardstick we use for understanding and forgiving others will measure the forgiveness we receive. The yardstick we use for giving will measure what we receive. We should never forget this.

Seeing and acting with mercy: 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*

**Happy Christmas**

Fr Joe and Deacon Tommy wish you a happy and holy Christmas, praying that the Lord will bless you and your loved ones with all the graces of this joyful season.

**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

