**MONDAY NIGHT GROUP**

The next and final meeting of this session will be on Monday 10 December 2018. All welcome.

**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 Tues 11th Dec, 6.30-8.00pm, Wed 12th 2.00-4.00pm & 6.30-8.00pm.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

Please take a copy of the Christmas Schedule from the back of the church.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC**

Anyone wishing to help with the music at Christmas is welcome to come to rehearsal on Tuesday evenings in Advent,

**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK**

Last week’s Offertory Collection came to £634

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

**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 on the next weekend for this archdiocesan charity.

**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**

The beginning of faith is feeling the need for salvation: this is the way that prepares us to meet Jesus.

@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 mourn, for they will be comforted”*

75. The world tells us exactly the opposite: entertainment, pleasure, diversion and escape make for the good life. The worldly person ignores problems of sickness or sorrow in the family or all around him; he averts his gaze. The world has no desire to mourn; it would rather disregard painful situations, cover them up or hide them. Much energy is expended on fleeing from situations of suffering in the belief that reality can be concealed. But the cross can never be absent.

76. A person who sees things as they truly are and sympathizes with pain and sorrow is capable of touching life’s depths and finding authentic happiness. He or she is consoled, not by the world but by Jesus. Such persons are unafraid to share in the suffering of others; they do not flee from painful situations. They discover the meaning of life by coming to the aid of those who suffer, understanding their anguish and bringing relief. They sense that the other is flesh of our flesh, and are not afraid to draw near, even to touch their wounds. They feel compassion for others in such a way that all distance vanishes. In this way they can embrace Saint Paul’s exhortation: “Weep with those who weep” (Rom 12:15).

Knowing how to mourn with others: 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