**Presbytery**

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**Parish Clergy**

Fr Joseph Lappin

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 (Permanent Deacon)

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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

Our Lady of Good Counsel

**Baptisms**

Usually take place after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday. Parents are requested to make arrangements with the Parish Clergy in good time.

**Marriages**

Couples are requested to speak to the Parish Clergy at least six months before a wedding and before any other arrangements are confirmed.

**Funerals**

Families are asked to contact the Parish before making any arrangements with a Funeral Director.

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

Meets every Sunday after the 11.00am Mass. Its members keep regular contact with the sick and elderly and support parishioners in time of need.

*Our Lady of Good Counsel is a parish of the Archdiocese of Glasgow, a Designated Religious Charity, No. SCO18140*

**INTIMATIONS**

In charity we are asked to pray for:

Sick: All commended to our prayers.

Recently deceased:

Maureen Connelly;

Anniversary:

Mario D’Ermo; Anthony Gormley; Gerry Laurie; Sally Shergold; Eileen McCulloch;

Christmas remembrance: Maria & Nicky Gizzi

**The parish bulletin is sponsored by parishioner John Watters, painter & decorator. Free estimates 0141 554 7454**

**Our Lady of Good Counsel**

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

**YEAR A**

**29th December 2019**

**Liturgy of the Word:**

1st reading: Eccl 3:2-6.12-14

Psalm 23; Response:

*O blessed are those who fear the Lord*

*and walk in His ways!*

2nd reading: Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Matt 2:13-15.19-23

Divine Office: of the season.

Feast Days:

Wed 1 Jan: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thur 2 Jan: Feast of St Basil & St Gregory Nazianzen



**THANK YOU**

**Sunday Masses**

Vigil 5.30pm

11.00am; 5.30pm

**Children’s Liturgy**

is available during school term at the 11.00am Mass for children

primary 1 to 4.

**Daily Mass**: 10.00am

(Thursday: Liturgy of the Word)

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**:

Friday after 10.00am Mass – 11.00am

**Confessions:**

Saturday after 10.00am Mass

4.30pm - 5.15pm

Deacon Tommy and Fr Joe thank you all for your Christmas greetings, cards, and gifts. Your generosity is truly edifying. Thank you.

A debt of gratitude is owed to all who offered their time and talents to ensure the church and the Sacred Liturgy was prepared for Christmas. Thank you to all who helped.

**MONDAY GROUP**

Meetings will recommence on Monday 13 January.

**SECOND COLLECTION**

A special collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend to support the work of Justice and Peace Scotland.

**COLLECTIONS**

Last week’s offertory collection came to £

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

**WEE BOXES**

Anyone who has taken a Wee Box for the St Nicholas Care Fund is kindly asked to return it to the parish by Sunday 15 January 2019. After this date donations should be sent directly to the charity.

**GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY**

Sunday Mass within Glasgow Royal Infirmary will be celebrated at a new time of 3.30 pm from Sunday 5th January 2020. Mass is celebrated by Hospital Chaplains Fr Stuart and Fr Augustine every Sunday. If you would be interested in volunteering, or if you are currently an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and would be interested in this ministry within the hospital, please contact Paul on 07402274007.

If you are in hospital it is necessary to request Chaplaincy services. Inform a nurse that you wish to see a Catholic priest. If you know in advance that you will be going into hospital, I will be happy to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick with you beforehand.

**POPE FRANCIS TWEETS**

May Emmanuel bring light to all the suffering members of our human family. May He soften our often stony and self-centred hearts, and make them channels of His love. On this joyful day, may He bring His tenderness to all and brighten the darkness of this world. @Pontifex

**ARCHDIOCESE OF GLASGOW VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT EVENINGS: CATECHESIS – ADORATION - FELLOWSHIP**

These will take place on 31st January, 28th February, 27th March, 24th April and 29th May. For further information contact Fr. Ross Campbell, ross.campbell2@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 0141 339 4315

**POPE FRANCIS WRITES:**

Excerpts from *Admirabile Signum*, Pope Francis’ reflection on the crib.

Gradually, we come to the cave, where we find the figures of Mary and Joseph. Mary is a mother who contemplates her child and shows him to every visitor. The figure of Mary makes us reflect on the great mystery that surrounded this young woman when God knocked on the door of her immaculate heart. Mary responded in complete obedience to the message of the angel who asked her to become the Mother of God. Her words, “Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38), show all of us how to abandon ourselves in faith to God’s will. By her “fiat”, Mary became the mother of God’s Son, not losing but, thanks to him, consecrating her virginity. In her, we see the Mother of God who does not keep her Son only to herself, but invites everyone to obey his word and to put it into practice (cf. Jn 2:5).

At Mary’s side, shown protecting the Child and his Mother, stands Saint Joseph. He is usually depicted with staff in hand, or holding up a lamp. Saint Joseph plays an important role in the life of Jesus and Mary. He is the guardian who tirelessly protects his family. When God warned him of Herod’s threat, he did not hesitate to set out and flee to Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-15). And once the danger had passed, he brought the family back to Nazareth, where he was to be the first teacher of Jesus as a boy and then as a young man. Joseph treasured in his heart the great mystery surrounding Jesus and Mary his spouse; as a just man, he entrusted himself always to God’s will, and put it into practice.

**THE EVERLASTING FOODBANK**

Donations are collected on the first Sunday of the month. This is a local, faith-motivated initiative to help those in need in our area and is worthy of our support. Thank you for supporting this initiative.

**POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS**

General Audience, Wednesday 25th September 2019:

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our catechesis on the Acts of the Apostles, we continue to follow the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. In the early Christian community some complained that their widows were being neglected in the distribution of bread. The Apostles, aware of their principal calling to preach the Word of God, discerned a solution to maintain the harmony between the service of the Word and service to the poor. They instituted seven men, on whom they imposed hands, to carry out works of charity. One of these seven deacons, Stephen, proclaimed Christ’s Paschal Mystery as the key to the whole history of the covenant, but his words met with resistance. Yet, even when condemned to death, Stephen entrusted his life into the Lord’s hands and forgave his adversaries. The actions of this first martyr teach us that our identity as God’s children consists in abandoning ourselves to the Father and forgiving those who offend us. Let us ask the Lord that, by contemplating the martyrs of the past and present, we may live a full life, accepting the martyrdom of daily fidelity to the Gospel and conformity to Christ.

**FERTILITY CARE SCOTLAND**

We are opening a new clinic in the Diocesan offices, Paisley on alternative Monday evenings from 7 – 9pm. We run clinics in Edinburgh, Hamilton, Aberdeen and Paisley. At Fertility Care Scotland we teach The Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation, which helps couples achieve or postpone pregnancy in a natural way. We can help couples optimize their chances of conceiving. Our service is free and confidential and no appointment is necessary. We invite you to come and visit us at one of our clinics. Phone: 0141 221 0858; E-Mail: info@fertilitycare.org.uk;www.fertilitycare.org.uk Join us on facebook

[www.facebook.com/fertilitycarescotland](http://www.facebook.com/fertilitycarescotland) Follow us on

Twitter:  [www.twitter.com/billingsscot](http://www.twitter.com/billingsscot)

**VOCATION DISCERNMENT**

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 next meeting is at 7.00pm pm on Fri 10th May 2019 in Turnbull Hall, Southpark Terrace, G12 8LG.

28th November – Sr Roseann Reddy – *The Challenge (II); Building a Culture of Life*; 12th December – Sr Andrea Fraille – *The Challenge (III): Male and Female He Created Them.*