

**The Western Catholic Calendar** is now on sale at the back of the Church.

**“St Bride’s Parish and People”:** £370 has been raised so for the Renovation Fund from sales of this little souvenir booklet. Buy your copy from the stall, suggested donation £2.

**Used stamps:** Please continue to bring your used stamps to the box at the back of the church to be sent to St Patrick’s Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers).

**Comboni Fathers Calendars** are on sale by the noticeboard (£1) - donations welcome.

**Wedding Congratulations** to Catherine Smith and Jamie Lindsay who will be married in our church on 31st December.

**St Aloysius’ College** Open Day in Kindergarten and Junior School for prospective parents and families on Thursday 14th January 2016. **Fernhill School** Open Event Thursday 14th January 2016 7.00pm – 9.00pm.

**Please pray for at our sick and our housebound and for those who care for them:**

Canon Ryan, Fr Bergin, Lorraine Tamburrini, Jo Reilly, Graham White, Ellen Kelly, Ellen Welsh, Bernadette Coogans, Margaret Donachy, Helen Paynter, Dan Hughes, May Mulheron, Eileen Biggins, Lily Halleron, Chris Cusack, Marjory Hughes, Liz Knight, Thomas Drumgold, Richard O’Donnell, Brendan McGhee, Margaret Wood, Betty Weir, Kathy Marzella, Lisa Hewkins, Pat Fullarton, Nan Martin, Aaron McPhee, Anne Robb, Margaret McGovan, Margaret Corr, Dennis Waddell, Euan McDonald, Jack McLaughlin, Jim Paisley, Catherine MacFadzean, Margaret Peden, Mhairi Gargica, Frances Taylor, Lorraine O’Donnell, Findlay Copland, Robert Moffat, Billy Ritchie, Fr. Michael O’Leary, Ann Boyd, Ethan Ward, Rose Drumgold, Stephen Carr, Eddie Goldie, Richard Tamburrini, Pat McElroy, Patricia Kelly, Cecille Stokes, Paul Ferry, David Dynan, Margaret McLaren, Margaret Rose McMahon, The Stewart Family, Elaine Dodds, Tracy Park, Patrick Hardie, Chris Maguire, Frank McMahon, Lorraine McDonald, Olivia Walsh, Patricia Thomson, Margaret Goodwin, Andrea Waddell, Joseph Gallagher, Ian O’Prey, Molly Lorentzen, Bernadette Coll, John Connor, Olivia Anderson, Iain Norrie, Stewart Hannah, Liam Toner, Maureen Hughes, Jane Thirwell, Catherine Ramsay, Betty Murphy, Michael McShane, Hannah Henry, Margaret Shields, Sheila Torrance, Cathy Spiers, Christopher Brown, James McCabe, Elizabeth Hunter, Anne Holmes, Julia Jakusz, Mary Hoban, Mary Conway, Esther McMahon and Robert Williamson

**Months Mind:** James and Helen Halligan, John Crews **1st Anniversary:** Cathie Blake  
**Anniversaries and Christmas Mass Remembrance:** Tom Martin, Frank Hammond, Mary and Andrew Borland, William Magill, Peter Reilly, Anna McGinley, Michael Reilly, Jane Anne Lochrin, Barbara Hepburn, Anne McGhee, Margaret and Robert Purdie, Jim Graham, Margaret and William Graham, William Graham Jnr, Frank Brennan, Isabella and Robert Kinghorn, Margaret and William Paterson, The McKay Family, Jack Fraser, Charlie Mitchell, John and Nan Wright, John and Mary Ann Mitchell, Cathy Pett, deceased members of the Marsella and Gallacher families, Matthew Lorimer, William D Patrick, Patrick, Ellen and Jim McBride, Rena Jennings, George MacLellan, James MacLellan, David Cook, Sam Lynas, Leonard and Sarah Smith, Swales Forrest, deceased members of the Gildea and Maguire families, John Waddell, deceased members of the Waddell and McGinley families, Catherine Crews, Jim Hendry.

*May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace, Amen.*

# ST BRIDE’S CHURCH

Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride, G74 1NN

Telephone: (01355) 220005

ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER BILL BERGIN

SUPPLYING PRIEST: FATHER RAFAL SOBIESZUK

DEACON: REVEREND JOHN MCGARRY

IN RESIDENCE: CANON MICHAEL RYAN (RETIRED)

## 25th December 2015

## The Nativity of the Lord



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## THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

*The Church has no more ancient a tradition than the celebration of the Christmas Season: from Jesus' humble birth in Bethlehem; the announcement of his birth to the Shepherds by Angels; the revelation to the Magi and their subsequent adoration of the child; his Baptism in the River Jordan and the Father's declaration of Jesus as 'Beloved Son' and the beginning of his public ministry.*

### LITURGIES THIS WEEK

<b>Friday 25th December</b> <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	<b>Masses at 9.30am and 11.30am</b> <b>No evening Mass</b>
<b>Saturday 26th December</b> <i>Feast of St Stephen</i>	<b>Mass at 11.00am (note the later time)</b> <b>Vigil Mass at 6.00pm</b>
<b>Sunday 27th December</b> <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	<b>Mass at 9.30am, 11.30am and 6.00pm</b>
<b>Monday 28th The Holy Innocents</b>	<b>Mass at 10.00am</b>
<b>Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th</b>	<b>Mass at 10.00am</b>
<b>Thursday 31st December</b>	<b>Mass at 10.00am</b> <b>Holy Hour 7.00pm, followed by</b> <b>Mass at 8.00pm</b>
<b>Friday 1st January</b> <i>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>	<b>Mass at 10.00am</b>
<b>Saturday 2nd January</b> <i>St Basil &amp; St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	<b>Mass at 10.00am</b> <b>Vigil Mass at 6.00pm</b>
<b>Sunday 3rd January</b> <i>The Epiphany</i>	<b>Mass at 9.30am, 11.30am &amp; 6.00pm</b>
<b><i>The last Sunday Masses in the Church before the building closes for renovation.</i></b>	

**New Year's Eve:** To bring this calendar year to an end before the Lord, there will be an hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church on Thursday evening 31st December beginning at 7.00pm followed by Mass at 8.00pm.

**Next Friday January 1st 2016** is World Day of Prayer for Peace.

**Sunday 3rd January is the Solemnity of the Epiphany.** There will be a **Special Collection** at all Masses for Justice and Peace.

## BISHOP TOAL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2015

In proclaiming the Jubilee Year of Mercy Pope Francis encourages us *"to contemplate the mystery of mercy, the wellspring of joy, serenity and peace"*.

The mercy of the Father is revealed to us in a definitive way when, in the fullness of time God sent his Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary. Our contemplation of mercy then begins as we look upon and cherish the gift of the Christ Child in the manger each Christmas. We experience in the depths of our hearts what Jesus promised, *"whoever sees me sees the Father"* (Cf. Jn 14:9). Then along with the Holy Father we renew our faith that *"Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God"* (Misericordiae Vultus, 1).

In Zechariah's beautiful canticle, the *Benedictus* in St Luke's Gospel, we hear, and perhaps recite daily, the words *"to give his people knowledge of salvation through forgiveness of their sins, this by the tender mercy of our God, who from on high will bring the rising Sun to visit us"*. The Child Jesus is indeed the rising Sun coming to visit us and save us from our sins, and we rejoice in the tender mercy of our God. May our contemplation and celebration of his birth in Bethlehem bring consolation and healing to our own lives and to all who need to know and experience the Father's mercy. May the Year of Mercy be a fruitful time for the whole Church, and inspire us to be tender and truly merciful like Our Father.

I pray for the Lord's blessing upon your families, parishes and communities this Christmas, and pray that all who are troubled or live in trying circumstances or places may know his peace.  
+ *Joseph Toal*

**CANON RYAN, FR RAFAL AND DEACON JOHN** wish each and every one of you a Happy and Holy Christmas with your families and friends around you. We particularly think at this time of those who have lost a loved one this year and extend our warmest wishes to them. We also wish Father Bergin good wishes on his road to recovery. We thank you for all your gifts and cards at this time which have been gratefully received. Your generosity to the children of St Dominic's and St Joseph's in Garthamlock has once again been wonderful. May you all be deeply blessed with the peace of the Christ child over the Christmas season and in the weeks and months to come as we continue on our the Holy Year of Mercy.

**Our Christmas crib:** Donations to St. Margaret's Adoption Society may be made through the collection box at our Christmas crib, and collection boxes for use at home are available from the table at the back of the church.

**Christmas Tree** - our thanks are due once again to the family within the parish who have provided the tree for the Sanctuary and also to Joe Gallagher for his time, care and patience in erecting both the tree and the crib.

**Christmas parcels** from our parish have been delivered to children in Garthamlock and were joyfully received. Thanks once again for your generosity.

**The Innocents:** The annual Holy Innocents Mass is on Monday 28th December in the Cathedral, Motherwell at 11am. A warm welcome is extended to all.