

**St Aidan's Parish Church**

**Mass Times**

**Sunday Masses** Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm, Sunday 10.00 am and 12 Noon.

**Holyday of Obligation** Vigil 7.30pm, 10.00am and 7.30pm

**Weekdays** 8.15 am (Mondays to Fridays) and 10.00 am (daily)

**Confessions** After all Saturday Masses

**Parish Ministers' Rota**

**13th December 2009**

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
<b>Vigil</b>	B. Higgins, E. Lynn, S. Woods	G. Traynor
<b>10.00am</b>	J. Donnelly, J. Pearson	B. Moulds, . McCrossan
<b>12 Noon</b>	J. Slavin, M. McDowell	P. Allison, J. Scott

**Today's Readings**

**First Reading:**

This contains a message of hope, of God restoring Israel to her former glory. It is meant to encourage the Israelites in hard times and looks forwards to God coming as Saviour of his people.

**Second Reading:**

Paul looks back in gratitude for the good work that the Philippians have done in spreading the good news. He also looks forward to further growth in their knowledge of Christ and in the quality of their Christian living. This will prepare them for the meeting with the Lord on the 'Day of Christ'.

**Gospel:**

This passage sets John the Baptist in the context of his time and place. Luke dates the start of John the Baptist's ministry by setting it in the 15th year of the reign of Emperor Augustus: 29 AD. He notes that Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, was "tetrarch" of Galilee. The word is related to "monarch" which means "one ruler". A tetrarch is a quarter ruler. After Herod the Great's death, Rome decided to divide up the kingdom of Israel so that no one person would hold all of the power. Herod Antipas is the king most frequently mentioned in the gospels. He later arrested John the Baptist and sentenced him to death.

Today's Gospel shows John ministering through his baptism of repentance. Most of all, it shows that, by doing this, John is preparing the way for the Messiah, who will bring to humankind the salvation of God.

*Fr Bill Cosgrove*

# St Aidan's Parish Bulletin

*Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)*

*6th December 2009*



*"A voice cries in the wilderness:  
prepare a way for the Lord..."*

*Parish Priest: Rev. Joseph Clements*

*Rev Francis King Chaplain Wishaw General Hospital*

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### **Weekdays in Advent**

**Monday 7th December St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor.** Son of the praetorian prefect of Gaul; He was a lawyer who was appointed governor of Aemilia and Liguria, a region whose capital was Milan. He was chosen by the people to be Bishop of Milan, even though he was still a catechumen at the time. He baptised St Augustine and is one of the four great Latin Doctors of the Church.

**Tuesday 8th December Immaculate Conception.** In the [Constitution Ineffabilis Deus](#) of 8 December, 1854, [Pius IX](#) pronounced and [defined](#) that the [Blessed Virgin Mary](#) "in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and [grace](#) granted by [God](#), in view of the [merits](#) of [Jesus Christ](#), the Saviour of the [human race](#), was preserved exempt from all stain of [original sin](#)."

### **Wishaw Deanery Sacrament of Penance Christmas Reconciliation Services**

#### **Monday 14th 7.00pm**

[St Mary's Lanark](#) Frs. J. Brannigan, H. Kelly, J. Naughton, T. Brady, Mgr. M. Conway.  
[St Aidan's](#), Frs. J. Clements, F. King.

#### **Tuesday 15th f 7.00pm**

[St Ignatius](#) Mgr Conway, Frs. H. Kelly, J. Brannigan, J. Naughton, F. King, Canon G. Boyd.

#### **Friday 18th December ALL DAY**

[St Patrick's Shotts](#) Frs. T. Brady, M. O'Keefe, F. King.

#### **Monday 21st December 7.00pm**

[St Athanasius's, Carluke](#)  
Frs. J. Naughton, J. Brannigan, H. Kelly

#### **Tuesday 22nd December 7.00pm**

[St Mary's Cleland](#) Frs. J. Naughton, J. Brannigan, H. Kelly.  
[St Patrick's, Shieldmuir](#) Fr. G. Chromy, Canon K. O'Farrell.

### **Motherwell Diocesan Choir Presents**

#### **O Holy Night**

A traditional Christmas Service of Carols and Readings

St Bernadette's Sunday 13th

The Cathedral Thursday 17th

Holy Family Mossend Sunday 20th

All services begin at 7.30pm.

**Altar Servers: There will be a meeting of all altar servers one week on Wednesday the 16th December at 4.30pm in the side chapel to arrange the servers for Christmas Midnight Mass and Christmas Day.**

### **Carol Service**

**11th Wishaw Rainbows, brownies and guides invite family, friends and parishioners to a Christmas Carol Service in St Aidan's church on Wednesday 9th December at 6pm.**

**Refreshments will be served in the hall afterwards, alongside a fun Christmas craft sale. Proceeds will go the units' centenary fund.**

### **Being a Catholic**

Have a look at the new website [www.beingcatholic.org](http://www.beingcatholic.org). Free bookmarks are available at church door.

### **Please pray for:**

#### **The Sick:**

Leah Marshall (12 years old, Airdrie)

#### **The Recently Deceased:**

Angela O'Kane Jones. Bernadette Naules.  
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#### **The Anniversaries and Month's Mind of:**

Margaret Chesney, David Ness, Father Jack Brady, Charles Boyle, Ellen Miller, Hugh McGinley, Mary and James Mallon.

### **Parish Humour**

Every Christmas morning, when my kids were little, I read them the nativity story out of the big family bible. When my son was old enough to talk, he asked me what a stable was. I thought for a moment how to explain it to him in terms he could understand, then told him, "It's something like your sister's room, but without a stereo."

Admiring the Christmas trees displayed in his neighbour's windows, Nathan asks his father, 'Daddy, can we have a Hanukkah Tree?'

'What? No, of course not.' says his father. 'Why not?' asks Nathan. Bewildered, his father replies, 'Well, Nathan, because the last time we had dealings with a lighted bush we spent 40 years in the wilderness.'

A woman went into a post office to buy some stamps for her Christmas cards. What denomination do you want? asked the lady at the counter. 'Good God!' she replied, Has it come to this? I suppose you'd better give me twenty Catholic and twenty Presbyterian.

### **Children's Corner**

Betty: Hey there Tom, how's things with you this week?

Tom: Hi Betty, great thanks. What are you thinking about?

Betty: Just about our Christmas concert practice in school today! Our teacher said that it was a bit like the Gospel!

Tom: What? I don't get it? The Gospel is about John the Baptist, who came to tell everyone about Christ.

Betty: I know! That is what she meant, we had our practice in school and the younger choir sang first, they are to get the crowd ready for the P.6 kids who have a really cool Gospel choir and a cool band to play the music!

Tom: I get it! Well yes you could say that John the Baptist went before Jesus to prepare the crowd, that's really clever of your teacher!!

*Read today's Gospel quietly to yourself and think of the difficult job that John the Baptist had to get the crowds ready for Jesus the Saviour.*

**St Matthew's Primary School**  
**The petition against closure of St Matthew's is available for signature at the church door.**

### **PARISH NOTICES**

**BINGO** Live bingo in the hall every Sunday at 7.30pm

**STALL** In the hall after both Sunday Masses. Christmas Cards are now available.

**MEN'S CLUB** meets in the hall every Thursday at 7.30pm. Men's Club monthly Mass is held on the 1st Thursday of the month.

**RCIA** The RCIA Team meets on Monday 7th December at 7.30 pm in the Hall; Intimations for the sick, the recently deceased and anniversaries and all other items for the bulletin must reach the Parish priest by Thursday for inclusion in the bulletin for the following week. We acknowledge the assistance of *Intercom* in the preparation of the text for parts of this bulletin