



PARISHES OF ST PETER, AND ST FERGUS

Bulletin

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: "*Gaudete Sunday*"

(Is 35:1-6,10, Jm 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11)



St. Peter's R.C. Church, 154 Braehead Road,

Paisley, PA2 8NG

Phone - 0141 884 2435

Email - stpeter@rcdop.org.uk

Facebook: St Peter's Catholic Church Paisley

Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Thomas John, (*Resident at St Peter's*)

St. Fergus' R.C. Church

[35 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1LU](https://www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk)

Phone- 0141 884 2435

Email - stfergus@rcdop.org.uk

Facebook: St Fergus Catholic Church

Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk



Sunday Mass: St. Peter's 4.00pm (Sat) & 10.00 am, St. Fergus' 5.30pm (Sat) & 11.30 am
Weekday Mass: St Peter's – Tue, Thu, & Fri 10.00am; St Fergus – Mon, & Wed 9.30am
Confessions: St Peter's 3.15-3.50pm, St Fergus' 5.00 -5.25pm; and on request

PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick, for all who have recently died in particular Russel McAllister and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mark Adam, Annie McGrath, Sister Mary Perpetua and Kevin McPhee.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (07 DEC): St Peter's - Offertory: £532.00, B. Fund: £400.00, Hall Lets £150.00, 100 Club: £260.00. St Fergus: Offertory: £256.00, B. Fund: 88.00, Lucky Star: £50.00

CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY IN ST PETER'S: The parish is organizing a Christmas tea party for all parishioners on Sunday 21st after the morning mass. Please join this great celebration. While in St Fergus it was on last Sunday. The event was well attended.

TEA & COFFEE – Tea & coffee available in the hall. All welcome.

THE GIVING TREE AT ST PETER'S: Feel free to choose a tag from the giving tree to give a gift to someone mentioned in the card. Please do not forget to place the tag on the gift in order to give to the right recipient. The gifts will be given out to 'Stronger Communities Glenburn', 'The Spirit of Christmas' and 'the SSVP'.

CRIB SERVICE: St Peter's School will have their Crib service on Wednesday 17th at 10am in the parish Church. No mass in St Fergus

MASS IN ST FERGUS SCHOOL: On Friday 19th mass in the school at 11.30am.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: The Mass times in both parishes are as follows:

St Fergus: Christmas Vigil - Wednesday 24th: Carol service at 2.00pm followed by Mass. Christmas morning Mass, Thursday 25th at 11.30am.

St Peter's: Christmas Vigil - Wednesday 24th: Nativity play and Carol service at 4.00pm, followed by Mass. Christmas morning Mass, Thursday 25th at 10.00am.

St Fergus Carol choir will have practice on Sundays 14th & 21st after the morning mass.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ACROSS THE DIOCESE: You can find Mass times listings for Christmas throughout the diocese on the diocesan website: <https://rcdop.org.uk/Christmas>.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT: This third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday* because it introduces us into the second half of season of Advent, and at the opening of matins our anxiety and joy are given impetus: "The Lord is already near. Come, let us adore Him!" *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning "rejoice."

This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." So, on this day, we

recognize the closeness of the Lord. He is not only coming, He is near! We mark this day by lighting the third candle on our Advent wreath, which is traditionally coloured pink. At mass, we will see the priest wearing pink or rose-coloured vestments. The colour signifies that we look forward to the arrival of Christ. This Sunday centres on the theme of joy, celebrating the announcement of Christ's birth to the shepherds and the nearness of His arrival (Luke 2:10). So, it is a time of joy, a time of being thankful for all that has been given—the promise of the Saviour who has come, who is present, and who promises a return.

This is a time of coming together, of building a community of faith that is open to all. Advent often focus on preparation for the birth of Jesus, and on themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. It is a period of self-preparation. The purple colour associated with Advent is also the colour of penance. An ideal preparation for welcoming the Lord is to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

CATHEDRAL ALL-DAY CONFESSIONS: In preparation for the Christmas, on Thursday 18th December, priests will be available to hear Confessions from 8.30am (after 8am Mass) until 6.30pm in St Mirin's Cathedral. There will be 30-minute breaks while Masses are celebrated at 10am and 1pm.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES 2026 – Diocese of Paisley: We invite engaged couples to register for one of the Marriage Preparation courses on offer in 2026. The course consists of two evening in-person sessions, and one Saturday morning workshop, which will be held in St. Mirin's Cathedral Hall, Paisley. For any additional details or queries please contact Rebecca Harrison at marriageandfamily@rcdop.org.uk

The cost for the course per couple is £70 which includes a gift with additional reading materials, couple exercises, books and light refreshments during the workshop. Once couples have registered we will contact them directly regarding attendance at the course and a certificate will be issued upon completion. This course fulfils church requirements regarding preparation before marriage and is a wonderful opportunity to meet other couples and share in fellowship. You can follow the link to access further information <https://www.rcdop>

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: Most of us know the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On December 9,

1531, an elderly peasant Mexican man named Juan Diego had a vision of the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, at Tepeyac, a poor Mexican village outside Mexico City. Virgin Mary directed Juan Diego to tell his Bishop to build a Church in Tepeyac. The Bishop, however, dismissed his tale as mere superstition. At the same time the Bishop demanded that the visionary bring some sort of proof. Three days later, the Virgin Mary appeared again and told Juan Diego to pick the exquisitely beautiful roses that had miraculously bloomed amidst December snows, and take them as a sign to the Bishop. When Juan Diego opened his poncho to present the roses to the Bishop, the flowers poured out from his poncho to reveal an image of the Virgin Mary painted on the inside of the poncho. That image hangs today in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City and is venerated by thousands of pilgrims from all over the world. This apparition occasioned the conversion of nine million peoples to Christianity in twenty years. The original Church was built in 1533, the second in 1556 and the third in 1709. It is estimated that ten million pilgrims visit the Basilica every year. The Virgin of Guadalupe was declared the *Patroness of Latin America* by Pope St. Pius X (1907), *Queen of Mexico and Empress of America* by Pope Pius XII (1945), *Mother of America* by Pope St. John XXIII (1961) and *Star of Evangelization* by Pope St. John Paul II (1979). SAFEGUARDING THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH - DECEMBER 2025: As disciples, we have a duty to act as Jesus did in showing care and compassion to those in most need.

THANK YOU FROM RAINBOW TURTLE: Many thanks to all those who supported the stall at our parish Christmas Fayre on 30th November. You raised £131.01 for Rainbow Turtle, providing a fairer income for others. Thank you

VOCATIONS NEWS: Our new Diocesan Vocations social media pages are officially up-and-running! Instagram - [dioceseofpaisleyvocations](#) TikTok - [paisleyvocations](#) X - [@DoPVocations](#)

Vocations Director, Fr. Eoin Patten explains our new Vocations message - "He is There!" Be sure to like, follow and share.

CAROLS IN THE CATHEDRAL: All are welcome at this annual diocesan event, as we come together as a community and worship in song the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We begin at 2pm on Saturday 27th December in St Mirin's Cathedral, with the Diocesan Choir and Schola Benedicti.