



*A Parish of the Diocese
of Motherwell.
The Bishop;
Rt. Rev. Joseph A. Toal
www.rcdom.org.uk
Scottish Charity No
SCO11041*

**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
YEAR A
14TH-15TH DECEMBER 2019**

*ENTRANCE
ANTIPHON*

**Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I say
rejoice. Indeed, the
Lord is near.**
Philippians 4.4-5

*COMMUNION
ANTIPHON*

**Say to the faint of
heart: Be strong
and do not fear.
Behold, our God
will come, and he
will save us.**
Isaiah 35.4

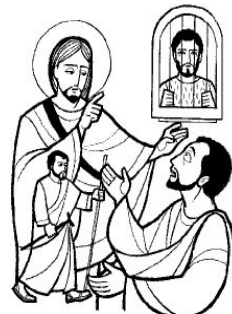
1st Reading: **Isaiah 35.1-10:**
Of all the prophets, Isaiah is
the one most referred to in
the gospels. He has been
called a “fifth evangelist” so
beautifully do his words ap-
ply to Christ. In this passage,
he anticipates the renewal of
creation which would come
with Christ and the healing
he would bring.

Response to the Psalm:
**Come, Lord, and save us;
come, Lord, and save us.**

2nd Reading: **I James 5.7-10:**
James encourages us to be
patient until the Lord returns
and not to lose heart. In the
meantime, we should deal
generously with each other
without complaint.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
**The spirit of the Lord has
been given to me. He has sent
me to bring good news to the
poor.**
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Matthew 11.2-11: From prison
John the Baptist sends people to
Jesus to inquire if he is the
Messiah so long awaited. The
Lord tells them to inform John
of what they see—people are
receiving healing and the good
news is being preached to the
poor. These are
the signs of
God’s Kingdom
being established
through Christ
and John is the
one who pre-
pared his way.



Please bring along gifts for our annual toy/gift appeal. Please label each gift boy/girl + age or male/female adult. We are also looking for boxes of biscuits to give to each family.

WAYSIDE CLUB: Boxes are also available for WRAPPED parcels of gloves, hats, jumpers, underwear etc. Could you please label the parcels MALE or FEMALE plus parcel content.

Bambinelli Sunday, when we bring to be blessed the figures of the baby Jesus which will be placed in our cribs, takes place weekend the 3rd Sunday of Advent. Please approach with your figure at the end of Mass for a blessing.

This month’s Lucky Numbers winners: 1st: No 1 John Foster; 2nd No 6 Eddie Lebida; 3rd No 13 Wilma Ross

HYMNS FOR MASS
Entrance 100; Communion 78 & 882; Exit 851.

Pope Francis' Prayer intention for November: The Future of the Very Young
That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Christmas cards and gifts are now on sale in our shop. The parish Christmas card with the photo of the church is still available, price £1

Motherwell Diocesan Choir will once again be here for a Christmas Carol Service on Sunday evening 22nd December. Members of the other Carlisle churches will join us for what promises to be a beautiful evening of music. Take this time out in the final approach to Christmas to relax in God's presence and with each other.

St Aidan's High School are hosting a Christmas Concert on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm and a Pensioners' Concert on Tuesday 17th at 1.45pm. Please phone the school office on 01698 522738 to reserve your ticket. See the posters on the noticeboard.

Our Advent Service of Reconciliation takes place on Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm. This is an opportunity to reflect on our lives and to identify those areas which need attending. The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers a powerful experience of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Thanks again to Jack Murphy and Jim Stewart for their work in erecting our Memorial Cross. And thanks to Wendy and Pat Leonard for donating the slate centrepiece. The lime tree in the front garden has now been pruned—we'll see a beautiful crown on it in the spring.

SUNDAY TAKEAWAY: At the moment, it is possible that you may be passing through difficult times and expecting that Jesus' coming at Christmas bring you help. Even if you are not finding life easy, do not panic, do not lose hope for St. James in the second reading (James 5:7-10) asks us to be patient. The Lord has not forgotten you. The Lord sees how much you have suffered. As the first reading (Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10) says, he is coming. He is coming to save us and to restore our joy but his coming will have more of spiritual effects. All those who are spiritually blind who cannot see His presence in the world will be given the sight to see Him. Those who are spiritually deaf and cannot hear His voice talk to us will be given the faculty to hear His consoling voice directly. All those who are spiritually lame and cannot journey with him through the events of their lives would receive the power to walk with him even across the sea. All those suffering from spiritual leprosy (sin) and have been quarantined outside of God's mercy will be spiritually cleansed and admitted into the abode God's mercy. Those who are dead in sin would be raised up to a life where grace would abound in them. But this salvation is not attainable by default? We cannot sit without doing anything and wait for him to save us. We have to make effort. The effort we have to make is simply to reach out to him. We can find him in our brothers and sisters who are rejected and forgotten. This is a period to share our joy with them. Perhaps, the joy we share with another today may be God's way of blessing that person. Can God use you as a channel to reach another person?

Please remember in your prayers our sick and housebound: Isobel Gardner, Helen Kelly, Ann Martin, Walter Britton, Maureen Campbell, Lynett Moses, George Wisdom, Michael McKay, Paula Magee, Geraldine Creany, Dylan Ferguson, Jordan Ferguson, Gertrude Love, Jonathan Sutton, John Leslie, Silvio Jaconelli, Betty & Ed McKay, & Kasia Donnelly.

May God grant eternal rest to those who have recently died and whose month's mind and anniversaries occur at this time: Charles Meehan, Andrew Phillips, Mary Carlin & Karen Derbyshire



HOLY MASS: Vigil of Sunday: Saturday, 6pm; Sunday: 11am.

Monday-Friday: 10am.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5.30–5.55pm and on request.

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Chairman of the Parish Pastoral Council: Mr Ronnie Cook.

Parish Treasurer: Mr Eddie Kelly (email: treasurer@stathanasiuscarlisle.org)



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