

## Seeing Your Life Through The Lens of The Gospel Second Sunday of Advent

The manner in which Luke identifies in detail the time when John the Baptist started his preaching shows that Luke regarded this as a historic moment. Perhaps you can recall particularly a significant moment in your life, an occasion when you felt called to a change of work, status, or lifestyle?

John called people to give expression to their desire for a change of heart by a symbolic baptism in the Jordan. When have you found it helpful to symbolise your desire to change for the better by some symbolic gesture, e.g., burning a packet of cigarettes, sending a card, making a phone call, etc.

‘A voice crying in the wilderness’ is sometimes taken to refer to a voice that is ignored. Pope Francis has issued a call to all of us to take part in the consultation process preparing for the recent Synod. What can you, and your faith community, do to make sure his call is answered?

John Byrne OSA

## Opening of Jubilee Year 2025

Pope Francis will begin the Jubilee Year 2025 on Christmas Eve in St Peter’s in Rome as he opens the Holy Door.

The Opening in all Dioceses across to the world is to be on the Sunday after Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family, 29th December. The Opening Ceremony in Motherwell Diocese will begin at 1pm at St Francis Xavier’s, Carfin, from where a group of young people will process with the Holy Year Cross to Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral. The rest of those attending will join the procession behind the Cross at St Bride’s Centre and proceed to the Cathedral. The Opening Mass will begin then at 3pm.

An invitation is extended to everyone in the Diocese and it hoped it will be a great beginning for this special year under the logo Pilgrims of Hope.

## Christmas Mass Times

<b>Christmas Eve</b>	6pm St Serf’s.	8pm St Margaret’s
<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.30am St Serf’s	11am St Margaret’s

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Motherwell is a Charity registered in Scotland - Number SC011041

## St Margaret’s & St Serf’s Parish

### Bulletin

2nd Sunday of Advent  
Year C1 8th December 2024



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**Vigil Mass, St Serf’s at 5pm.**

**Sunday Morning - 9am & 12 noon, Mass in St Margaret’s  
- 10.30am, Mass in St Serf’s**

**Weekday Mass**

**Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am, St Margaret’s  
Wednesday & Friday, 10am, St Serf’s**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation,  
Thursday 7-8pm.**

**St Serf's SSVP** - We are appealing for donations of toys for the children in our parish community who are unlikely to have much if anything to open on Christmas morning. We are looking for ages 0 - 12. We will accept nearly new, used if in good working order or new toys. You can bring them to the church on any Mass day up until Sun 15th of December. Mary Lailo and Tracy Finnegan are appeal organisers. We look forward to your assistance in ensuring we can bring some Christmas cheer to those most in need.

#### **Advent Confessions**

There will be a day of confessions in St Margaret's next Saturday, 14th<sup>th</sup> December. The priests of the Deanery will take turns to be available for Confession from 10.30am until 4.30pm.

#### **Vocations Evening**

A meeting will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 7.00pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral for those in our diocese who feel called to the priesthood. This informal evening will begin with a short time of prayer and provide an opportunity for anyone considering a vocation to the priesthood to ask questions, come together and learn a bit more about priesthood and the discernment process. If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood but can't make it along to the meeting on 17th December, please email Fr Sean Wyllie, Diocesan Vocations Promoter: frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk

**The Diocesan Choir** will present its annual carol service in three churches across the diocese. This year's service, entitled SILENT NIGHT, will take place in

Our Lady & St John's, Blackwood on Wednesday 11 December at 7:30pm

St Mary's, Lanark on Sunday, 15 December at 7:30pm

The Cathedral, Motherwell on Wednesday, 18 December at 7:30pm

**Parish Christmas Dance** There will be a Parish Christmas Dance in St Margaret's Hall on Friday 13th December, 7pm. Tickets £12.50, including Fish Supper. Please put your names on the sheet at the back of the church.

Thanks to everyone one who helped or supported, in any way at all, the **Coffee Morning** for Mary's Meals last Sunday. The total raised was £605. Thanks again to all.

#### **We remember those who have died recently**

Nancy Hanlon, Mary Miller, Anne O'Hare.

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#### **We Pray for Those whose Months Minds & Anniversaries occur at this time.**

Bobby Grey, Daniel & Rosina Mullen, Dominic & Theresa Smith, James & Sadie Keenan, John Cochrane, Robert Burns, Kathleen Murphy, John Boyle, Janette McCann, Michael Lally, Annie McGuigan.

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#### **We Pray for Healing, Peace and Contentment for our Sick**

John Rooney, Jacky Mullen, John McSherry, Tracy Horn, John Gallagher, Michael Gribben, Pauline Coyle, Jim Mulholland, Jessie Duncan, John Timmons, Anastasia Boyce, Donald, George Cassidy, Megan Wilson, Thomas Harty, Shannon Campbell, Emma Smith, Donna Marie Menzies, P McPake, M D Williamson, D McPake, F Toner, John Kane, Liam Calheur, Michael Tracy, William Wilson, Douglas Sweet, Jim Flynn, Hugh Bonnar, James Campbell, Nora Cochrane, Elizabeth Easingwood, Anne Martin, Annette Coup, Sally Campbell, Andy Waite, Hannah McGhee, James Fay, Laura Chalmers, Siena McVey, Jacob Canning, William Higgins, Kathleen Morgan, Stewart Hannah, John Keenan, Anne Logue, Marie Elizabeth Tucker, Esther O'Neil, Alex Jamieson, Tracy Dawson, Evan Smith, John Hamill, Geoffrey Hill, Hugh Carr, Nicola Cochrane, Kathleen Harold, Lucia Jane Gavin, Rayhan Mavid, Patsy Brannan, Myra Taylor, Rena Tague, Leanne Marshall, Kathleen Johnson, Anne Marie Robertson, Catriona Paterson, Marie Robertson, Grace Clark, Emily Grace Friel, Peter Sherry, Anne Molloy, Brenda Burns, Mhairi Green, Claire Fox, Emma Higgins, Martin Murphy, Mark Craig, Gerard Hamill, Patrick Hughes, Mary Gorman, Allison Forrester, Eddie Welsh, Maureen Brady, Stephen Moore, Lynn Arnott, Tom & Marie Boyle, Peter Sherry, Karen Hunter, Morris Stewart, Margaret Mary Brown, Tom Roche, Patsy & Irene Boreen, John Miller, Desmond McKay, Diane MacDonald, Margaret & George Goodall, Joseph McKay, Paul Burns, Jean Robinson, John Stronach, Ann-Patrica Kane, Sandra Ward, Andy Miller, Margaret Sexton, Maurice Stewart, Joseph Lamarra, Thomas Lally, Joe Binnie, Helen Holcroft, Joseph Molloy, William Fitzpatrick, Evelyn Zaccardelli, William Mullen, Mary Gorman, Christine Hamilton, Stephen Gray, Maureen McKeown, Molly Nisbet, Isa McDonald, Maddison Fulton, Mary Ferguson, Arthur Higgins, May Wallace, Daniel Ward, Michelle Conlon, Mary McKenna.

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#### **Family Vocation Prayer**

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us. Please help more young people to follow your example by giving their lives in service as priests and religious.

If you are calling someone in our family to the priesthood or the religious life, please help them to say 'yes'.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen