St. Peter's Hamilton

First Sunday Advent (B)

29th November 2026

Our Parish Mission

All are welcome in this place
Behold Love's amazing grace
All are welcome
Bring your hopes, bring your dreams
Mercy flows and love redeems

Its 5.40am

Four Weeks tomorrow will be Christmas Day.
Can you believe it!

I hope you have written your Letter to Santa. What would you ask for if you could get anything in the world. Have a wee think about it.

Energy Bills are going up by 26% in January. This could mean an average household could pay an extra £2100 a year. What can we do to help each other. It will make some people having to choose between heating or eating. All because of the wars in the world.
Let us think what we can do to help.

The new Liturgical Year commences with the First Sunday of Advent, opening the Advent season. In this new Liturgical Year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense,endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

Bishop Toal

Visited St. Mark's yesterday and he will be in St. Peter's today. He is coming to see the Primary 7's who will be confirmed in February. They are doing an assembly on St. Francis of Assisi. Let us continue to pray for them.

28th November

Representatives of Holy Cross will speak to us about Catholic Education at the 4pm Vigil Mass.

29th November

Representatives of St.John Olgivie High
will speak to us about Catholic Education at the 11am Mass.

At Mass this weekend I will bless two advent wreaths, one for use in the main church and the other for the side chapel.

The Mass in the Side Chapel during the week is going well and it will probably be held in there till Ash Wednesday 10th February 2027.

Except for Funerals and when the children come to Mass.

Our Coffee Morning is held in the Dining Room every Tuesday. Please come along to have a wee chat in pleasant surroundings. The Next one is 1st December

Next Weeks Mass Programme

Monday: No Mass
Tuesday : 10am Mass
Wednesday: 10am Mass
Thursday: 10am Mass
Friday: 10am Mass
Saturday: 10am Mass

This Week's Rota

Readers

4pm Vigil: J. Logan
9.30am: T. Kennedy
11am: D. Lee

Eucharistic Ministers

4pm Vigil: A. Conway, A. Gebbie & B. Cornes
9.30am: K. O'Neill, R. Gemmill & C. Bonnar
11am: T. McKenzie, S. Russell & M.McGuire

Weekday 10am Mass Readers Rota

Tuesday: P. Davies
Wednesday: B. Cornes
Thursday: P. McKeown
Friday: J. McCluskey
Saturday: A. Devlin

Please pray for the following:

Sick:

**Margaret Callaghan Doreen Cleary, Neil Boyle,
John Rielly, James Clark, Fr. Michael McLaughlin, Patricia Henderson, Joanna Maier (Connecticut USA), Therese Gilgunn Tressy Callaghan, Suzanne McMurray, Marie White,Lesley Watson (Spain) John McGuire,
Jill Brown, Maureen McHugh,Margaret Burke,
Kathleen Daly, Karen Pritchatt, Louise Newton,
Faith Lyndsey, Marie McGuire, James Morton,
Thomas Daly, Andrew McCluskey, Margaret Loan, Premature Baby Vincent McDowell,
Gudren Berk (Germany), Jaqueline McReynolds,
Mary Morrison, Helen Howarth (Easterhouse),
Avril McCluskey, Carol Corr, Margaret Park,
Thomas Kennedy, Alana Hepburn, Michael Ritchie,
Hugh O'Donnell, Mary Brandon, Michelle McDade, Pope Leo,
Baby Matteo, Angela Hendry,
Patsy McMenemy, James McLernon (Blantyre)
Joan Daly, and all our sick.**

Recently Dead:

Stephen Boyle Jnr, Noreen Lockhart,

Allan Dempsie, Anne Kirson, Tom (Tosh) Gaffney, Steve Lightbody, Danny Smith, Margaret McGaughey, Davy Brennan, Cathy Bryceland, Mary Delaney, Rose Craig

Month Minds & Anniversaries:

John Corns, Christina McCready, Elizabeth Sullivan, Marie Seagrove,

Please if you could make sure all month minds and anniversaries are handed in no later than Wednesday Night. If they come in after that they will be read out at Mass on Sunday. If the recently dead come in after the Wednesday deadline they too will be read out at Mass on the Sunday.

This Weeks Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7

Isaiah prays for the Lord's forgiveness of the people.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

A prayer for the Lord's protection

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Paul gives thanks to God for the faith of the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living

in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

Every Week during Advent I will put in some weekday meditations for us to think about:

Monday 30 NOV 2026 Feast of St. Andrew
Be part of the advance team

In celebrating Saint Andrew today, the church gives him a chance to come out from under the shadow of his more famous brother. In the Gospel of John, Andrew is the one who brings Peter to meet Jesus. He also brings forward the boy who supplies the soon-to-be-miraculous loaves and fishes, as well as the Greeks who want to see Jesus. Andrew, patron of fishermen, is one to draw people into his net and usher them toward Jesus. In the spirit of Andrew,

what can you do to advance Jesus' interests and usher someone to deeper faith?

Today's readings: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
"As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea."

Tuesday 01 DEC 2026 Advent Weekday
Rooted in faithfulness

The tradition of the Jesse Tree comes from the prophet Isaiah. A Jesse Tree helps families and church communities connect the Advent season with the faithfulness of God throughout salvation history. The tree incorporates references to God's promises of fidelity through special ornaments placed on the branches. The ornaments are usually a handmade symbol or drawing that represents one of the major stories of the Old Testament, along with a brief scripture verse from that story. On Christmas Eve, the final symbol is added to the tree—usually a Star of David. Allow the season to take root in your heart. Participating in the decoration of a Jesse Tree can help plant the seed.

Today's readings: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom."

Wednesday 02 DEC 2026 Advent Weekday
Something from nothing

The story of the feeding of the crowd with a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish is well known and much loved, and it's the only miracle that is told in all four gospels. It is also one reason why the fish was the first symbol of Christianity. At its heart, this story is about abundance, where seemingly there was only lack. But make no mistake: This event is not just something that happened 2,000 years ago; it reveals a reality we live in today. We can't produce a feast for thousands, but we can create peace and comfort out of thin air every time we offer a kind word or a helping hand. As Saint John Chrysostom says, "The rich man is not one who is in possession of much, but one who gives much."

Today's readings: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37
"Jesus said to them, 'How many loaves do you have?' 'Seven,' they replied, 'and a few fish.'"

Thursday 03 DEC 2026 Memorial of St. Francis Xavier
Adventures in love

When Ignatius Loyola began sharing a lodging with Francis Xavier at the university of Paris, he slowly persuaded him to consider the priesthood and eventually join in the founding of the Jesuit order. In those early days, Francis couldn't have known that less than a century later they would be canonized together (along with Teresa of Avila, Philip Neri, and Isidore the Farmer). Francis also couldn't have known where the love of Christ would take him. From Paris, Rome, and the founding of the Jesuits, to India, Japan, and beyond, Francis Xavier spent his life spreading the Good

News, crossing paths with people from far and wide and witnessing to the love of God that knows no bounds. In honour of Francis, be open to new ideas and adventures of the Spirit!

Today's readings: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
“Trust in the LORD forever! For the LORD is an eternal Rock.”

Friday 04 DEC 2026 Advent Weekday
The eyes of faith

Faith is one of those things you have to enter into for it to really open itself up to you. Once you enter into it, things begin to make sense in a new way. As Saint Augustine put it: "Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe." Several of the healings the gospels tell of have to do with Jesus restoring sight to the blind. Christ healed blindness—and other afflictions—because people believed he could do it. They believed in him. Think of this Advent as a way to deepen your faith in Christ—and to let him do the impossible for you.

Today's readings: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31
“The blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, ‘Do you believe that I can do this?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ they said to him.”

Saturday 05 DEC 2026 Advent Weekday
It’s not about the money

In Jesus' time there was less reliance on money than now, but it was still important. Jesus wanted his disciples—and that includes us today—to give away more than just money. True charity consists of gifts that defy monetary value: loving attention, compassion, healing, forgiveness, wisdom. So go about your business, and do it well, but also remember to offer to others what is truly precious in life. In doing so, says Saint Ambrose, "you will find the glory of charity more than a match for the parade of power."

Today's readings: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180).

"Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."

Every Week from now on there will be a feast day of the week in the bulletin. This weeks is:

St. Francis Xavier 3rd December

Saint Francis Xavier's Story

Jesus asked, "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honor before him. Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the

spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534, joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, obedience, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope. From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he laboured to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India. Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy. Xavier went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptise, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realised. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925. Reflection

All of us are called to “go and preach to all nations—see Matthew 28:19. Our preaching is not necessarily on distant

shores but to our families, our children, our husband or wife, our coworkers. And we are called to preach not with words, but by our everyday lives. Only by sacrifice, the giving up of all selfish gain, could Francis Xavier be free to bear the Good News to the world. Sacrifice is leaving yourself behind at times for a greater good, the good of prayer, the good of helping someone in need, the good of just listening to another. The greatest gift we have is our time. Francis Xavier gave his to others. Saint Francis Xavier is a Patron Saint of:
Japan, Jewellers, Missions & Sailors.

Its that time of the year again:
Christmas Foodbank Appeals
Christmas Shopping List
Mince Pies, Tinned Ham, Christmas Pudding, Christmas Cake, Box of Biscuits, Selection Box,
Box of Chocolates, Bar of Chocolate,
Snacks & Nibbles, Christmas Crackers, Mash Potatoes, UHT Milk, Tea bags, Coffee, Diluting Juice.
Christmas Toiletries List
Shampoo, Shower Gel, Bubble Bath, Toothpaste,Toothbrush, Mouthwash, Bar of Soap, Liquid Hand Soap, Disposable razors, Ladies Deodorant,
Mens Deodorant, Shaving Foam or Gel.
Christmas Toy Appeal
New Board Games, New Jigsaw Puzzles,
New colouring books & Crayons New Books.

Thank you for your kindness again.
Fr. Frank

Christmas Cards etc are available from in the side Chapel at competitive prices.

Breakfast with Santa
5th December

If anyone's workplace donate gifts for kids at Christmas please keep St. Peter's Church in mind as we are organising Breakfast with Santa for over 100 children in the area free of charge and any support would be greatly appreciated.... also tombola gifts ....give Anne Frances a message or hand in to the church.

Panto 2027
January 8th 2027
Goldilocks

Price £36 including Bus
Sign up Sheet in Porch
Scan the QR code on the notice board in the Church
Click on the following link as well.
St Peters Panto Trip Jan 2027 – Fill in form

Powerpoint Remote Control:

I am also looking for Volunteers to move the power-points on during the Sunday Masses,
Vigil 4pm, 9.30am & 11am.
It is very easy to operate, if we get enough volunteers for

each Mass we would put a wee rota together. It would take a wee bit of pressure off me.

Gift Aid

If you wish to sign up for Gift Aid. It is a great way to help the parish financially, costing you absolutely nothing. If you wish to sign up contact myself or Doreen Lee and we will give you the form and hand it back as you can and we can get it organised. As I said it costs you nothing, but helps the parish so much.

Baptism/Wedding Meetings: **THURSDAY** 6pm & 7pm. **JUST TURN UP**

The Bulletin is available by email

I can't thank you enough for your generosity to the Parish. I really appreciate it. Please keep it up, Once again Thank You.

Fr. Frank