

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Collect
Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.’ Nathan said to the king, ‘Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.’

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:
‘Go and tell my servant David, “Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.”’

Psalm

Psalm 88:2-5,27,29

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

‘He will say to me: “You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.”
I will keep my love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.’

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

Second reading

Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom;

give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. He went in and said to her, ‘Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.’ She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, ‘Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God’s favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?’ ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you’ the angel answered ‘and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kins-woman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God’ ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord,’ said Mary ‘let what you have said be done to me.’ And the angel left her.

Prayer over the Offerings
May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion
Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son’s Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Sunday 11.15am Mass		
Introit		Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known unto God.
Proclamation	216	Come, O divine Messiah
Responsorial Psalm		My soul rejoices in my God
Offertory	418	Let all mortal flesh keep silence
Communion Antiphon		Say: Take courage, you who are faint-hearted, and do not fear; behold, our God will come and he will save us.
Communion Hymn	218	Come, O long expected Jesus
	868	In the Lord
Recessional	346	Our God reigns



St. Mary's Cathedral

20 Huntly Street, Aberdeen

www.stmaryscathedralaberdeen.org





Meditation

In the history of Israel, the exodus event shaped the story of creation. In the formation of the gospels, the memory of Christ’s death and rising shaped the accounts of this birth and infancy. Much more than stories about a precocious child with remarkable relatives, the infancy narratives are the clear expression of the early Church’s belief that, from the first moment of Jesus’ conception, God was at work in him.

In relating the annunciation to Joseph, Matthew does not intend to consider the psychological reactions of this character. He simply wishes the question, “ Who is the Messiah?”. For Matthew, Jesus, “who will save his people from their sins,” is the ultimate inheritor of Israel, and it is Joseph who introduces him into line of David.

Informed from the beginning about the impending birth, Joseph believed at first that he must remove

himself from this mystery in which he thought he would have no role to play. Then God intervened. Indeed, the child whom Mary carried “come from the Holy Spirit”. But it is up to Joseph to assure Jesus’ legal status by accepting him as own son and giving him his name. It is necessary that through Joseph the house of David recognize in this son “God with us (Isaiah 7:14).

We readily designate birth “a joyous event”. What should be said about the waiting for this child in which Joseph plays a humble but indispensable role?. The question here is not the history of one family among others, but the history of “God-with-us”, the history of salvation.

Vienna International Religious Centre



Clergy & Staff

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More information: Parish website or

www.scottishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk

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finance@cathedral-abdn.org

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Notices to be in by Tuesday evening

Hall Bookings:

halls@cathedral-abdn.org

Call between 9am & 2pm only

Terms & Conditions see Parish website

Liturgical Ministries

Readers:

Fiona Mitchell

fiona.j.mitchell@hotmail.co.uk

Euch. Ministers:

Trudy Coker

07896 824 703

gcok6@aol.com

Stewards:

Gordon Webster

01224 59 22 46

webster200@btinternet.com

Altar Servers:

George Brand

geobra@msn.com

Notices

Rosary:

Saturdays

10.30pm

Confessions:

Tuesdays

6pm

Saturdays

10.30am & 6pm

Adoration:

Monday - Friday

7.30am to 7pm

standrewscommunity@cathedral-abdn.org

Morning Prayer:

Monday - Friday

7.30am

Saturdays

9.40am

Evening Prayer:

Thursdays

6.30pm (Sung)

Night Prayer

Thursdays

8.30pm

Housebound:

Trudy Coker (See above)

To arrange communion visits

Coeliacs

Please speak to a member of the clergy

before Mass to arrange communion

Family Planning Nature’s Way

Margaret Hammond:

07891) 358 114

mgthammond13@yahoo.co.uk

Children

Mass is screened live to the Main Hall should your child be-

come restless during Mass.

Children should always be accompanied to the toilet by a

parent or guardian.

Cathedral Car Parking

Open outside office hours & for midday Mass on Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays at 12.00 - 1.15pm (if available).

Mass Times

Date	Details	Service	Time	Mass Intentions
Sun 21th	4th Sunday of Advent	Mass Mass-Polish Solemn Mass Mass-Polish Mass	8.00am 9.30 am 11.15am 3.00pm 6.00pm	For the Parish For the Diocese Thanksgiving Chinwe Nwuke
Mon 22th		Mass Mass Solemn Mass	7.00am 12.30pm 7.00pm	Neil McMurray RIP Vincent Carcone RIP
Tue 23th		Mass Mass	7.00am 7.00pm	St. Anthony of Padua
Wed 24th		Mass Mass	7.00am 12.00mdn	Timothy Edwards
Thu 25th	Nativity of Our Lord	Mass Mass	8.00am 11.15am	For the Diocese
Fri 26th	Feast of St Stephen	Mass Mass	11.15am	
Sat 27th	Feast of St John	Mass Mass	10.00am 7.00pm	Our Lady of Aberdeen Thanksgiving Maurice Soord
Sun 28th	Feast of the Holy family	Mass Mass-Polish Solemn Mass Mass-Polish Mass	8.00am 9.30am 11.15am 3.00pm 6.00pm	Thanksgiving Chinwe Nwuke Gererdu Elios RIP For the Parish

Mass Intention Envelopes

At the back of the Church. Print details and post through Clergy House letter box.

It may not always be possible for Mass to be celebrated on your preferred date or at the Cathedral itself.


Recommended offering for each Mass is £5.

Sunday 11:15 Mass is normally reserved for the Administrator’s or Bishop’s Intentions for the Parish or Diocese

Offertory 14/12/14: £2,689.00 Polish: £960.00


HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM SCIAF

May you enjoy the blessings of advent and a happy and holy Christmas. From everybody at SCIAF and the thousands of brothers and sisters you helped in 2014.




St Vincent de Paul

December 13/14: £160.00
Donations: £60.00
Thanks to everyone for your donations!



YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE




The dove flies among the waves of history, above the waters of the deluge (cf Gen 8, 8-14). The men and women, whose consecration was marked by the Gospel, have always been pilgrims among the nations; they live their various charismatic and diaconal presence like “good administrators of the multiform grace of God” (1Pt 4,10); they are marked by the Cross of Christ, even unto martyrdom; they journey through history equipped with the wisdom of the Gospel; indeed, a Church that embraces and heals all that is human in Christ.

Youth

ST. MARY’S YOUTH GROUP

(12-17’s)

Resumes on Friday 9th January




For more info. or to support financially contact: 07754 891 808

standrewscommunity@cathedral-abdn.org

<http://nazareth.dioceseofaberdeen.org>

Diocesan youth website: latest news on events, pilgrimages, retreats and youth groups for teenagers.


Cathedral News



In Aid of Cathedral Renovation Fund to be held this Sunday In the Porch after each Mass

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

There will be no 7.00am Masses from Christmas day until 5th January.



Christmas Lunch 2014

You are invited to join the African community for Christmas lunch immediately after the Christmas Day Mass.

FAMILY BLESSING

On the Feast of the Holy Family families will have the opportunity to receive a special family blessing after each Mass.


NEW YEAR’S EVE

Solemn Vespers and Adoration will take place in the Cathedral from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Second Collection on Sunday 4th January


There will be a second collection on Sunday 4th January for Justice and Peace Scotland. If you’d like to find out more about the work of this organisation their website is: www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

The Restoration Fund second collection moved to the following Sunday.



HCPT

Brian Lamond of the HCPT will give a talk at 7.30pm in the Lower Hall on 6th January. The HCPT offers life changing pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes for disabled and disadvantaged children and adults, supported by volunteer helpers.



HEALING SERVICE

First Healing Service of the year

Thursday 8th January 2015

First Healing Service of the year to be held in Cathedral, after 7pm Mass on

Prayer Ministers to meet in Cathedral house at 6.30pm.

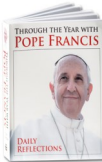
Rosary, Ministry and Praise

All Welcome

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Through the year with Pope Francis £12.99

Beautiful icons by Maria Gurreria, including Our Lady of Aberdeen



Lighthouse CD’s in stock featuring speakers that include Dr. Scott Hahn, Matthew Kelly, Fr. Robert Barron, Pope Benedict XVI and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.


Great value at only £2.00 each.

Advent Calendars & Candles, Christmas Cards & Liturgical Calendars also available

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

3rd to 10th May 2015

Fr. Keith Herrera will accompany this Pilgrimage British Airway from Aberdeen-London-Split return trip. £665pp sharing room (£130 single supplement); includes flights, transfers, 7 nights half-board, breakfast and dinner. 22 places. Contact: irmalallan@aol.com (07714 718 708 or 01224869889) to enquire or to reserve your place now with £100 deposit. Tour operator: Marian Pilgrimages.




CARE NOT KILLING PETITION

Please sign the petition form by Care Not Killing in opposition to the legalization of assisted suicide, as proposed in the Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill. There are copies in English and Polish.

HARD OF HEARING

If you wear a hearing aid we would be interested in knowing if your device is capable of picking up infra-red signals. We would like to upgrade the system and this is a factor.



MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Christmas Eve: 7.00am - No 12.30pm Mass - Mass in Polish 9.00 pm - Carol Service 11.30 pm followed by Midnight Mass at 12.00.

Christmas Day: 8 am - 11.15 am - Mass in Polish 9.30pm.

Friday, 26th Dec: 11.15 am - Mass in Polish 9.30pm & 3.00 pm.

Wednesday, 31st Dec: 12.30pm - 'Midnight Mass' 11.45 pm.

Thursday, 1st Jan: 11.15 am - Mass in Polish 9.30 am & 3.00 pm.

Deanery & Diocese

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO SOUTHERN GERMANY

Led by Bishop Hugh

21 - 30 July 2015

£775pp double room , £820pp single room .

4 places are available for young persons up to the age of 18 at a reduced cost of £600pp (double room occupancy only). Direct flight from Aberdeen to Frankfurt, Staying at the Schoenstatt Zentrum, Aulendorf with coach excursions. Limited places available. Book early to avoid disappointment!

For further information contact Joyce Webster: (01224) 319 154 or joyce@rcd-abdn.org

Weekly Calendar

Mon

Credo Community Meeting

Polish charismatic prayer group.

Main Hall at 7.30pm .

Contact: Fr Tomasz Klin SJ

Tue

Magnificat Prayer Group

Main Hall after Mass

Contact: Paul Akagwu 07574 103 852

St. Vincent de Paul

Feeding the homeless

Contact: Evelyn Murray

Journey of Faith

For those interested in learning more about the Faith or becoming Catholic

Lower Hall after Mass

Contact: Fr. Keith

Wed

Light Exercise Class for all

Main Hall—10:00am

Contact: Laura Walker 0777 3 021 851

laura@laurawalkerlimited.co.uk

Seniors Club

Speakers, fun & fellowship

Main Hall at 2 pm every 2 weeks

Contact: Winnie on 01224 632 465.

African Choir

For Africans and anyone else.

Upper Hall from 6 - 8.00pm

Contact: Kingsley Emeye 07956 039 763

Thu

Healing of Memories

Prayer for the healing of painful memories of the past to bring peace to the present.

Clergy House at 2.30pm (by appointment)

Contact: Deacon Tony

Legion of Mary

Members serve the Church as needed

Lower Hall at 5.30pm

Contact: Nogie Osula

nogisula@yahoo.com

Flower Arrangers

Contact: Pixie Mather 01224 321 953

Cenacolo Prayer Group

Exposition & Rosary praying for healing of those with addictions.

Church after Mass

Contact: Liam Sharkey 07774 931 996

liam.sharkey@fsmail.net

6pm Music Group

Contemporary music for the Sunday 6pm Mass

Upper Hall after Mass

Contact: Margaret Spence

mag.m.spencer@btinternet.com

Fri

Our Lady of Aberdeen Prayer Group

Gentle prayer & praise

Chapter Room from 1.30 - 2.30pm

Contact: Teresa Coyne 07901 851 526

Youth Group

For teenagers between 11 & 17

Lower Hall from 6.30 to 9pm

Contact: St. Andrew’s Community

07754 891 808

standrewscommunity@cathedral-abdn.org

Sat

Church Cleaning

Church at 10.30am

Contact: Joyce Webster 01224 319 154

African Choir

As above

Upper Hall from 6 - 8.00pm

Sun

11:15 Choir

Leading the music for 11.15 Sunday Mass

Upper Hall 10.00am

Contact: David & Liz Meiklejohn

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