



## Holy Cross Parish

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Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hand

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Holy Cross is the Parish of the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland – number SCO08540

### **24<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Sunday Mass - year B**

**Mass Times:** 5.30pm (vigil); 9.00am MM (in Polish); 9.30am HX; 11.30am MM; (see end of newsletter for details).

**Streamed: 24<sup>th</sup> November Sunday Mass 11.30am; 1<sup>st</sup> December Sunday Mass 11.30am;**  
[Go to the parish website to click on the link for the streamed Mass.](#)

**Confessions:** HX after 10.00am Mass Saturdays; MM 11.15am Sundays; or on request.

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**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. Come and pray for our country at the 10.00am Mass on Saturday.**

#### **Health and Safety: Fire Drill**

There will be a practice evacuation of each of the churches at the end of each Mass this week. We have been working recently on the best way to evacuate the churches in emergency. Please listen carefully to the instructions at the start of Mass, and then follow the passkeepers' instructions.

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**Fr. Hand will be on retreat from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November. If anyone needs to see him before then please phone him soon.**

There will be Mass on Monday morning and then on Saturday morning. There will be Liturgies of the Word and Communion Services in between.

The parish phone is monitored regularly. Please leave messages as normal.

#### **Dear Parishioners and Friends,**

We celebrate the Feast of Christ the King that teaches us that all of humanity and creation is brought to fulfilment in Jesus Christ. He is Lord of All. In this belief we are given the hope to live our lives as followers of Jesus Christ, sharing in his mission as Suffering Servant to transform the world by living lives of service that share in his transformation of the world.

We are freed to be servants of those in need and of those who suffer any kind injustice. We take time in Advent to pray for the Spirit to guide us in the way we are called to live that calling concretely in the world we live in, hoping in the world to come. Jesus and his teaching is not separate from the world we live in but is at its heart; governments should take Jesus' teaching to heart and not sideline it in their policies and actions.

Sincerely

Fr. Hand

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#### **Visit of Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem**

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzabella will be at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. His Eminence will preach at the evening Mass that will be presided at by Archbishop Cushley. Mass begins at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

#### **Day of the Poor Collection.**

**This Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> November) will be special collection for the Day of the Poor fund.**

Archbishop Cushley has asked that a special collection take place at Mass that day for elderly Christians in need in Palestine. Your donation will be given directly to the Beit Afram Home for the Elderly, so that elderly people living amidst the violence of war and in need of care are not abandoned and that their costs to live with dignity are covered. Please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East. Find out more at [www.lpj.org/en](http://www.lpj.org/en)

**Next Sunday Special Collection for SCES** - The annual special collection for work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service will take place on Sunday 1 December.

### **Introduction to the New Lectionary** **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 10.45am -12.45pm**

- We will be looking at the great importance to the Word of during the Mass.
- We will try to understand the importance of the Lectionary in our being formed and shaped by and in the Word of God.
- We will look at some important facts about how the Lectionary is organised.

Please sign up to take part in this opportunity to continue our deepening awareness that our Church and parish is centred on the Word of God.

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### **Continuous Reading of the Gospel of Luke**

**This will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm in St. Margaret Mary's.**

It will last between 60 and 75 minutes

#### **Why do we have a continuous reading with a variety of languages?**

We hear Scripture at the Sunday Mass, but of necessity because of time we can only hear a small part of it. Luke wrote his Gospel as one piece of writing with common themes in it; it is good for us to hear sometimes much longer parts of the Gospel to get a better sense of what it is about.

Even then we cannot read it all at once and will do the second part in Lent next year.

English is the main language being used, and Polish, Hindi, Spanish and Ukrainian are also being used. Pamphlets are available to follow all the languages in that language and in English. Come and experience how God's Word reaches all people.

### **Blessing and Dedication of the New Missals**

**The New Missals will be blessed and dedicated at the Masses next weekend. Thanks to those who donated them.**

**This is an important time for the parish to recommit itself to deepening in our belief in the Word of God.**

**Sacramental preparation:** We welcome to the Masses this weekend the boys and girls preparing for Confession and First Communion. We pray for them and their parents and carers, so that may develop in their faith.

**Bambinelli Sunday takes place on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> December.** This is an Italian custom of grandparents and parents bringing their children to Mass to have blessed the 'baby Jesus' who will be in their cribs. If they have a simple and small enough crib they can bring that as well. This is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to introduce the children to the meaning of the birth of Jesus. St. Francis of Assisi made the custom of the crib very popular. If you have lost the tradition of the crib from your family, this is an opportunity to pick up again this tradition. It does remind us what Christmas is about. Of course the blessing is not confined to the cribs of children; everyone is invited to bring a figure from the crib for a blessing.

**Parish Tea Party:** Thanks to the 30 people who supported this enjoyable time together. Thanks to those who organised it.

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**Seniors Christmas Lunch – 7 December 2024** -Invitations have been sent/given out this week. If you haven't received one and think you should, please contact Christine Watters (07961 683809) to book a place.

We need helpers and drivers on the day. If you can help, please either contact Christine or put your name and contact details on the list in the porch

**November Remembrance Book:** There are remembrance books in the churches. You are welcome to write your November intentions in them.

**Parish events:**

Seniors Christmas Lunch – Sat. 7th Dec. after Midday Mass in Holy Cross Hall

Family Carols in the Car Park - Sun 15th Dec. 6.30pm, Holy Cross Car Park.

Christmas Hamper & Bottle Draw - Sun. 22nd Dec. After 11.30am Mass in St Margaret Mary Hall

**SVDP - Children's Christmas Presents Appeal 2024** - Holy Cross St Vincent De Paul (SVDP) would like to ask parishioners to donate Christmas presents for the children of those families who are finding things difficult, particularly at this time of year.

The presents should be for children up to 14 years old. Please do not wrap them.

There will be a box at the back of the church at the **Masses of the weekend 7th/8th**

**December.** Any donations will be gratefully received and very much appreciated.

On behalf of the SVDP we would like to thank you for your continued support.

**SCIAF: Report from SCIAF meeting on 26th October 2024: Please see parish website.**

**Follow up to the SCIAF day on Saturday 26th October.** This will take place at Holy Cross at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December after the Advent Service. All who took part are welcome as are any other interested parishioners.

**We pray for Pina Coletti who has died.** Her funeral Mass will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December in Holy Cross at 10.00am..

**We pray for Fr. Gordon Brown who has died.** His funeral took place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 12 noon in St. Peter's, Morningside, Edinburgh

**We pray for Monsignor Lawson** whose funeral Mass will take place in St. Mary's Bathgate on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am.

**Father Tommy Greenan's Book "Song of the Poor"** - Many thanks to everyone who bought the book last week. If you still want to have one, please speak to me (Pat Shearer) and I will get it for you.

**Thrift Shop:** Those involved in the thrift shop are asked to meet in St. Margaret Mary's Hall at 1.00pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> November.

**One month to stop assisted suicide!** The most vulnerable in our society are at risk. MPs will vote on whether to introduce an extreme assisted suicide law on 29 November. To protect the vulnerable from this radical law change, contact your MP and ask them to vote NO.

**Take action now - it only takes 30 seconds to contact your MP using the tool here:**

[www.righttolife.org.uk/mpcontactnow](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/mpcontactnow)

**Diploma in Catechetics: Take the Diploma in Catechetics** and make the Holy Year 2025 a time of newness and deepening in your life of faith. The course is run by the Archdiocese and starts in January. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, guided reading from the Catechism and regular 1-to-1 support. To mark the Holy Year the course is being offered at £125 (normally £200). Find out more and register at [bit.ly/diploma2025](http://bit.ly/diploma2025)

**Preface for Sunday II EP of Reconciliation II Parish Mass book page 160.**

**Readings:** First Reading Dn 7:13-14; Psalm 92: "*The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.*"

Second Reading Apocalypse 1:5-8; Gospel: **John 18:33-37**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	5.30pm HX	Daniel Vaz
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM</b>	Mass for Parishioners Special Intention (Lamont)
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am HX	<b>Communion Service</b>
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am MM	<b>Communion Service</b>
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am HX	<b>Communion Service</b>
Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am MM	<b>Communion Service</b>
Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am HX	<b>St. Andrew's Day.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	5.30pm HX	Deceased of Kerr and O'Donnell Families
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>Polish Mass 9.00am MM 9.30am HX 11.30am MM</b>	George Hand

**From the Archbishop**

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**Advent Rosary** - The annual Archdiocesan Rosary takes place each Monday at 7:45pm through Advent, beginning on 2 December, Join us to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions Register at [bit.ly/adventrosary](http://bit.ly/adventrosary)

**Defending Human Dignity** - Pope Francis tells us that human dignity exists "beyond all circumstances." He asks us all to defend human dignity in every cultural context and every moment of human existence, regardless of physical, psychological, social, or even moral deficiencies. "Safeguards" concerning assisted suicide don't work, as shown in Canada and Holland. If you are worried that this may happen in Scotland, please contact your MP and MSPs: <https://writetothem.com>

**Zoom series on new Lectionary** - The Archdiocese is hosting a series of 45 min talks on Zoom to take a closer look at the new Lectionary which is being introduced in Advent. Join Fr Jamie McMorris at 7:00pm on **Wednesday 4 December**, Wed 11 Dec, and Wed 18 Dec. The sessions are free to attend. Register at [bit.ly/lectionaryadvent](http://bit.ly/lectionaryadvent)

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