

# St Aloysius' Church

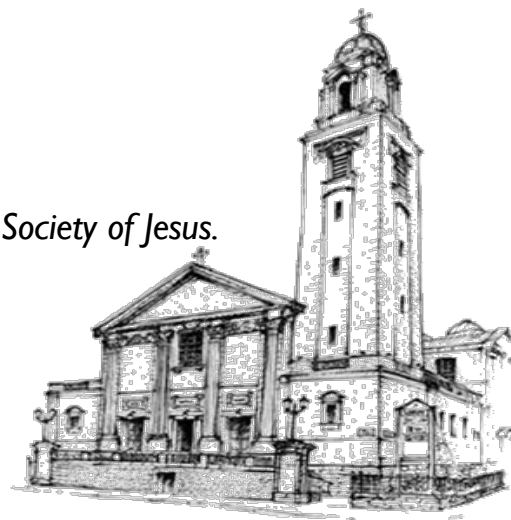
Address: 25 Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RE

A Church of the Archdiocese of Glasgow founded and served by the Society of Jesus.

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Facebook: /StAloysiusGlasgow



**CLERGY:** Fr Gerard Mitchell SJ (*Parish Priest*)  
Fr Ladislav Sulik SJ  
Fr Roger Dawson SJ

5 January 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year C

## SERVICE TIMES

**Sunday Mass** Vigil (Saturday): 5.00 pm  
Sunday: 10.00 am  
Signed Mass for the Deaf Community  
12.00 noon (Sung), & 9.00 pm

**Weekday** Monday - Friday: 8.00 am, 12.15 pm,

**Saturday** 12.15pm & 5.00pm (Vigil)

**Confessions** Mon-Sun 30 minutes before Mass

Confessions after 8 a.m. Mass on request

Exposition Every Sunday after the 12.00 noon Mass

**Car Parking** available on a Sunday in the College Car Park in Scott Street.

**St Mungo Festival 2025** The upcoming St Mungo Festival, celebrating Glasgow's patron saint in a series of free events, talks and concerts throughout the city, takes place from 6 to 25 January 2025. Among the events in this year of Glasgow's 850th anniversary are talks by Elaine Moohan, Dr Craig Lamont and Neil Baxter among others on Glasgow's past and present; the annual Celebration of St Mungo's life in readings and song at the Mitchell Library and a concert in honour of Saints Mungo, Columba and Brigid performed by Alan Tavener with the Strathclyde University Chamber Choir. Full details and booking on our website: [stmungofestival.co.uk](http://stmungofestival.co.uk).



## The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the  
Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.  
Amen

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

## **JUSTICE AND PEACE SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2025**

If the Church cannot offer people hope then the Church has nothing to offer.

We live in a world where injustice is common place and peace is sadly lacking. As we look at the many trouble spots around the globe, where there is war and conflict, death and destruction, misery inflicted on so many people, it is easy to lose hope.

Some conflicts never seem to go away, they may die down for a while but then they flare up again: some enemies never seem capable of making peace.

It is in this world that we have to offer people hope: hope that comes from Christ. For God alone is our hope and the hope of the world.

That hope comes through forgiveness. God's forgiveness of us and our forgiveness of others.

Popular wisdom says you should forgive and forget. No, we should not forget past hurts; for they should spur us on to seek justice; they should remind us of the need for compassion.

What is essential is that we forgive. "Forgive us our trespasses", we say in the Our Father, asking God to show compassion to us. But we also say: "as we forgive those who trespass against us". That is the hard bit – the forgiving of others. But if we don't forgive there can be no healing, no reconciliation, no peace.

In our world we all suffer due to a lack of forgiveness.

How many disputes in families go on for years, because the pain goes deep and the very thought of what happened is still too sensitive for forgiveness ever to be considered. No forgiveness means no reconciliation. No reconciliation means no peace.

And when it comes to the family of nations, past grievances influence today's policies and actions, because the hurts of the past are not forgotten, nor forgiven.

I have listened, for example, to Palestinian politicians rhyming off every abuse they have suffered at the hands of the Israelis, I have heard Israeli officials similarly recall in detail all the abuse and discrimination that Jews have had to endure. Each side so caught up in their own grief and pain that they seem insensitive to the other side.

The pain suffered is real, the injustices that have taken place are a reality, but if their memory is used to justify continuing the conflict, there is no hope and peace remains a distant dream.

Without forgiveness there can be no peace: whether peace in our family or peace among the family of nations.

Without forgiveness the ills of the past continue to dictate and taint the actions of today and the suffering continues. It is forgiveness that gives hope.

It can be, of course, that forgiveness feels like a betrayal – betrayal of those who have suffered injustice - that it belittles the lives of those killed by acts of war and violence. It is right that there should be anger at injustice. Righteous anger, though, leads to a desire for justice, it nurtures a feeling of compassion. But beware of anger that causes bitterness and resentment, that seeks retribution and revenge, that hardens the heart and takes away our compassionate humanity. The injustice of the past needs to stay in the past.

The remedy for past injustice is to work for justice today. It is a betrayal of those who suffered in the past if we continue the suffering today.

We live in an imperfect world full of imperfect people. The failings of nations and of individuals mean we come constantly face to face with injustice. Only if we forgive their failings can there be any hope of being at peace with others.

To bring the hope of Christ into the world is quite a challenge, for what we are seeking is a change of heart: a change of our own heart not just a change of other people's hearts. It means bearing the pain of injustice with the same compassion with which Christ endured his own pain. "Father forgive them" was his prayer from the cross.

May we, the Church, bring hope to the world by bringing it the forgiveness for which Christ prayed.

May I wish you God's blessing and every peace in the year ahead,

**+William Nolan , Archbishop of Glasgow, President of Justice & Peace Scotland**

**Making Sense of Luke** – Journeying through the Gospel Chapters 1 & 2 An introduction to the Gospel highlighting some of its main themes and characteristics. On Wednesday 8th of January, after 12.15 Mass and repeated in the evenings at 6.15 pm with Mass beforehand at 5.30 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

**RCAG Young Adult Sessions:** St Mungo's City Pilgrimage Walk. Sat 11th January 2025, 10am – 3pm. Join RCAG Youth and other young adults to celebrate the City's Patron Saint whilst walking off some of those mince pies. 16–30-year-olds welcome. Pilgrimage Walk – Mass – St. Mungo's Cathedral Visit – Drygate. [www.tinyurl.com/stmungo25](http://www.tinyurl.com/stmungo25)

#### **Young Adults Group**

The next Sunday Evening meeting will take place in the New Year on Sunday 12 January at 7 p.m. in the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Scott Street.

#### **RCIA Programme 2024-25**

The RCIA group are taking a break over Christmas from after the meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December and will begin again on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** 19-24 January 2025 in St Aloysius' and St Andrew's West Church of Scotland, Bath Street.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the parish of St Aloysius and the community of St Andrew's West Church of Scotland in Bath Street and the Ignatian Spirituality Centre together will be holding a **Week of Accompanied Prayer**. It is a retreat experience ideal for busy people who want to explore how to deepen their spiritual life in their everyday routine. There will be the opportunity to meet with a prayer guide every day for 5 days in Garnethill. If you would like to take part and for further information please see the flyer at the back of the church email [staloyusius.garnethill@rcag.org.uk](mailto:staloyusius.garnethill@rcag.org.uk) or phone the Parish Office 0141 332 3039

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Sun 19 January** 1.30 p.m. St Andrews West and St Aloysius invite you to lunch @ St Aloysius. All are welcome to join us for lunch to mark the start of Christian Unity Week. If you are taking part in the Week of Accompanied Prayer you will have the opportunity after the lunch to meet with your guide to sort out when and where to meet each day of the retreat

### **40 Hours**

40 hours devotion at Saint Aloysius will be on 25th -27th January with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the following timings:

Saturday 25th from 1.00 pm - 4.45 pm and after 5.00 pm Mass to 7.00 pm

Sunday 26th from 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm and 6.00 pm – 8.45 pm

Monday 27th from 8.30 am to 12.00 pm and 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

**Celtic Connections Mass** The Celtic Connections Mass will be here in St Aloysius Church at 4.00 pm on Sunday 26th January.

**Jubilee of Youth, Rome, Summer 2025: 15 places left!** Pope Francis has invited all young people, aged 18 to 30, to join him in Rome, July 28th - August 3rd, 2025. RCAG Youth are taking a group.! If you want more information, check out the info pack when you follow this link: [www.tinyurl.com/rcagjubileeregistration](http://www.tinyurl.com/rcagjubileeregistration)

### **Home Visits for the Sick**

If you are living in St Aloysius' parish and are ill and housebound, or have a relative or friend who is ill, please contact the parish office and a visit will be arranged. Holy Communion can be brought regularly to those who are ill and housebound and who are unable to attend Mass.

### **This Week's Second Collection is for Justice and Peace**

Crib Donations All donations are for St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society. Our Crib – in the Holy Souls Chapel will be available to see until Sunday 2nd February – The Presentation of the Lord

### **MASS TEXTS AND READING**

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf. Ba 5;5**

Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East and see your children gathered from the rising to the setting of the sun.

#### **First Reading**

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

'The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.'

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 72 (71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13. R. cf.11**

All nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

#### **Second Reading**

**St Paul to the Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

'It has now been revealed that the Gentiles are fellow heirs of the promise.'

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Cf. Ac 16 :14b**

Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship the Lord.

#### **Gospel**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

'We have come from the east to worship the king.'

#### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Rv 21:23**

The brightness of God illumined the holy city Jerusalem, and the nations will walk by its light.