

# St Aloysius' Church

Address: 25 Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RE

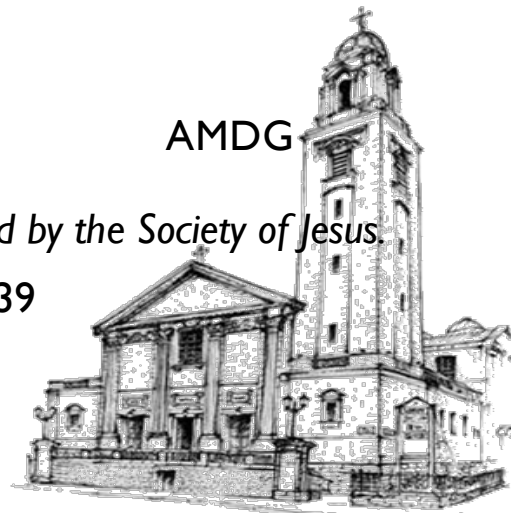
*A Church of the Archdiocese of Glasgow founded and served by the Society of Jesus.*

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website: [www.staloysiusglasgow.org](http://www.staloysiusglasgow.org)

Facebook: /StAloysiusGlasgow

AMDG



**CLERGY:** Fr Gerard Mitchell SJ (*Parish Priest*)  
Fr John Twist SJ  
Fr Roger Dawson SJ

24 December 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year B

## SERVICE TIMES

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

## Mass Times after Christmas

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of St Stephen  
Only one Mass at 10.00 am

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – Only one Mass each day at  
10.00 am

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> – 12.15 pm and 5.00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – New Year's Day and Tuesday 2 Jan  
Only one Mass at 10.00 am



## Christmas Mass Times

Today, Christmas Eve - 10.00 am 12.00 pm  
Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4.00 pm – 5.30 pm Confession

6.00 pm Our first Christmas Mass with our  
Singing Group

8.30 pm Carols

9.00 pm Main Christmas Mass (Sung Mass  
with our Choir)

**Christmas Day** - 10.00 am and 12.00 pm  
No 9.00 pm on Christmas Day.

*The Jesuit Community of Fr Gerard Mitchell, Fr John Twist, Fr Roger Dawson, Fr Matthew Bomki, Fr Henry Ponce and Fr Jorge wish everyone a very happy, peaceful and holy Christmas.*

**Pope's Prayer Intention – December** - For persons with disabilities We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

### **RCIA Programme 2023-24**

The RCIA group are taking a break over Christmas, and will begin again on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January.

### **St Aloysius College Notices**

Kindergarten Come and Play Sessions – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January – 2.00 – 3.00 pm.

Entrance Assessment P4-S2 – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 9.00 am – 12.00 pm.

To register your place visit us at [stalloysius.org](http://stalloysius.org) or ring 0141 332 3190.

### **Young Adults Group**

The group will commence in January 2024. Meetings take place in the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, with light supper at 7.00 pm, then discussions on faith issues, with option to attend 9.00 pm Mass. The Centre is in Scott Street G3 6PE (go up Hill Street beside the church, pass Dalhousie Street, next is Scott Street, turn right into it and the Centre is immediately on your left).

### **Winter Warm Hub**

Our warm hub for the winter has commenced - each Wednesday from 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm. The Winter Warm Hub will be open to welcome people, young and old, individuals, families and children. The church hall (the Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) will be open at 25 Rose Street as a hub for people to utilise. All are welcome. Join us for a hot meal or take the opportunity to read, play board games, have a coffee and socialise.

### **ESOL Classes**

Our ESOL (English Language lessons for refugees) are now having their Christmas break. Thanks to all who help in the vital work which is flourishing.

**Foodbank:** Many thanks for the considerable contributions to last Sunday's food bank collection.

### **Mary's Meals**

The Double The Love appeal has launched, meaning that donations made to Mary's Meals from now until 22 January will be doubled by a group of generous donors, up to £1 million.

### **Parking**

The College have kindly agreed to allow parking in the Scott Street playground (upper and lower car parks) and can be used by Mass attenders on Sundays. The ground will be open Sunday mornings and must close in the afternoon. Please ensure that no car is left in the playground. The car park will open on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> January.

The entrance to the church via the Ogilvie Centre, is recommended for those who are not too agile. Please **do not park in the alleyway to the entrance of the Ogilvie Centre. Parking is for the disabled to use.**

### **Liturgical Calendar**

Tuesday 26 December	St Stephen	Feast
Wednesday 27 December	St John	Feast
Thursday 28 December	Holy Innocents	Feast

Next Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. is the feast of the Holy Family  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan is the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

## St Stephen

St Stephen was the first Christian Martyr, and his preaching and death are fully described in the Acts of the Apostles. At his death he witnesses to Jesus Christ being in heaven. One of the spectators at Stephen's stoning is Saul of Tarsus, later to become St Paul.

## St John the Evangelist

The disciple 'whom Jesus loved'. His Gospel is the most profound and thoughtful of the 4 Gospels. Notable incidents in it are the Marriage Feast of Cana, and the Raising of Lazarus.

## **Fiducia Supplicans     On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings**

The Church recognises the dignity of all people and does not define or label them in terms of their sexual orientation. Every one living on the face of the earth has personal problems and difficulties, but has challenges to growth, strengths, talents and gifts as well. The Church insists that every person has a fundamental identity: a creature of God, and by grace, his child and heir to eternal life. All are precious in the eyes of God.

The Catholic Church is called to present to all ages a demanding understanding and ethic of marriage and sexuality, one that is often difficult to realise in practice but which all should continually strive to make their own. The Church is also aware that people may fail to live consistently what she teaches. Pastoral understanding is brought to bear on such failure; the Church does not reject us but wishes to walk with us in order to guide us to a fuller understanding and realisation of the teaching she holds to be God-given.

It is in this context that Pope Francis has approved a new document: **Fiducia Supplicans** on the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings. The Church's teaching on marriage has not changed, and this declaration affirms that. It makes a distinction between liturgical (sacramental) blessings, and pastoral blessings. When two people who desire God's loving grace in their lives request a pastoral blessing, even if their situation as a couple is defined as 'irregular' it will be possible for the ordained minister to consent, for each of us needs God's healing love and mercy in our lives.

However, it adds that this 'gesture of pastoral closeness' must avoid any elements that remotely resemble a marriage rite, a liturgical blessing.

In this way, it concludes, every brother and every sister will be able to feel that, in the Church, they are always pilgrims, always beggars, always loved, and, despite everything, always blessed.

## **Christmas Message from the Archbishop**

My Dear People,

The star that led the Magi to Bethlehem was a light shining in the dark sky. The light that shines for us today is Jesus Christ, who is a guiding light shining in the darkness of our world. A world of conflict, a world of inequality, a world where so many suffer. If only all humanity let Christ be the light guiding us as we lead our lives, then there might be peace and justice. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus the prince of peace, may our celebration revitalize the hope in our hearts that only Christ can fulfil, the hope of a better world for us and for all. Despite the troubles we may have in life and the wars taking place in the Holy Land and elsewhere, may this Christmas be a time of peace and joy for you, your family and friends as we rejoice that God has come to save us.

With every blessing,

William Nolan  
Archbishop of Glasgow

**Thank you for last Sunday's Collection - £1,653.94**

**Second Collection for The St Nicholas Care Fund - £1,195.55**

**Donations via card reader last week £203 – many thanks!**

### **MASS TEXTS AND READING**

#### **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.

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#### **First Reading**

**Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16**

The kingdom of David will always stand and secure before the Lord.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. Cf. v.2**

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

#### **Second Reading**

**Romans 16:25-27**

The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Lk 1 :38**

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

#### **Gospel**

**Luke 1:26-38**

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.

#### **Communion Antiphon**

**Is 7:14**

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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**.LDS**

