Our Lady and St George
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Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Boyle
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Normal Sunday Masses times
Vigil: 6 pm; Sunday 9.30 and 11 am.
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Monday at 7 pm

Masses are live streamed for those unable to physically to take part. Go to the website for the link :

www.olsg.org.uk

CAMERAS FOCUS ONLY ON THE SANCTUARY AREA AND THE AREA IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF IT. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO HAVE YOUR IMAGE LIVE STREAMED, PLEASE MIND THIS.

Church Opening times In addition to Mass times the church is open this week **Monday to Friday 1.30 to 2.30 pm and Monday to Friday 6 to 7 pm**

Generally, individual Confessions are available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,Friday **at 6.15 to 6.45.**

Silence in the church is observed to allow private prayer

The parish calendar for 2026 is now available and thanks to Paul McBride for all his work with the calendar once again.

Last week's collection amounted to £1435. Christmas day collection was a bumper collection and we are grateful to all who contributed.

The Western Catholic Calendar is now on sale and contains obituaries of the late Mgr Dochery, Fr Billy Donnelly, and Fr Dermot Healy as well as giving the most up to date times of Masses in the Archdiocese and other statistics as well.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family

Thursday, 1st January is the solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. The Mass on this day is at 10 am. This day is World Day of Prayer for peace.

Sunday 4th January is the feast in Scotland of the Epiphany. It is a Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace.

A retiring collection is to be taken up for Justice and Peace Scotland.

Sunday 11th is the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord and concludes the Christmas season.

May they rest in peace We are asked to pray for those who died recently; , Sid Hayes, Elizabeth Leonard, Sadie Allison, Sr Norah McGonigle, Patricia & Geralyn (Brannigan) Phee, Robert McCann, Mary Hughes, John McGoldrick; **those whose anniversaries occur about now:** John Johnston (3yrs), Lorraine Kelly (1 yr), Theresa Tonner, Danny Hunter, Jack Dowling, Craig McLellan (10yrs), Frances Denham (1 yr), Josephine McShane, Willie & James Marr, Willie & Isabella Flannery, Margaret & John Kaney, Henry Sweeney, Clare & Philip Woods, Catherine Mulrooney. *(Names for insertion should be added to the list available in the link corridor before 10 am.Thursday.)*

Prayer are requested for those who are ill: for the sick at home, in hospital, in nursing, homes: Jade Evans, Ellen Hamilton, Murdo Moby, Alan MacDonald, Isabel McLellan, Maureen Cunningham, Joseph Dodds, Willie Fortucci, Finn McGuinness, Mary Blair, Billy Miller, Betty Hassan, Belle Mann, Gerry Fergusson, Agnes Charles, Kevin McCann, Anthony McCann, Rosemary McManus, Harry Simpson, Debbie Needleman, Sr Rose Hughes, Els Heuchan, Angela (Gillan) Barr, Liz Murray, Pamela McKinven, Archie McKinven, Charlotte McKinven, Sean McMahon (Permission from the person who is ill is required before insertion in the bulletin. Add the name to the list in the link corridor each week.

Hogmanay Party this event commences at 9pm on Wednesday 31 December and finishes at 1,00 am Thursday 1 Jan. NO admission without a valid ticket

Fr **Joe writes.** Once again it was great to be part of our parish celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus 2,000 years ago when Caesar Augustus was emperor and Quirinius was governor of Syria. Herod was about somewhere too.

We had an early setting up of the crib and decorations (on Saturday morning) since some of our regular volunteers had another engagement on Sunday afternoon. Three little sheep were left peering out of the crib waiting for the coming of Joseph and Mary about to give birth to baby Jesus. These little sheep reminded me of the custom in Ireland years ago of lighting a candle in the window on Christmas Eve, signifying that Joseph and Mary with the child were welcome to stay in that house that night, the subject of a poem by Máire Mhac an tSaoi (1922-2021):

With the angels' candles the sky is now dappled,
The frost on the wind from the hill has a bite,
Kindle the fire and go to bed,
The Son of God will lie in this house tonight.

Leave the door on the latch for her,
The Virgin who'll come with the Child on her breast.
Deign to take your rest here, Mary -
The Son of God will lie in this house tonight.

The lights were lit in that inn of old,
Food and drink flowed freely there
For wool merchants, for silk merchants -
But the Son of God will lie in this house tonight

The vigil Mass of Christmas was the occasion for the children to dress up as Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the angels and they were well received and sang some carols for us all. At that same Mass we had young Beth playing Silent Night on the violin which touched the hearts of all. Beth is this year's world champion on the violin for her age group.

The carol service singing and readings were once again out of this world both at the Night Mass of Christmas and the Mass during the day on Christmas morning. We are grateful to all and not just to the musicians but to all who contributed to the worthy celebration: there were those who prepared the celebration of Reconciliation, stewards, readers, sacristy workers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, servers, cleaners, bulletin workers, money counters, stall workers, catechists for children's liturgy and, of course, those who joined us for the celebrations.

And as someone remarked, I was showered with cards and good wishes and I am so grateful for all the kindness shown me.

Last Sunday my wee aunt Sr Norah passed away. She was only 101! Sadie Allison also passed away the same morning and she was only 97! God's eternal love, the love of Mary and Joseph, and all the saints will have clothed them with eternal peace and joy in the Lord's presence. But we will still pray for them for the perfection of their love.

From the proceeds of the Fete in June and donations into St Anthony's Box we were able to help the send money to local schools for the benefit of the children and families at this time of year. £800 was sent to Linburn Academy, to Sandwood Primary, to Hillington Primary and £1000 to our own St George's.. The donations were greatly appreciated. One head teacher writes: "Last year we used your donation to support some of our families at Christmas time with vouchers to help with gifts and food. These were very much appreciated by our families. Throughout the remainder of the year we used the donation to enable pupils to attend outings, events and activities that they may not have had the finances to attend."