

## ST CADOC'S RC CHURCH

Rosebank Drive, Halfway, Cambuslang, Glasgow, G72 8TD.  
stcadocschurch@gmail.com.

Tel. 0141 641 3669; www.stcadocschurch.org

Diocese of Motherwell; Charity Registration No SC011041.

Parish Priest: Rev. Jose Cirilo Rodrigues



### BISHOP TOAL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2018

I recently enjoyed going on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land for the first time. One memorable moment was the visit to Bethlehem and in particular to the site of Jesus' birth marked by the Basilica of the Nativity. There is certainly a sense of joy at being at the spot where Our Lord was born and an opportunity to ponder the Mystery of the Incarnation and to give thanks to God for the gift of his Son's birth and the faith we have in the truth handed on to us by the evangelists and the tradition of the Church. Imitating those who first gathered to greet the Infant King - Mary and Joseph, shepherds and wise men - a sense of wonder and humble adoration on my, or our, part seems to be a fitting response to God's love for us, made present in the child in the manger. Wherever we are in the world the mystery of Bethlehem is recalled and comes alive each Christmas as we look into our own cribs and celebrate our faith in the Birth of Our Lord and Saviour in the Church's Liturgy. Thank God we are free to do so and we pray for those who are not as they suffer persecution for their faith, like the Innocents of Bethlehem killed by Herod after Jesus was born.

The people of Bethlehem today continue to bear their trials as the Palestinians seek to protect their presence and their rights while the State of Israel imposes its control over them. To a visitor the restrictions they live under seem excessive and demoralising and make one wish that a just and lasting settlement may be found to allow Palestinians and Israelis to live harmoniously together. The Child Jesus was hailed as the "Prince of Peace" prophesied by Isaiah and at Christmas we pray that peace may reign in his own land and in the troubled countries close by.

In our country also we pray for an attitude of peace and tranquility and for an acceptance of one another whatever our nationality or creed. May we who celebrate our Saviour's birth reach out to our neighbours and help build up and protect his kingdom among us.

I ask God's blessing for you and your families as we honour and adore Jesus, the Word made Flesh and Son of God.

+ Joseph Toal  
Bishop of Motherwell

# The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord (C)

25<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Weekday Cycle - Proper of Seasons



## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PASTOR

**“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us, upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counsellor,  
Mighty-God, Eternal-Father,  
Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:5).” It is a child in a manger that comes to us  
to proclaim the Good News of the Love and Mercy of God!  
To proclaim our salvation!**

*Dear Parishioners and well-wishers of St. Cadoc's Parish,*

With deep joy and gratitude, I extend to you and your families my prayerful best wishes for a holy and blessed Christmas. I think not only of those who live within our parish but also your family members who may be elsewhere and especially those who may be abroad at this special time of year.

As we gather for our annual celebration of God with us, another year has passed with many events, public and private, touching our lives in different ways. No doubt this year has brought joys and sadness in different measure to each person, all colouring our memories of 2018.

Traditionally, we see Christmas as a time of peace and joy, a time to celebrate with family, with friends and loved ones. We do hope that your Christmas will have something of that peace, joy and celebration. Such joyful celebrations may not be possible for some of you, because you may have lost a loved one since last Christmas, or you may be overburdened by financial worries, family problems or for many other reasons. If you are such a parishioner, we want to assure you that, as a parish community, we do care and offer you our support.

As Christians, during this season, we remember and celebrate that sacred moment in human history when God entered in our world, becoming part of every one of us and the whole human race. Christmas brings us back to the source of our life and existence -- God has come into the world, his light has shone in our darkness and no darkness can overpower this light. Christmas is thus to be seen as Christ's entrance into this world for the salvation of the entire human race.

As a religious festival, Christmas is indeed a wonderful time of the year. So many wonderful things happen during this festive period - family gatherings, Christmas parties, visiting parents, grandparents, and brothers and sisters, and the special music and songs that are heard only at this time of the year. It is really a wonderful time, a time of promise. But above all, what is associated with the celebration of Christmas everywhere is giving. Christmas is the feast of giving. Christmas is the one time in the year when people give and receive a present, even if it be only a Christmas card.

Besides, Christmas is a feast of giving even from God's point of view. For at Christmas we celebrate the mystery that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." God chose to come into the world in an unexpected way. He decided to come to save us by being born in a stable with no fanfare. Who would believe the Lord of Lords would come to us in such a humble way? Yet, God does. On that holy night, some two thousand years ago, in a dirty stable in Bethlehem, God came to us in the baby Jesus, born of peasant parents. This is truly a paradox for the world. Yes, in order to save us the Creator of all that is came humble and lowly instead of in great power and majesty.

Saint Francis of Assisi -- founder of the Franciscan Order -- was so taken by this mystery of the Incarnation that he wanted to present it in the living Nativity scene to his countrymen of central Italy who were not taking the mysteries of the faith seriously. In fact, many of these were not even preparing for Christmas. Of those who were getting ready to celebrate the Lord's birth, they looked at it as an event tied exclusively to the past. The central persons in the drama had become stale and lifeless, incapable even of stimulating his contemporaries' imaginations -- and therefore no longer capable of inspiring them to a greater relationship of mutual love with God in the present.

To counteract these tendencies, on Christmas Eve 1223, in the town of Greccio, St. Francis set up the first Nativity crèche in recorded history. The only historical account we have of Francis' nativity scene comes from *The Life of St. Francis of Assisi* by St. Bonaventure, a Franciscan monk who was born five years before Francis' death. According to Bonaventure's biography, St. Francis he brought in live animals -- an ox and an ass. He recruited a new born baby and a young set of parents. Hay and a manger were brought in. And Francis could not have been happier with the results. People came from all over to see the living nativity. Through all the sounds, sights and even smells, the multitudes became convinced that Christmas was not just a cute story, but a real event, one that was not just past, but something which they were called to enter in the present. Soon living crèches like this spread throughout Italy and into other parts of Europe. Thus Francis began a tradition that persists to this day: the Nativity crèche.

The Christmas crèche tell a story about a God who chose to be human so that this God could be one with us, who could show us and tell us about that deep love that he has for each one of us. The Little Babe we see in the crib symbolizes for us that humility of God that surrenders all to be one with us.

Now for many people this manner of coming of the Messiah is absurd; it makes no sense to them. Yet, there was no other way. Jesus had to come in this manner to offer us all the salvation God desired. He came so that all humanity would have the opportunity to be with God for eternity. He came to this world, for you and for me. He came for the people you love deeply and care for immensely. He came for the people you dislike and possibly even despise. Jesus came for us all.

This is the backbone of the Christmas story as poignantly expressed by St John in his Gospel: "The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth." Of the innumerable

possible ways in which God could have saved the world he chose just one – the very best – and one that we humans could best appreciate. God became a man like us in everything except sin. This is the Good News that we firmly believe, gratefully cherish and should joyfully proclaim, not just at Christmas time but with every passing day.

Christmas is the opportune time to remind ourselves of what God has done for love of us; it also serves us as a timely reminder that if God loved us so much, then we, too, ought to love one another. But how are we to demonstrate our love for others, more especially in the Christmas season?

It is true that Christmas is an exciting time for most of the people; however it can also mean a sad time for some. We, therefore, need to open our hearts to others, especially to those for whom Christmas may be a sad time of the year either because they have lost a loved one, or because they are overburdened by worries, sickness and family problems, or because they are on their own. We need to spare a thought for the people in different parts of the world who are suffering from one kind of problem or another. We need to think of those in the war-ridden countries where people are killing each other. In this way, we make the Christmas spirit more meaningful and truly relevant to everyone. When we act thoughtfully, generously and lovingly, we make God's love visible. Maybe the Christmas message this year is a challenge for all of us to think more of others, especially less fortunate ones.

It is 4 1/2 years now since I came to your parish (beginning of September 2014) as your parish priest and this is my fifth Christmas here. It is a great privilege to be here, and I pray that the Lord will give me many more years here. Thank you for accepting me as a member of St. Cadoc's Parish family. This is a great parish in which to be a priest, and I am deeply grateful for the wonderful generosity, kindness and support of our parishioners and well-wishers throughout the year. This is what makes our community such a welcoming one and it is hugely rewarding to be part of it.

As a priest, in this parish of St. Cadoc's, I also feel privileged and so uplifted by the huge number of dedicated parishioners who minister, in many ways, alongside me, with dedication and enthusiasm. In truth you are the heart of the parish. Your faith and commitment are an inspiration and I appreciate the involvement of so many people at so many different levels in parish life. Your loyalty to the parish coupled with your practical concern and initiatives contributing to its spiritual and material wellbeing are deeply appreciated. I cannot thank you enough for your continued help and support. May God reward you all with his blessings.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to all those who made Advent special by their prayerful sharing in our seasonal liturgies especially to all who have helped to prepare for the feast of Christmas and its Liturgy with their time, energy and enthusiasm. I also would like to say thanks to so many parishioners and well-wishers who are actively involved in the day to day running of the parish for their time, energy and commitment – Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, Fabric Committee, our organists, those who look after the altar linens, altar servers, sacristans, flower arrangers and those who decorate the Church, the volunteers who clean the church and the presbytery, ministers of the Word and ministers of the Eucharist, SVDP members, Women's Guild, those who look after the church stall, pass keepers, offertory collection and 400 club organisers, children's liturgy helpers, safe-guarding co-ordinator, website co-ordinator, crib builders, our bookkeeper, housekeepers, those who help in the garden and to the many individuals who give their time in so many ways to St Cadoc's and whose work ensures the smooth running of the parish.

Apologies if I have missed out anyone in my acknowledgements; it was not intentional or deliberate. Every contribution you make in any way to St. Cadoc's community is very much appreciated and valued. If you think you can help our parish in any way or in any area of parish life, do not hesitate to speak to me. Thank you all for your enthusiasm and generous spirit to become involved in the life of our parish community and I look forward to your ongoing assistance in the future.

Finally, a sincere thanks too, to all who have sent me cards and gifts. I would like to conclude by wishing you all a very joyful and peaceful Christmas and pray that these blessings will continue throughout 2019. May God bless you, and your family and friends, with peace in your hearts and in your homes.

I will be offering Christmas Masses for you and for your family members and friends, especially for those of you who may have lost a loved one since last Christmas, for those who are sick or away from home at this time and for those for whom we are asked to pray.

*- Fr. Jose Cirilo Rodrigues.*

---

**CALENDAR - Wednesday** (26<sup>th</sup> December) is the feast of **St. Stephen**, deacon and the first Martyr. **St. John the Apostle and Evangelist** in honoured on **Thursday** (27<sup>th</sup> December). On **Friday** (28<sup>th</sup> December) we keep the **Feast of the Holy Innocents**, the commemoration of the children of Judea who were slaughtered at Herod's order in his search for the Christ-child. The twelfth century martyr and Archbishop of Canterbury **St. Thomas Becket** is remembered on **Saturday** (29<sup>th</sup> December). His unusual courage in challenging King Henry II on matters of Church and State resulted in his murder by the King's own order.

---

**SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018** - is the **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**, a day of prayer for all families, especially those with troubles or difficulties. Festal Masses: Saturday (29<sup>th</sup> December) Vigil Mass 5pm; Sunday 10am & 11.30am.

---

**TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2019 - NEW YEAR'S DAY - SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD** - Mass will be as usual at 10am.

---

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION** - I do not take up a special collection on Christmas Day (apart from the normal feast day one) for the upkeep of the parish church and for the many pastoral activities in the parish as many of the parishes would do, but I rely heavily on your continued kind generosity in your giving to the parish funds, especially at this time of year when we celebrate the feast of giving even from God's point of view: "*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*"

Please support your parish's ministry and help to maintain your Church and grounds by giving generously to our Christmas collection. Special Christmas Collection envelopes are in the porch. Gift-aid members should use the Christmas Offering envelope at the end of their books of envelopes; if they use special Christmas collection envelope, they should have their name and number added on it.

**SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR THE CHURCH BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND ON 5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY 2019 AND FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION ON 12<sup>TH</sup>/13<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY 2019** - I am in a situation where I have no option but to have second collections on two consecutive weeks. The usual monthly collection for the Church Building and Maintenance Fund will be taken up on 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The annual second collection to help support the work of our own Justice and Peace Commission in Scotland which is taken up on the feast of the Epiphany will be taken up at all Masses on the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> January 2019. I hope you will contribute with your usual generosity to both collections over these two weekends.

**PASTORAL PLANNING MEETING** - Our next pastoral planning meeting will take place on Tuesday (15<sup>th</sup> January 2019) at 7pm in the church house. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend the parish council meetings.

**FUND RAISING NIGHT TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL REPLACEMENT OF CARPETS IN THE PRESBYTERY** - When the rewiring work was being carried out in the presbytery between March and May 2016 carpeting from the rooms on the upper floor had to be lifted. The worn nature of these carpets (originally laid 50 years ago) meant it was impossible to properly re-lay them. Meanwhile the stair and hall carpet are also noted to be worn and in places threadbare. In relation to the stairs in particular, this constitutes a trip hazard to both myself and visitors to the house. To rectify this situation, I have received quotes for the price of this essential work which indicate a cost in excess of £1950.

**To help meet some of the total price of this proposed undertaking a fundraising "homemade curry night" has been organised and will take place from 7pm till 9pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 in the Presbytery.** Tickets for the event will cost £7 (includes entrance fee and a glass of wine or a soft drink). Donations towards the cost of the meal can, if desired, be made on the night. To ensure those attending can enjoy the meal in comfortable surroundings the number of tickets available for sale will be limited to 45. You can book your place for the night by giving your name and paying the entry fee to either Jean Coyle, Irene Savage or Father Cirilo. Alternatively, contributions can be made towards this fundraising event and these will be gratefully received. A raffle will be held on the night and donations of prizes will be most welcome. Places at this event are bound to be in high demand therefore please indicate your interest at the earliest opportunity. All monetary proceeds from the night will go towards reducing the cost of, as previously explained, the carpets in the Presbytery.

**CRIB OFFERINGS** - will go as always to St. Margaret's Adoption and Child Care Society. Please remember an offering for this worthy cause when visiting the crib.

**ST. CADOC'S PARISH WOMEN'S GUILD** - Many thanks to Women's Guild of St. Cadoc's for donating a sum of £200.00 to St. Cadoc's Parish Fund. May God bless their generosity. The Women's Guild provides all parishioners and well-wishers of St. Cadoc's with spiritual, social and service opportunities to use their time and talents to nurture one another and benefit the community. The Guild meets every Monday at 7.30pm in the church house. New members are always welcome.

**400 CLUB CHRISTMAS PRIZE WINNERS** - Mrs. J. McLaughlan (£100), Alice Chatfield (£50) & Irene Farrily (£50). **AGENT PRIZES** - Margaret McGurk (£25), Jean Coyle (£25), Maureen McNulty (£25) & Liam Neary (£25). Congratulations to all. Many thanks to all our clients and agents for their contributions during the year.

**SAINT CADOC'S 400 CLUB** - From the beginning of October 2017 to the end of October 2018 the 400 club has generated an income of £2679.00. This considerable amount of money has been allocated to the church building and maintenance fund. At the present time membership of the club has fallen to 285. This is still a significant number however, is down from a previous high of over 400 members. It would be excellent if we could make a concerted effort to increase the membership back to nearer 400. This would provide a much needed boost to Church finances. All parishioners are invited, if not already a member, to join the 400 club. If you are interested in joining please speak to Liam McGurk, the co-ordinator, or any one of the agents. Alternatively, you can leave your name and contact number on the list at the back of the church and an agent will phone you. A "turn" in the club costs 50p per week. There is a weekly prize of £50 and special draws at Christmas and the end of June. Join now and good luck to all. Grateful thanks to everyone who, through their membership, support our 400 club. Our thanks also go to all those who give their time and effort to raise funds for our church through their involvement in the running of the club.

**MANY THANKS** - Many thanks to those who replace the flowers on the side altars and pay for them. Thanks also to those who recently helped financially to replace new plants on the sanctuary. Their kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** - There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the next two Thursdays. Resumes again on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**LITURGY ROTA** - for Readers (January - March 2019) for 10am & 11.30am Masses is available in the sacristy. Please collect a copy before or after any of the Sunday Masses. Thanks to Mrs Anne Moran for giving her time to prepare the readers rota.

**MANY THANKS** - to Michael Hannaway and Charles Clements for installing the crib in the church.

**VISIT TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND FROM THE PRIEST** - One of the ministries we as priests are privileged to provide is visitation of the sick, at home or in hospital. Fr. Cirilo normally makes a monthly visit to the sick and housebound at home and in the nursing and care homes. If you, or someone you know, would like a home visit and the opportunity to receive Holy Communion from Fr. Cirilo, please provide him with the relevant name, address and phone number. This practice keeps our parishioners who cannot come to mass closely united with the parish community as we worship together.

**COLLECTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF FUTURE PRIESTS AND PERMANENT DEACONS** - Special Collection for the support of the education of future priests and permanent deacons, which was taken up on the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> December 2018, realised £507.73. The collection boxes for sick and retired priests and seminarians amounted to £198.48. Thank you for your generous contribution.

**PARISH WEBSITE** - Thanks to Pat Moran for accepting the responsibility to renew, restore and update our parish website every week. Our website has not been in use in over a year. It has now been updated and will, normally, include a copy of the weekly Parish Bulletin. It may be viewed at [www.stcadocschurch.org](http://www.stcadocschurch.org). We hope you like the new look of this new parish communication tool. Stay tuned for more updates.

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS** - We thank all of our Altar Servers for choosing to serve God and our Saint Cadoc's Parish community. Would you like to help out with the Masses at St. Cadoc's? Would you like to become an altar server? At St. Cadoc's we always welcome new altar servers? We believe this is a very important contribution to parish life, for it helps parishioners to better celebrate the Eucharist. It also provides the servers an opportunity to participate more closely in Mass, following Jesus' example: "*Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life in ransom for many (Mt 20:28).*" I would like to encourage children who made their First Holy Communion and others, if they would like to become altar servers, to speak to me (Fr. Cirilo) after one of the weekend Masses.

**SVDP** - The SVDP of St. Bride's and St. Cadoc's wish to thank most sincerely the parishioners and well-wishers of St. Cadoc's Parish for their very generous contributions to the SVDP over the past year, and particularly over the Christmas and New Year period. These donations have enabled the conference to continue with the SVDP work in our parish and to contribute to SVDP causes in our diocese, throughout Scotland and abroad. If anyone feels they can help the conference in their work, please contact one of the members.

**400 CLUB WINNER (16.12.18)** - William Mullen; Winning Agent: Jean Coyle.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

Parish Collection (Gift Aid+Non-Gift Aid) = £645.31

A sincere thank you for all your contributions

**MASS AT ST CADOC'S**

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm; Sunday at 10am & 11.30am.

**Weekday Mass:** Monday to Saturday at 10am.

**Holy Day of Obligation:** Vigil Mass at 7pm & Morning Mass at 10am.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Every Thursday from 9am-9.45am.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):** Anytime on request and Saturday 9.15am - 9.45am; 4.15pm - 4.45pm.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** By prior arrangement with Rev. Jose Cirilo Rodrigues.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** It is a privilege of the Priest and Eucharistic Ministers to bring the Holy Eucharist to the sick and housebound. Please inform us when a parishioner is in hospital or ill.

**SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE:** Couples intending to marry should contact the Priest for arrange a date. By Diocesan policy, this must be done at least six months in advance.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE  
IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**SICK** - Canon John B. Healey, Canon Michael Walsh, Fr. Thomas Colm Morris, Anne Havron, Ann & James Hannaway.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Gerard McLaughlin, John McLaughlin, Esther Fallon, Daniel Docherty & Margaret Lafferty.

**ANNIVERSARIES** - Patrick & Janet Harkin, Patrick Innes, Jean Coyle, William O'Rourke, Anna Robertson, May Murphy, Anna Ferguson, Samuel & Dr. James Clements, Thomas McCormick (Jnr), Thomas & Agnes McCormick.

**CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCES** - Claire Ashley Blake, James, John & Manus Coyle, The Coyle Family, James & Bella Connor, The Connor Family, Fr. Patrick Brosnan, Grace & John Reynolds, Ellen & David Reynolds, The Reynolds Family, Mary & Charles Goldie, Jack & Bill Goldie, May & Frank Donnelly, Grace & Joe Wiggins, Samuel Clements, Dr. James Clements, Andy & Chrissie McEwan, James McEwan, Isabella Cairney, Peter & Mary Deighan, Norah O'Driscoll, Gordon Hunter, The Gardiner Family, David & Esther O'Hare, Betty Peacock, Charles Rafferty, Jack Gibbons, Chrissie & Tommy Doyle, Janet & James Scullion, James Callaghan, the Hammond Family, John & May Burns, Bridget Welsh, Patrick Welsh, Welsh & Gallagher Families, James Mullen, Johnny Mullen, Nora McGee, John Hourigan, Coyle & McInulty Families, Patrick Reilly, Rose Reilly, Michael McFadden, Elizabeth McFadden, Stan Miller, Anne Collins, James McLaughlin, Richard & Helen Campbell, Ned & Annie Campbell, John & Janet Campbell, Nessie & John McLaughlin, Ricky Campbell, Annie & William Hendry, Christina & Neil Kelly, Andrew Black, Celia Wilson & the Black Family.

**ST CADOC, PRAY FOR US**