




**SS JOHN CANTIUS & NICHOLAS**  
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**AND ST PHILOMENA'S**  
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**Parish Priest: Fr Jeremy Bath**



Date	SS John Cantius & Nicholas	St Philomenas	Feast Day
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Robert Hardcastle RIP	<b>10.30 am St Peregrine Mass</b> David Mallon (sick)	Mass of Our Lady
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>11.30 am Mass</b> Joe Dean AV <b>6.00 pm Candlelit Mass</b> Nicky Haggerty RIP	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (B)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> William and Ellen Wynne RIP	<b>No Mass</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Advent
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>6.00 pm Candlelit Mass</b> The Reddington Family RIP	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Thanksgiving Mass for all who helped with the Legion of Mary Visit	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Advent
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Jean and Larry McLaughlin RIP	<b>No Mass</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>No Mass</b>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Fr Kenny RIP	St Peter Canisius (Jesuit)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> James Curran RIP	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Deceased members of the Finnegan family	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of Advent
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	<b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Sisters Maria Tecla and Helen McGuire (sick)	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> James O'Hara jnr. RIP	St John of Kanty (John Cantius)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> George Murphy RIP <b>6.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Hugh Wardrop RIP <b>Midnight Mass</b> Deceased Members of the Band RIP	<b>11.30 am Mass</b> For the People of the Parish <b>6.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> John Ferguson RIP	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (B)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>10.00 am Mass</b> Derek James Lynch	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> Thanksgiving	 Christmas Day

**Morning Prayer:** Broxburn: Mon, Wed, Fri. - 8.30 am

**Winchburgh:** Tues. 8.30 am Sat. - 8.30am

**Confessions:** Broxburn: Sat. 4.45 pm - 5.15 pm Tues. 6.30pm

**Winchburgh:** Fri. 11.00 am Sat. 10.15 am



**'GAUDETE SUNDAY' THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 17TH DECEMBER 2017**

**THEME**

**"Exult for Joy":** In the first reading Isaiah is full of joy. In the Psalm Mary sings the Magnificat, a song of joy that she is chosen by God. In the second reading St Paul tells the people of Thessalonica to be happy at all times. In the Holy Gospel, John the Baptist is full of expectant joy as he prepares a way for the coming of Christ the Messiah. The source of expectant joy for all these people is God. They all have a strong deep faith that then empowers them to be key participants in the incarnation of Jesus Christ, prophets, apostles and saints. Through our own baptism in the Holy Spirit, Jesus invites us to be joyfully prophetic, apostolic and holy. Therefore, this Advent season is the time to renew our commitment to a living vibrant faith; the result of which is finding a real joyful hope in being a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ.



**REFLECTION/**



**"Vocation of the Family":** The covenant of love and fidelity lived by the Holy family of Nazareth illuminates the principle which gives shape to every family and enables it better to face the vicissitudes (changes of fortune) of life and history. On this basis, every family, despite its weaknesses, can become a light in the darkness of the world. Nazareth teaches us the meaning of family life, its loving communion, its simple and austere beauty, its sacred and inviolable character.' (Pope Paul VI - Nazareth - January 1964).

### SHARED PARISH NEWS

**Christmas Draws Near:** After today we enter into the octave before Christmas and the focus becomes our preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The key word this Sunday is 'JOY' - joyful expectation and hope is offered to us. In the darkest moments of the Northern Hemisphere the light of a star in Bethlehem beckons us towards Christmas.

**HERE ARE THE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** Please note firstly that this year Christmas Eve also coincides with the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Therefore, we should come to Mass on the Sunday morning for the Fourth Sunday of Advent as normal. After sunset on 24<sup>th</sup> December we can then attend Christmas night Masses as advertised. They are as follows:

Service	Broxburn	Winchburgh
Christmas Eve (24 <sup>th</sup> Dec.) Vigil Mass for Christmas	6.30 pm	6.30 pm
Service of Carols	11.30 pm	-
Midnight Mass	12 midnight	-
Christmas Morning (25 <sup>th</sup> Dec.)	10.00 am	9.30 am
St Stephen's Day (26 <sup>th</sup> Dec.)	-	9.30 am

Please pass the word on. It would be advisable to come to the 6.30 pm Masses (Christmas Eve) in good time as the seating will be very crowded. Every blessings and good wishes to you all.

**Altar Servers Meeting:** Fr Jeremy is meeting with the Altar Servers in both parishes after Mass this weekend, i.e. 10.30 am in Broxburn and 12.30 pm in Winchburgh to prepare for Christmas Masses. He requests as many Altar Servers as possible to attend.

**Death of Donald MacNeil RIP:** Donald died in Middleton Hall Nursing Home last Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December. He was a much loved husband of Margaret and father of Robert and Michael. Donald was a highly respected Police Officer. He was in charge of the police involvement at the Lockerbie Air Disaster and carried out his responsibilities with great courage and leadership. He remained humble despite rising to Detective Chief Inspector of the Lothians and Borders Police. May he rest in peace. The staff at Middleton Hall are much appreciated. His funeral is at Holy Cross, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon, followed by cremation.

**THANK YOU - Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child:** The charity is very grateful for over £600.00 donated between our two parishes for this worthy and vital cause. Thank you.

**Candlelit Masses:** Please note that on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm in Winchburgh there is a 'Rorate' Mass (candlelit) for the season of Advent. This counts as a Sunday Mass. There is also a 'Rorate' Mass in Broxburn on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm. Both Masses offer Confessions afterwards.

**Night Calls:** Fr Jeremy is on Night-Call duty at St John's Hospital this coming week.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** The next adult Catechesis class is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.45 pm in the Canon Hoban Hall. The theme this week is 'One, Holy Catholic & Apostolic'.

**Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves:** The Newtown Entertainers are presenting a pantomime at Howden Park Centre, Livingston, on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018, at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm. Tickets are £8.00 (child) and £11.00 (adult) and £35.00 for a family ticket. Telephone 01506 777666 for more details.

**Praying for the Sick:** Amongst all those who are sick at this time please remember: Joe Cannon, Sheila Wotherspoon, May Lawson, Martin Donoghue, Margaret Foodie, Mary Doyle, Anne O'Kane, Mary Boylan, Marion Caulfield, Bridget Nelson, Cardinal O'Brien, Chris Brown. Our Lady, Patroness of the Sick, pray for them.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - 24<sup>th</sup> Dec). 1st reading: a reading from the book of Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. Psalm: 88.2-5. 2nd Reading: a reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 16:25-27. Gospel: Luke 1:26-38.



### SS JOHN CANTIUS AND NICHOLAS PARISH



**Feast of St John Cantius:** The feast day of our co-patron saint is on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Born in Kanty, Silesia, Poland he became a priest and a professor of Theology at the University of Krakow, Poland. He was a humble man and was known for his kindness to the poor in Krakow. *"Fight all error, but do it with good humour, patience, kindness and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause."* (St John of Kanty, 24<sup>th</sup> June 1390 - 24<sup>th</sup> December 1473).

**Church Cleaning for Christmas:** We are looking for volunteers to clean the church for Christmas on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm. All welcome to help. **Regular Cleaning Rota:** 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. Group 2. 15<sup>th</sup> Jan. Group 3. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. Group 4.

**Baptism:** We pray for Gabriella Martinova who is to be baptised on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December in Broxburn and for her parents and godparents.

**Vestry Hour:** The vestry hour is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00 pm. For all general pastoral enquiries.

**Collections:** Offertory: £937.00. Building Fund: £40.00. Candles: £137.74. Stall: £200.00. Special Collection (SPUC) £449.00. SCIAF: £35.29. Thank you for your generosity. **'59 Club':** 9<sup>th</sup> December - (No. 19) Group 1 - J Sweeney. Group 2 - R Little.



### ST PHILOMENA'S PARISH



**Ecumenical Service:** There is a joint service of Lessons and Carols on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm in Winchburgh Parish Kirk. Everyone is welcome to come along and we would be delighted to see as many as possible attending this Ecumenical Service.

**Vestry Hour:** The vestry hour is on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 12.30 pm. For all general pastoral enquiries.

**Collections:** Offertory: £331.52. Special collection (SPUC): £185.41. Thank you for your generosity.