



## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, BANFF

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### PARISH NEWSLETTER - SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DATE	DETAILS	SERVICE	TIME
<b>Sunday 29 November</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>Mass (Polish)</b> <b>Mass</b> <b>Mass (Polish)</b>	<b>09.00</b> <b>10.30</b> <b>13.00</b>
Monday 30 November	<b>ST ANDREW Patron of Scotland</b>	Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament Mass	09.00 09.30
Tuesday 1 December	1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	NO MASS	-----
Wednesday 2 December	1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	NO MASS	-----
Thursday 3 December	St Francis Xavier	Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament Mass	09.00 09.30
<i>Friday 4 December</i>	<i>First Friday I Piqtek Miesiqca</i>	<i>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</i> <i>Mass</i> <i>Mass (Polish)</i>	<i>09.00</i> <i>09.30</i> <i>19.00</i>
Saturday 5 December	1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament Mass <b>Vigil Mass</b>	09.00 09.30 <b>18.00</b>
<b>Sunday 6 December</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>Mass (Polish)</b> <b>Mass</b> <b>Mass (Polish)</b>	<b>09.00</b> <b>10.30</b> <b>13.00</b>

#### PASTORAL LETTER FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you! As Advent begins I want to greet you, to send you my blessing as we all begin a new liturgical year and to wish you, in anticipation, a joyful Christmas. I also want to thank you for all the encouragement and support you have given the clergy and

myself throughout this difficult time, especially by your fidelity to our Catholic faith, by your prayer and friendship.

In biblical terms, the whole world is living through a time of “trial”, and us believers additionally so. It is hard not to be able to meet together normally. Hard not to sing and pray together. Hard not to benefit in the normal way from the great resource we have in the proclamation of God’s word and in the Sacraments, especially Holy Communion. In St Paul’s phrase, we “are enriched in so many ways” (1 Cor 1:5) by these things. “Online” is good – thank God it is there. But our faith is social and incarnational, we are members of a Body, and nothing can replace our common, liturgical worship.

Now, thank God, we have hope of a vaccine. And with it should come a gradual return to some kind of normality. We also know, though, that the consequences of the pandemic will be far-reaching and long-lasting, often just bewildering. The times ahead will not be easy. When we pray, “lead us not into temptation” (or “testing” or “trial”), we are praying among other things not to yield or give in to life’s difficulties. We are praying to persevere, praying not to lose hope. We know that God tempts no-one (Jas 1:13) and does not let us be tried beyond what we can bear (cf. 1 Cor 10:13). In its commentary on the Lord’s Prayer, the Catechism says, “the Holy Spirit makes us *discern* between *trials*, which are necessary for the growth of the inner man, and *temptation* which leads us to sin and death” (2847). This is a daily discernment. This is what our Lord means in today’s Gospel when he says three times “stay awake”. This time of trial can then become a precious opportunity for the “inner growth” the Catechism mentions. Many people have felt it. It can prove a time for a greater and more innovative care for each other. We may begin to appreciate more how many of our fellow-believers in the world are permanently deprived of full religious freedom and the public expression of their faith. St Paul’s words about how “these three *remain*: faith, hope and love” (1 Cor 13:13) can also stand out in fresh relief. Faith, hope and love are the heart of our Christianity. Nothing need take them from us and they can fill every day. We can always pray. And surely, with Pope Francis, we will want to be part of a new aspiration towards human fraternity (*Fratelli tutti*). We can sow good seeds for the future.

Brothers and Sisters, a new liturgical year begins today. In whatever ways we can keep it, it is a great friend and companion on our journey to God, a great resource, a compass for our prayer. By means of it, Christ discloses himself to us. As best we can, let’s follow the road of Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter, our Sundays and feasts. And our Father will keep us “steady and without blame...until the day of our Lord Jesus Christ...God is faithful” (1 Cor 1:8-9).

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ Hugh OSB

## **FOR YOUR PRAYERS:**

- **Sick:** Sandra Cameron, Kenneth Darnell, Kate Hamilton, Marion Newton

## **ST ANDREW'S DAY**

**On Monday 30 November 2020 we celebrate St Andrew Solemnity – patron of Scotland. Mass will be said on that day 9.30 and 19.00.**

## **ADVENT**

In Advent the Church prepares to celebrate the Nativity when we recall Christ's first coming. As we remember so also we look forward in faith to His Second Coming at the end of time. It is period of joyful hope.

## **PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

For spiritual preparation for Christmas confession will be available on:

- Friday 18 Dec 2020 – from 18.00
- Saturday 19 Dec 2020 – 10.00 – 11.00 and 15.00 – 17.30
- Tuesday 22 Dec 2020 – from 18.00

## **CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS**

### **VIGIL MASS, Thursday 24 Dec 2020:**

- **22.00 Mass in English**
- **24.00 Mass in Polish**

### **CHRISTMAS DAY, Friday 25 Dec 2020**

- **9.00 Mass in Polish**
- **10.30 Mass in English**
- **13.00 Mass in Polish**

### **ST STEPHEN – FEAST, Saturday 26 Dec 2020**

- **9.00 Mass in Polish**
- **10.30 Mass in English**
- **13.00 Mass in Polish**
- **18.00 Vigil Mass (Holy Family Feast)**

### **HOLY FAMILY FEAST, Sunday 27 Dec 2020**

- **9.00 Mass in Polish**
- **10.30 Mass in English**
- **13.00 Mass in Polish**

**Mass reservation (from 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020) only by phone – 01261815405 - seat booking for the festive Masses to own parishioners in the first instance.**

## **CHRISTMAS COMPETITION**

Last year we had a Christmas Crib competition. This year, due to Covid 19, we are having a new, different competition. Children are invited to make a homemade Christmas Card for Pope Francis. All cards needed to be given to Father Piotr by 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at the latest. We will send the cards to Pope Francis, along with a copy of our Anniversary booklet, asking him for a blessing for our Parish for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of our church (AD 1870) and for the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the Carmelites in Banff (AD 1321).

## **DZIEŃ ŚWIĘTEGO ANDRZEJA**

**W poniedziałek 30 listopada wypada uroczystość św. Andrzeja – patrona Szkocji. Msza św. o godz. 9.30 i 19.00.**

## **ADWENT**

Rozpoczynamy okres Adwentu. W tym czasie Kościół przygotowuje się do świąt Bożego Narodzenia, kiedy przyszedł Jezus po raz pierwszy. Z wiarą również oczekujemy ponownego przyjścia Chrystusa. Jest to czas radosnej nadziei. Ofiary składane przy nabyciu opłatków przeznaczone są na budowę podjazdu dla osób niepełnosprawnych

## **SPOWIEDŹ PRZEDŚWIĄTECZNA**

Przygotujmy się duchowo do świąt Bożego Narodzenia nie tylko zewnętrznie przez robienie porządków w naszych domach. Uporządkujmy również nasze serca. Spowiedź przed świętami:

- Piątek 18 grudnia 2020 – od 18.00
- Sobota 19 grudnia 2020 – 10.00 – 11.00 oraz 15.00 – 17.30
- Wtorek 22 grudnia 2020 – od 18.00

## **PORZĄDEK MSZY ŚWIĘTYCH W CZASIE BOŻEGO NARODZENIA**

**PASTERKA, Czwartek 24 grudnia 2020:**

- 22.00 Msza j. ang.
- 24.00 Mass j. pol.

**Boże Narodzenie, Piątek 25 grudnia 2020**

- 9.00 Msza j. pol.
- 10.30 Msza j. ang.

- 13.00 Msza j. pol.

### **ŚW. SZCZEPANA – Sobota 26 grudnia 2020**

- 9.00 Msza j. pol.
- 10.30 Msza j. ang.
- 13.00 Msza j. pol.
- 18.00 Msza wigilijna j.pol/j.ang.

### **NIEDZIELA ŚWIĘTEJ RODZINY – Niedziela 27 grudnia 2020**

- 9.00 Msza j. pol.
- 10.30 Msza j. ang.
- 13.00 Msza j. pol.

**Rezerwacja miejsc na msze święte (od 7 grudnia 2020) tylko telefonicznie 01261815405. Pierwszeństwo w rezerwowaniu miejsc mają parafianie. Rezerwacja jest TYLKO na jedną mszę w czasie świąt, ze względu na dużą liczbę chętnych.**

### **KONKURS ŚWIĄTECZNY**

Rok temu mieliśmy w naszej parafii konkurs na Szopkę Bożonarodzeniową. W tym roku, ze względu na Covid-19, mamy nowy konkurs. Zapraszamy dzieci do wykonania kartki świątecznej z życzeniami dla Papieża Franciszka. Wszystkie kartki świąteczne należy dostarczyć do kościoła do 6 grudnia 2020. Wyślemy wszystkie kartki do Ojca świętego Franciszka wraz z kopią folderu o naszej parafii z okazji 150-lecia budowy naszego kościoła (AD 1870) i 700-lecia przybycia karmelitów do Banff (AD 1321), prosząc go o błogosławieństwo dla naszej parafii.