

St Kessog's Catholic Parish: One Parish, two churches
St Anthony's Balfron & St Kessog's Blanefield

Parish Sunday Bulletin 19 February 2023

Weekly Celebrations Schedule: 20 – 26 February 2023

DAY & DATE	TIME	CHURCH	ACTIVITY	FEAST
Monday 20 February	10:00 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Daily Mass	
Wednesday 22 Febr.	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Ash Rite within Mass	Ash Wednesday
	7:00 pm	St Anthony's Balfron	Ash Rite within Mass	
Thursday 23 Febr.	9:20 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>	
	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Friday 24 February	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Saturday 25 Febr.	9:30 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Holy Rosary	
	10:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield	Daily Mass	
Sunday 26 February	9:30 am	St Anthony's Balfron	Sunday Mass	1st Sunday of Lent A
	11:00 am	St Kessog's Blanefield		

Mission Appeal



On this **Sunday 19 February**, Sisters of St Peter Claver Missionaries are visiting our Parish to make an appeal on behalf of their worldwide missionary work. They are going to give a talk about this work and will be very grateful for your Support.

Message from Archbishop Leo



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and it is a *Day of Fasting and Abstinence* to acknowledge our mortality and begin **preparing ourselves spiritually for Easter**. Lent is *a time of prayer and penance* and I encourage you to take the **opportunity to go to Confession** if you have not been for a while. It is there that we **experience the loving mercy of God**, who forgives our sins and offers us His grace as we look with hope to experiencing the joy of Easter when Jesus was resurrected from the dead. The Friday after Ash Wednesday is the Day of Prayer for Those who have Suffered Abuse, and we hold in prayer all those who have experienced abuse. I wish you all a prayerful and peaceful Lent.

Ash Wednesday Services and Stations of the Cross

There will be two liturgical services on the Ash Wednesday in our Parish:

-  **St Kessog's church Blanefield:** mass at **10:00 am** with imposition of ash on our heads;
-  **St Anthony's church Balfron:** mass at **7:00 pm** including imposition ash on our heads.

Also, during Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross in our Parish:

-  Balfron St Anthony's church on **Thursdays** at **7pm**;
-  Blanefield St Kessog's church on **Fridays** at **7pm**.

Rosana Ruddiman's 1st Anniversary on Saturday 25 February 2023

25 February 2022 – 25 February 2023, one year since Rosana Ruddiman passed away. A holy mass will be offered at St Kessog's church in Blanefield at 10am to mark her first anniversary of death. All parishioners are invited to come and pray for her peaceful rest.

Lent talks

Discover Jesus Christ in the Servant Songs of Isaiah with four online talks from the Archdiocese. They are hosted by Fr Jamie McMorrin of St Margaret's, Davidson's Mains, and Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM and take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday 1, 8, 15, 22 March. Register at bit.ly/lenttalks2023

Vacancy

The Justice & Peace Commission of The Bishops' Conference of Scotland is looking for a Catholic Social Teaching Engagement Officer. The position is full time and the salary is £32-36k, dependent upon experience. To express interest and for full job description, please email to jill.kent@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk. **Closing date for applications is Friday 24 February.**

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine

Archbishop Cushley will join other Christian faith leaders for an Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine on Friday 24 February, 7:00pm at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh. Save the date and join fellow Christians in praying for peace.

Vocations Mass

The **Archdiocesan Mass for Vocations** is a chance to pray that more young people answer God's call to the priesthood and religious life. The next one takes place at **5:15pm on Monday 6 March at St Albert's chaplaincy**, 24 George Square, Edinburgh. Refreshments served after Mass.

Day of Prayer for Those who have Suffered Abuse

This day is marked each year on the Friday following Ash Wednesday (**24 February**). We unite in prayer for those who have suffered abuse: *Lord Jesus, we praise you for calling us to the service of others. We pray for a generosity of spirit to ensure the vulnerable are protected. We pray for a compassionate heart so that we will reach out to those who are wounded by abuse. We pray for courage and determination as we seek the safety of everyone in our parish communities. We dedicate ourselves to this work of service and pray that you will help us to do your will at all times and in all places. Amen.*

40 Days for Life

The annual 40 days for life prayer vigil begins on Ash Wednesday. Each day from 8.00am to 8.00pm during Lent Catholics have gathered for many years to pray for mothers and their pre-born babies at the side entrance to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. With the support of the Scottish Government a majority of MSP's will vote to criminalise, with the threat of 6 months imprisonment, any Catholic found praying within 150 yards of a hospital. This Lent will be the last time Catholics will be able to pray in freedom. Choose one hour in the week and come along to show your support for freedom to pray.

Parish Census: In order, for us, to function well as a Parish it is important that we have up to date contact details for all our parishioners. Please take a few minutes to complete the registration form on the website: <https://parishofstkessog.org/> (in the 'Connect' section, under the 'Welcome' heading). Thank You.

Last Sunday Collection: Total: £264.00.

We thank those who keep on donate by direct debit. Many thanks to all of you for your generosity.

Gift Aid: please contact George Edwards on Tel: 07866 683172 or e-mail: geojoedwards@yahoo.com

Parish Bulletin: If you have any news you would like included in our Sunday Parish Bulletin, please email it to Frances at fmdouglas61@icloud.com or to Fr Jacob at stkessogs1@gmail.com .

You can find this Bulletin and previous ones on our Parish website: www.parishofstkessog.org