



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

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Newsletter for 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B

17th December 2023

SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY MASS:

St Margaret's: 10 am
All Saints, Inveraray, 12: 30
Taynuilt Parish Mass: 4 pm

WEEKDAYS MASS

St Margaret's Church:

Tuesday 10:30 am

Wednesday 5 pm

Adoration of the Holy
Eucharist and Praises,
(Taynuilt Parish Mass: 10:30am)

Thursday 10:30 am

Friday 10:30 am

Exposition of the Holy
Eucharist at 10 am before Mass

Saturday 10:30 am

Confession after Mass

CONFESSION

from Tuesday to Saturday

9:15 am - 9:40 am
before Mass and on request

Please use the QR code
below to make donations to
the parish.



St Margaret RC Church, Lochgi



I am a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.

SUNDAY HYMNS

Entrance 541 On Jordon's Bank the Baptist Cried.
Offertory 175 Blest Be the Lord
Communion 574 Peace Perfect Peace.
Recessional 503. O Come O Come Emmanuel.
Responsorial Psalm. Luke 1:46 *My soul rejoices in my God*

Pastoral Council Meeting: The pastoral council meeting held on the 13th of December mark the last one for this year. It was a successful one and appreciation goes to all the members for their time, contributions and commitment to the progress of our parish. May God bless you all? The minutes of the meeting and the financial report are on the noticeboard. Please, take your time to read and if there is any comments, or suggestions for us to do better next year, contact Fr Philip or any of the council members.

Raffle: The raffle for Turkeys when well and we raised **£191.00**. We are grateful to all who participated and most especially appreciations goes to Phil Connor for the offer, God bless you.

Our Visitors: A warm welcome to all our visitors to St. Margaret/ Inveraray Mass station. We are glad you worship with us today, may almighty God bless you all. Please, join us after Mass for Tea/Coffee. **St. Margaret church,** Tea/Coffee at the parish's Tent outside the church. **All Saints Inveraray** Tea/Coffee at the back of the church after Mass. Our gratitude goes to the Hospitality group who made this possible, God bless you!

Postcards: Postcards in the porch for sending to prisoners of conscience. Please, do not send Christmas cards or anything associated with Christmas e.g. Christmas tree pictures, as these can affect adversely the treatment of Christians. Thank you. Pictures postcards are welcome.



Merry Christmas

Wishing you and your family a very happy and blessed Christmas.

Baptism: Teddy Thomas Cameron initiation comes up today the 17th of December during Mass. We welcome him into the Christian community and we pray that God will bless and give him the grace to grow up with faith and hope.

After Mass, there is coffee, tea and cake and many more in the church tent for the celebration. Please, stay around let us celebrate with Teddy and his family!

MOMA: Can you meet the MOMA 12 Days of Christmas challenge? Pick up a bag from the Community Shop, fill it with an item every day from December 1st-12th (eg: toiletries, food, fancy biscuits, a small toy, a box of chocolates) and hand the filled bag back to the Community Shop by December 16. The bags will be added to the special Christmas packs which are given to individuals and families experiencing difficulties. Thank you very much.

Home-made Tablet

There are homemade tablet on sale in the Tent.

Gift Aid Scheme

The government's Gift Aid Scheme is a very needy source of income for St Margaret's Parish.

Please ensure that if you are a UK taxpayer every donation you make to the parish, including your offertory collection, is Gift Aided. Envelopes are available at the rear of the Church for this purpose.

Thank you for supporting our church.

Christmas Carol/Eve 24th Dec.

8: 30 pm Christmas Carol and presentations.

9: 00 pm Christmas Mass during the Night.

Christmas Day 25th Dec.

10: am Mass in St. Margaret's Church

12: 30 pm Mass in All Saints Inveraray.

Collections last Sunday

Offertory St. Margaret and All Saints

Inveraray- **£147.00**

Raffle - **£191.00** Mission Appeal- **£344.95.00**

Thank you so much for your contribution

*There is second collection today
for Christmas flowers*

REFLECTIONS

We Will Not Surrender

This year, I decided I needed to put up my Christmas tree earlier than I normally do. With everything weighing us down this year, I just felt that getting my Christmas decorations out sooner was the right thing to do. I was entertained that when I went to the tree lot a week ago, the guy there told me that he normally sells around 500 trees each season. This year, however, he said he had already sold 400 trees by the first few days of December and was down to his last shipment. I found that very curious. I have also been enjoying going around the neighborhoods and looking at people's Christmas lights. It is something to do in the evening. I don't know if it just me, but it seems that people's yard displays are a lot more robust this year than in year's past. Have you noticed that? And something about that just seemed right. You have heard me talk in the past about defiant joy. I think people's instinct about Christmas decorations this year of all years is an example of this. We seem to be letting 2020 know that you can't beat us. We will not surrender.

(Bishop Frank Schuster)

Joy and How to Get It

We want to exchange gifts at Christmas time to show the gift that Christ is for us. So we wrack our brains trying to think what people want. We run to the mall. We buy presents. We take them home. We wrap them up. We put them under the tree. On Christmas morning we un-wrap them. We thank everyone for giving them to us. We throw the wrapping away. We take the gifts the mall to exchange them. We have honoured the tradition. We did it. But, where is the joy?

It's one of the ironies of this season that the very things that we do to increase joy at times prevent joy. We are so busy celebrating Christmas that we effectively block Christ's coming. So the question is what can we do about this?

(Fr. George Smiga)