

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Year C	
SUN	10.30am Eucharistic Service: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	
THURS	9.00am Exposition	
	9.30am Mass: Thursday of 1 <sup>st</sup> week of Advent	
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Eucharistic Service: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year C	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	
<b>Last week</b>	Collection: £328.79	Attendance: 59
<b>MINISTRIES</b>	1/12/12024	8/12/2024
Church Cleaning	C & G Morrison	-
Counters	Foote	Mitchell
Welcome	Collions/Harvey	Gray/Danby
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	K Schouwenaars-Harms	R Smith
Sat EME	M Collins	
Sun Reader	J Munro, E Reid	T Coull, A Mitchell
Sun EME		L Le Mero, I Grant
Flowers	None in advent	None in advent
Teas	Kevin	Carol & Graeme

#### Useful contacts:

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 832196	
		email	cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 832196	
		email	poe@rcda.scot
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498	
		email	deacon.graeme@rcda.scot
PPC Chair:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498	
Parish Safeguarding Co-ord:	Elizabeth Danby		<a href="mailto:stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org">stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org</a>
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242	
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116	
		or	<a href="mailto:mcfarrell@btinternet.com">mcfarrell@btinternet.com</a>
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd	01224 482657
		or	ARI@rcda.scot
Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith		YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly	
Email: <a href="mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk">chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk</a>		Website: <a href="http://www.stthomaskeith.org">www.stthomaskeith.org</a>	



## ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE



1<sup>st</sup> December 2024  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent (C I) Psalter Week 1

### THE ANNOUNCER!

Today, we begin a new season and a new liturgical year. It is Advent – a time of preparation and anticipation for the coming of Christ. We begin this season of waiting in hope and readiness for Christ's coming – both at Christmas when we celebrate his first coming into the world, and at the end of time when He comes again as He promised. We light today the first advent candle signifying Hope.



In the first reading, the word of God talks about the days when God will fulfil his promise to his people. In that time, God will raise up a righteous leader from the house of David, who will establish justice and righteousness in the land, and by whom Judah is saved and Jerusalem is safe. The passage reminds us of God's faithfulness to His promise to save His people in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the second reading, St Paul urged the Thessalonians to keep on walking in love and uprightness just as he taught them so that when the Lord comes, they will be found blameless. St Paul emphasised the need to prepare for the Lord's coming by growing deeper and stronger in love and holiness. The passage reminds us that the Advent season should be spent profitably by growing spiritually, it is not to be wasted.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of signs in the heavens and on earth that will precede His second coming. The signs are frightening, but Jesus told his disciples that it is the moment for them to stand firm and raise their heads because their redemption is near. He also warns against becoming distracted by worldly anxieties or pleasures but should rather stay vigilant in prayer.

As we await Christ's coming in this season, we are invited to do so in hope, growth in the practice of virtues of love and holiness, and the exercise of spiritual vigilance through prayers. Let us carry the light of joyful hope in our hearts, waiting for Christ who will come at a time unknown to us, to judge the living and dead. Let us keep loving one another, our hearts clean from sin, and our minds free from worldly distractions.

*Fr Kingsley*

**Welcome:** to all our visitors, feel free to look around our beautiful church, particularly the St John Ogilvie Chapel & Exhibition.

**RCIA and Sacramental Preparation:** Please give names to Deacon Graeme this week if you wish to be part of these preparations.

**Candlelit Carol Service:** in ST Margaret's, Huntly this Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm. Teas and homebakes afterwards. All welcome.

**Advent service of Taize music:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 4pm refreshments for 4.30pm in Holy Trinity Church. All welcome.

**Christmas stars:** would you like to purchase one of the stars in our beautiful dome in memory of a loved one? As a fundraiser, we will open up this opportunity, the first time this century! £10 per star, and you will receive a certificate of dedication in return. Please complete one of the forms which are in the front porch and return it to Margaret Farrell as soon as possible.

**Christmas Crib:** will be erected on 14<sup>th</sup> December, all help welcome. Speak to Raymond, Mike or Deacon Graeme.

**New rotas:** coming soon!

**St Thomas Parent & Teacher Assoc:** are holding a Christmas Raffle. 1<sup>st</sup> prize is a weekend at Cairnty luxury Holiday Pods, kindly donated by Jackie & Willie Edwards of Cairnty Lodges and Glamping Pods. Tickets £3 each or 4 for £10, available from Deacon Graeme.

**Christmas Masses:** Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 8pm (Carols from 7.30pm); Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am

**Second collections this month:** 7/8 Christmas flowers.

**Prayer Group:** Monday evenings, 7pm in the hall. Contact Elizabeth Danby for information.

**Tea & coffee** in the hall after Sunday Mass

**St Thomas' Church** is open each day from **10am to 3pm** for private prayer. Please note, the church may not be open if the weather is bad.

**Pope's prayer intention: December: For pilgrims of hope:** Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthens us in our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**Safeguarding:** The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is Elizabeth Danby, and she can be contacted as shown overleaf. The diocesan Safeguarding page can be found at [Safeguarding – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen \(rcda.scot\)](https://www.rcda.scot) and the text of **In God's Image (V2)** is accessed by clicking on <https://www.bcos.org.uk/LinkClick.aspx?link=131&tabid=124&portalid=0&mid=584>

Diary Dates	
Fabric & Finance	20 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 7pm
PPC	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 7pm

