

CHURCH NEWS

Monday	24th	Family Service Watch Night Service	6.30pm (Dunbarney) 11.30pm (Dunbarney)
Tuesday	25th	Christmas Day Service	10.30am (Forgandenny)
Wednesday	26th		
Thursday	27th		
Friday	28th		
Saturday	29th		
Sunday	30th	Morning Worship	9.30am (Dunbarney) 11.00am (Forgandenny)

VISITORS: Welcome to Dunbarney and Forgandenny Parish Church. We're delighted you are here today. Following the service, please stay and join us for tea or coffee. We would also be grateful if you could sign our Visitor's Book, which is on a table as you enter the Church and feel free to take a copy of our Church magazine, Parish Voice. Both Church buildings are fitted with a loop system.



THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday 26th December and Wednesday 2nd January, but will be open as usual on both Fridays. Merry Christmas!

DANDELION GROUP Anyone interested in finding out more about prayer shawl ministry? If you knit or crochet and would like to make something to give away as a part of our ministry here, then come along to the Church Hall on Saturday January 5th, 10.00am - 12.00noon. Wool, patterns and needles will be available, but if you have spare DK or Aran wool at home, please bring it along - your own needles too if you can. All abilities welcome - you don't have to be expert. You just need the heart to bless someone else!

MESSY CHURCH Our next Messy Church will be on Sunday 6th January 4.30pm - 6.00pm. As usual there will be lots of fun and games plus something yummy for our tea together. Do invite any young families you know.

LADIES' EXERCISE CLASS The classes will begin again on January 7th. As Sophie will be back, the class will be at 9.45am as before.

MEN'S FITNESS CLASS Class resumes on Tuesday 8th January at 5.00pm.

CHATTERBOX is now on holiday until 10th January.

LABYRINTH FOR NEW YEAR A prayer labyrinth is like a small maze, but there is only one path to the centre. You use the walk in to draw near to God, and the walk out to return to the world with Him. A labyrinth is going to be set up in the hall on Saturday 29th January between 10.00am and 4.00pm for anyone who would like to try this out as a way of focusing old/new year thoughts and prayers.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 23rd December (No service at Forgandenny today)	The Big Sing	Dunbarney 10.30am
Monday 24th December	Family Service	Dunbarney 6.30pm
	Watch Night	Dunbarney 11.30pm
Tuesday 25th December	Christmas Day	Forgandenny 10.30am

You are invited to any or all of these services

TODAY'S SERVICE

Dunbarney Church	Forgandenny Church
Organist: George Bell Reader: Various	Organist: Reader:

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Please keep this order of service for reference, or give it to someone who cannot attend Church this morning.

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## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP: The Christmas Big Sing**

You enter this church, not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into God's presence, offering God your love and service.

Today we continue our journey towards the Stable in Bethlehem through listening to God's Word and singing carols and songs. We also welcome the family and friends of Leslie and Joseph Pascuzzi and give God thanks for the birth of **Juliette Pascuzzi** and pray for her.

### **Prayer of Preparation**

Gracious God, as we are reminded at this season of your awesome gift in Christ, we want to respond to offer something in return as a sign of our gratitude for all you have done and continue to do. We bring you our worship - not just well-intentioned thoughts and words but our wholehearted adoration and joyful thanksgiving. We bring you our lives - not just token deeds or outward show but hearts consecrated to your service. Receive then, this time set aside for you as a small yet sincere way of acknowledging your goodness and through it equip us to live as your people this and every day. Amen

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Look to the Lord, for he gives us a sign:  
Mary will bear a child and he will be called Jesus.

**We look to the Lord, for he is strong to save,  
and we will put our trust in him.**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts,  
**let your face shine, that we may be saved. Amen.**

### **Hyfron 315**

**Once in royal David's city**  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her Baby  
in a manger for his bed.

Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

2. He came down to earth from  
heaven

who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and meek and  
lowly  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.  
3. And our eyes at last shall see  
him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that Child so dear and  
helpless

is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

4. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him; but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high,  
where his children gather round,  
bright like stars, with glory  
crowned.

## PRAYER

### ADVENT CANDLE 4 – LOVE

**Prayer:** As we light this Advent candle, may its flame be a symbol of love - its warmth be a symbol of God's love for each one of us. May it help us to prepare our hearts to receive Him. We pray in the name of Jesus, who is the Light of the World. Amen.

### **Hymn 273**

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,**  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, O come, thou Lord  
of might,  
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's  
height,  
in ancient times didst give the  
law  
in cloud and majesty and awe:

3. O come, thou Rod of Jesse,  
free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people  
save,  
and give them victory o'er the  
grave:

4. O come, thou Key of David,  
come,  
and open wide our heavenly  
home;  
make safe the way that leads on

high,  
and close the path to misery:

5. O come, thou Dayspring,  
come and cheer

our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of  
night,  
and death's dark shadows put to  
flight:

**First Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2–7**

"Isaiah foretells the birth of Christ."

Read by Jack Blair

**Singing Group**

'A Thousand Candles'

**Second Lesson: Micah 5: 2-5**

"Micah tells where Jesus will be born."

Read by Bill Nicol

**Hymn 172** [Tune: 'Village']

**O little town of Bethlehem,**

How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless  
sleep

The silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the  
years  
Are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the  
King,  
And peace to men on earth.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels  
keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive  
him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

4. O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in;  
Be born in us today

We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

**Third Lesson: Mark 1: 1–8**

“John the Baptist announces that the Messiah is coming.”

Read by Margaret Gimblett

**Hymn 322**

**Good Christians, all rejoice**  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now give heed to what we say,  
Jesus Christ is born today:  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

2. Good Christians, all rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now you hear of endless bliss,  
Jesus Christ was born for this:  
he has opened heaven’s door,  
and all are blessed for  
evermore  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christians, all rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now you need not fear the grave,  
Jesus Christ was born to save,  
calls you one, and calls you all,  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

**Fourth Lesson: Luke 1: 26–38**

“Mary is told she will have a child”

**Singing Group**  
'Gabriel's Message'

**Fifth Lesson: Luke 1: 39–56**

"Mary rejoices when she knows she will bear a son."

**Hymn 309**

**Still the night, holy the night!**

Sleeps the world; hid from sight,  
Mary and Joseph in stable bare  
watch o'er the Child beloved and  
fair,  
sleeping in heavenly rest,  
sleeping in heavenly rest.

2. Still the night, holy the night!  
Shepherds first saw the light,  
heard resounding clear and long,  
far and near, the angel-song,  
'Christ the Redeemer is here!'  
'Christ the Redeemer is here!'

3. Still the night, holy the night!  
Son of God, O how bright  
love is smiling from thy face!  
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,  
Saviour, since thou art born!  
Saviour, since thou art born!

**Sixth Lesson: Luke 2: 1–7**

"The birth of Jesus."

**Singing Group**  
'The Nativity Carol'

**Seventh Lesson: Luke 2: 8–16**

"The shepherds go to the manger".

## **Hymn 301**

### **Hark the herald angels sing**

"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
2. Christ by highest heaven  
adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to  
dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel

With the angelic host proclaim:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"

Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of  
Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings  
Risen with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth,

### **Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1–11**

"Matthew tells of visitors from the East."

Read by Alec Grimmond

## **Hymn 305**

**In the bleak midwinter,**  
frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, Heaven cannot hold  
Him, nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable  
place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

3. Enough for Him, whom  
cherubim, worship night and  
day,  
A breastful of milk, and a  
mangerful of hay;  
Enough for Him, whom angels  
fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel which  
adore.

4. Angels and archangels may  
have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;

But His mother only, in her  
maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the beloved with a  
kiss.

5. What can I give Him, poor as  
I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would  
bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do  
my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him: give  
my heart.

**Ninth Lesson: John 1: 1–14**

“John explains the meaning of the incarnation.”

Read by Janice Scott

**Singing Group**

'Come On, Ring Those Bells'

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER**

**SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING & BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace.

## **Hymn 306**

**O come, all ye faithful,**  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to  
Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

2. God of God,  
Light of light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's

womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created;

O come, let us adore him ...

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven  
above,  
'Glory to God  
in the highest':

O come, let us adore him...

## **BENEDICTION**

