

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

If we take people only as they are, we make them worse; if we treat them as though they were what they ought to be, we steer them in the right direction.

Goethe

**PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK:
LONELINESS**



Lord, please inspire churches in every community to reach out to the 1.2 million chronically lonely older people in the UK, to befriend and support them and to share the truth of the gospel. Amen.

Pray for people who are homeless, perhaps cut off from family and friends. Ask God to help them connect with agencies and individuals who can help them, especially through projects over Christmas that provide food, shelter and friendly company.

God of comfort, we bring before You those who are living through various stages of bereavement, having lost someone very precious to them. Please help these men, women and children to find ways to adjust and be able to face the future. Amen.

Pray for people who live with disabilities and who are experiencing loneliness. Pray they will be linked with local organisations that offer opportunities to meet other people and develop new interests.

THANKSGIVING: for organisations like The Samaritans and the many helplines staffed by trained Christian volunteers to help people wrestling with a range of problems.

Remember the increasing number of young people experiencing loneliness – often as online communication replaces real relationships. Pray that they would engage with sport, cultural and social activities, including Christian groups, that will enrich



**Bible Reading
Challenge**

This Challenge is based on carefully selected short Bible passages — 50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament — that helps you get the big picture of the Bible.

Set aside a special time and place to read the Bible each day. **PRAY** before you read, asking God to help you understand. **READ** the Bible passage, and then **REFLECT** on the passage. The number shown in the brackets relates to the reflection in the helpful study guide.



WEEK 50

OT

The Day of Judgment (50)

Malachi 1: 1-4:6

NT

The New Jerusalem (100)

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Minister	Rev. Allan J. Wilson	812211
Session Clerk	Anne Larg	812805
Dep Session Clerk	Margaret Bell	815910
Secretary	Anne Rodgie	812463 (Wed & Fri - mornings)
Pastoral Group	Gillian Munro	07739 311630
Safeguarding	Steve Fulton	813516
Treasurer	Senga Prior	812316



DUNBARNEY AND FORGANDENNY PARISH CHURCH

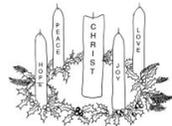
SUNDAY WORSHIP - ADVENT 3

16TH DECEMBER 2018

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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. As you worship amongst us today, may you experience God's comforting presence and peace.

Welcome & Church News Advent Candle 3 - JOY



Hymn 279 - Make way, make way

Prayer

Hymn 280 - Sound the trumpet, the Lord is near



Bible Reading

Luke 1: 5-7, 11-25, 57-66

(RSV – p53/837; GNB - p.72)

Time for Reflection

Hymn 295 - Who would think that what was needed

Sermon: Important Births (3) - 'John'

Hymn 314 - Child in the manger

Prayer for Others

Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 320 – Joy to the world! The Lord has come



Benediction

Prayer of Preparation

Eternal God, we celebrate today the fulfilment of your promises of old through the coming of the Messiah – a Saviour to deliver your people and establish your kingdom, bring freedom, life and new beginnings. Help us now, to celebrate your faithfulness and to trust you completely for the future knowing that we can depend on you, certain that what you have pledged will be accomplished and that nothing can ever separate us from your love. Amen

CHURCH NEWS

Monday	17th	Ladies' Exercise Class Monday Club	10.30am (Church Hall) 2.00pm (Church Hall)
Tuesday	18th		
Wednesday	19th		
Thursday	20th		
Friday	21st		
Saturday	22nd		
Sunday	23rd	The Big Sing	10.30am (Dunbarney)

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.

BIG SING Sunday 23rd December As usual, we are having a singing group to help make the most of our joint Sunday morning service before Christmas. If you would like to join in, then please come along to Dunbarney hall today at 4.00pm for an hour. We would also love to include a few musicians this year, so if you play an instrument do come along this afternoon at 3.00pm. (Refreshments for those staying on to sing as well!) Everything will be very informal. All ages and abilities welcome. For more information, contact Kirsty Jackson 813996.



LADIES' EXERCISE CLASS the last class before the Christmas break will be on 17th December at 10.30am. The classes will begin again on January 7th. As Sophie will be back, the class will be at 9.45am as before.

THE MONDAY CLUB will be holding their Christmas Party on 17th December when they will be entertained by Callum Wallace.

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

CHATTERBOX is now on holiday until 10th January.

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE PACT are holding a Family Carol Service in St John's RC Church in Melville Street on Friday 21st December at 7.00pm.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 23rd December	The Big Sing	Dunbarney 10.30am
(No service at Forgandenny today)		
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: Alison Hunter Reader: Helen Jackson	Organist: Alison Hunter Reader: Trudi Nicol

**As we light this Advent candle,
 may its flame be a symbol of joy;
 its warmth be a symbol of God's love for each one of us;
 and may it inspire us to live simply and generously,
 after the example of John the Baptist
 and your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ,
 who is the Light of the World.
 Amen.**

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

