

Our Lady, Star of the Sea and St. Drostan

73 Commerce Street
Fraserburgh AB43 9LR

Parish Priest: Fr. Bruno Murphy
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Parish Pastoral Council Chairpersons:

Peterhead: Currently Vacant
Fraserburgh: Bob Watson Tel: 01346 561357

St. Mary's

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FOR BOTH PARISHES

Navigating through the pandemic – Fr. Bruno.

As you are aware, the country is facing unique challenges because of a dramatic increase in the numbers of persons with coronavirus and Covid-19. This is largely due to a new variant of the virus that is more infectious than the original one. While at the moment cases are mostly in the south, it is only to be expected that the number of people affected by the new form of the virus will increase in Scotland too. At the same time, there is light on the horizon because of the vaccines, which are expected to be effective against the new variant. For the foreseeable future, however, many of us face a higher likelihood of being infected with the virus.

In our parishes, we will of course continue to follow Government guidelines to limit transmission of the virus. I would like to stress the importance of using hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the church, on wearing a mask in the church building (unless exempt for specific reasons), and maintaining social distancing (2 meters).

Masses and other celebrations in church can now only involve a maximum of 20 persons. If you don't work during the week and wish to come to Mass, I would encourage you to attend a weekday Mass rather than Mass on Sunday. Do not book a place at Mass on several consecutive Sundays. Masses from Tue-Sat am do not need to be booked.

To help those in Fraserburgh who are not free in mornings, I have decided to offer **an extra Mass at 5pm on Thursdays in Fraserburgh**. This will be on a trial basis during the month of January, with further continuation dependent upon possibility, need, and attendance.

I am also **postponing the beginning of new catechism classes until schools are back to normal lessons**. Practically this means that the **new courses will not begin until at least 18th Jan**.

Regulations permitting, the small first holy Communion classes presently taking place in Peterhead will continue in view of the children making their first holy Communion on Sat 16th Jan.

Please continue to make a special effort to live and celebrate your faith at home when attendance at Mass is not possible. Useful steps may include saying part of the Rosary together as a family, or reading one of the readings of Sunday Mass

together and reflecting on what God is saying through it. Remember that our faith needs to be lived at home; and where this is strong, and a family prays together, it can overcome difficulties like the ones we are facing at the moment.

Let us all be careful, but also serene. The good Lord never abandons His people in their need! I think we have very good reason to hope that by the summer things will be much easier.

Diocesan Marriage Course. Marta and Michal Wachucik are about to start a new marriage course. "As 2020 draws to an end, we reflect on the impact that the year have had on all aspects of our lives, including our relationships. We would like to invite all married couples to take part in The Marriage Course Online as their New Year's Resolution for the beginning of 2021.

The Marriage Course is a unique and practical online course which will start on Monday 4th January, 7.30 PM, and will last for seven consecutive weeks. The Course is going to be hosted by Marta and Michal Wachucik who are involved in running The Course in many different formats in our Diocese. Each Monday the couples will be joining a Zoom call hosted by the leaders. Then the participants will be directed to a short talk on a specific subject, interspersed with film clips of couples sharing their own experiences and street interviews with people from around the world.

Episodes of the Marriage Course cover the following topics among others:

- Strengthening Connection
- The Art of Communication
- Resolving Conflict
- The Power of Forgiveness
- The Impact of Family
- Love in Action

The couples need to sign up using this form:

<https://forms.gle/cWNhvtYCZDLJNy1n8>

The sessions feature regular breaks for discussions. And as the course is now run online, the couples will have the opportunity to use the privacy of their own homes. The Course does not involve group discussions."

For more information about the course please visit:

<https://themarriagecourse.org/about>

A **special collection** will be taken up at Sunday Mass on 2nd/3rd Jan for the work of **Justice and Peace**.

PETERHEAD

Offertory Collection Cash Plate, 20th December: £309.55

Approx. Monthly Standing Orders i/c: £265.00

Thank you for your support.

Stewards

Saturday Vigil: Francesca & Conor Meehan

Sunday Mass: Terry Moran & Juliet Grant

Next Sat, Vigil Mass: Francesca & Conor Meehan

Next Sunday Mass: Kasia & Marcin Noga

Readers

Vigil Mass: Conor Meehan

Sunday Mass: Eileen Fretwell

Next Sat, Vigil Mass: Cheryl Murray

Next Sunday Mass : Julia Buda

Please note that the Saturday evening Mass on 16th Jan is entirely reserved for the first holy Communion children and their families.

FRASERBURGH

Offertory Collection Cash Plate, 20th December: £82.34

Christmas Vigil Mass: £161.80

Christmas Day Mass: £42.45

Approx. Monthly Standing Orders i/c: £195.00

Thank you for your support.

Stewards at Sunday Mass: Anne Reilly & Bob Watson

Reader today: Anne Reilly

Reader next Sunday: Dannie Tom

Our Safeguarding Coordinator is Mrs Anne Reilly.

*A happy and peaceful
New Year to all!*

Items for the newsletter, website and Facebook page should be sent to Bob Watson, email: rmbwatson@gmail.com

Sun 3 rd Jan	Mass: The Epiphany of the Lord (White)	Fraserburgh 9.30am	Peterhead 11.30am	 <p><i>Going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage.</i></p>
Mon 4 th Jan	No Mass	–	–	
Tue 5 th Jan	Mass: Christmas weekday (White)	Fraserburgh 9.30am	–	
Wed 6 th Jan	Mass: Christmas weekday (White) followed by Adoration	–	Peterhead 9.30am	
Thur 7 th Jan	Mass: Christmas weekday (White)	Fraserburgh 9.30am, Adoration Fraserburgh 5:00pm	–	
Fri 8 th Jan	Mass: Christmas weekday (White)	–	Peterhead 9.30am	
Sat 9 th Jan	Mass: Christmas weekday (White)	Fraserburgh 9.30am	–	
	Confessions	Fraserburgh 11.30am -12.15pm	Peterhead 5.45 - 6.15pm	
Sun 10 th Jan	Vigil Mass: The Baptism of the Lord	–	Peterhead 6:30pm	
	Mass: The Baptism of the Lord	Fraserburgh 9.30am	Peterhead 11.30am	