

Fr. James Gerrard Tracey

James Gerard Tracey was born in 1961. After leaving school he was employed at John McGavigan and Company Ltd, Kirkintilloch, working initially in sales then in the Production Cost Planning department. He left the company in 1980 to begin his studies for the priesthood at St Andrew's College, Drygrange. After his Philosophy studies he took two years out, working in his home parish, with the Little Way Association in London and returning to McGavigan's for a time. He resumed his studies at Drygrange in 1984, moving to Gillis College, Edinburgh, in 1986. He was ordained as Deacon on 29th March 1987 and as Priest on 2nd February 1988 – both celebrations taking place in his home parish of St Machan's, Lennoxton. After ordination he returned to Our Lady of Loreto, Musselburgh, where he had served as Deacon. In September 1988 he was appointed to Holy Cross, Edinburgh, as Assistant Priest to Bishop James Monaghan, while also serving as Secretary to Archbishop O'Brien. He remained in Holy Cross until 1991 (his Radio 2 years: 88-91!) when he was appointed as Assistant Priest at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. In 1993 he was appointed as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Dunfermline and became Archdiocesan Vocations Director. He remained in these posts until 1998, when he was appointed as Vicar Episcopal of Education in January and Parish Priest of Holy Cross, Edinburgh in April. In 2004 he was also appointed as Parish Priest of St Margaret Mary's, Edinburgh, in addition to his other responsibilities. In February 2006 he was appointed as Parish Priest of St Patrick's, Kilsyth and Administrator of St Paul's, Milton of Campsie and St Dominic's, Torrance, becoming Parish Priest of St Paul's and St Dominic's in September 2006. This ended in September 2008 when Fr Kevin Murray was appointed parish priest of St Paul's and St Dominic's leaving Fr Tracey as parish priest of St Patrick's.



It was announced on the 22nd June 2014 that Fr Tracey had been appointed to a new post as Parish Priest of St Kentigern's, Barnton, Edinburgh, an appointment which is effective at 6th September 2014. Father Daniel Doherty is appointed Parish Priest of St Patrick's Kilsyth from this date.

In September 2017 Fr Tracey became the Parish Priest of St Joseph's Burntisland in Fife.



Pope Saint John Paul II in Rome in 1982 greets a young James Tracey, then a seminarian, with the words... *'Scotland - I have been to Scotland!'*

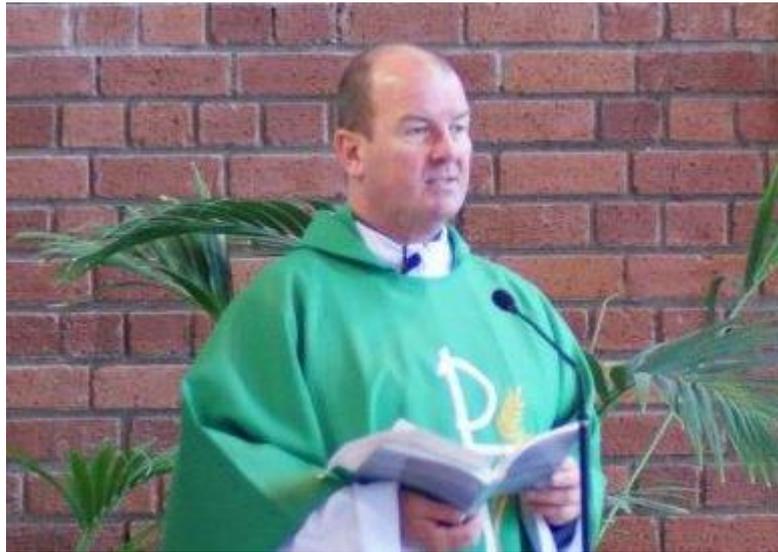


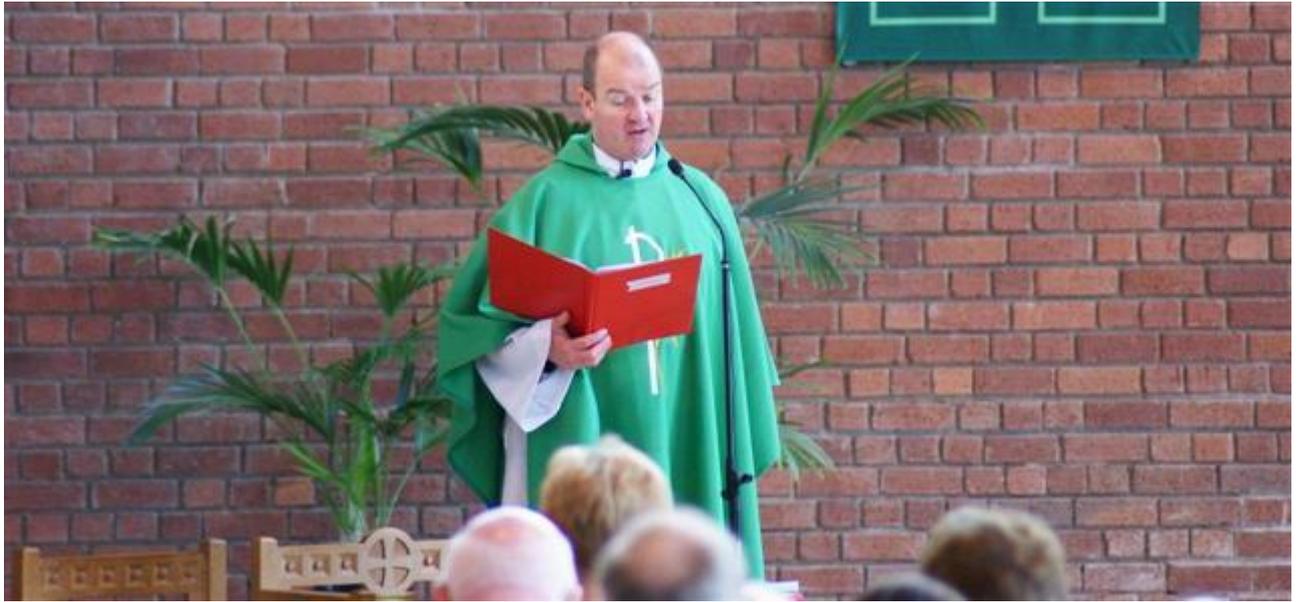
The last visit to Scotland of the then Mother Teresa of Calcutta who greets His Eminence Cardinal Gray, behind her is Archbishop O'Brien and left Fr James Tracey assistant priest at St Mary's Cathedral Edinburgh on Sunday 6 June 1993.



In this photo we see Fr Tracey, on his right his mother, Lillian and Theresa Muldoon (the Archbishop's housekeeper) with Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta. The photo was taken in the Cathedral House, Edinburgh on Sunday 6th June 1993.

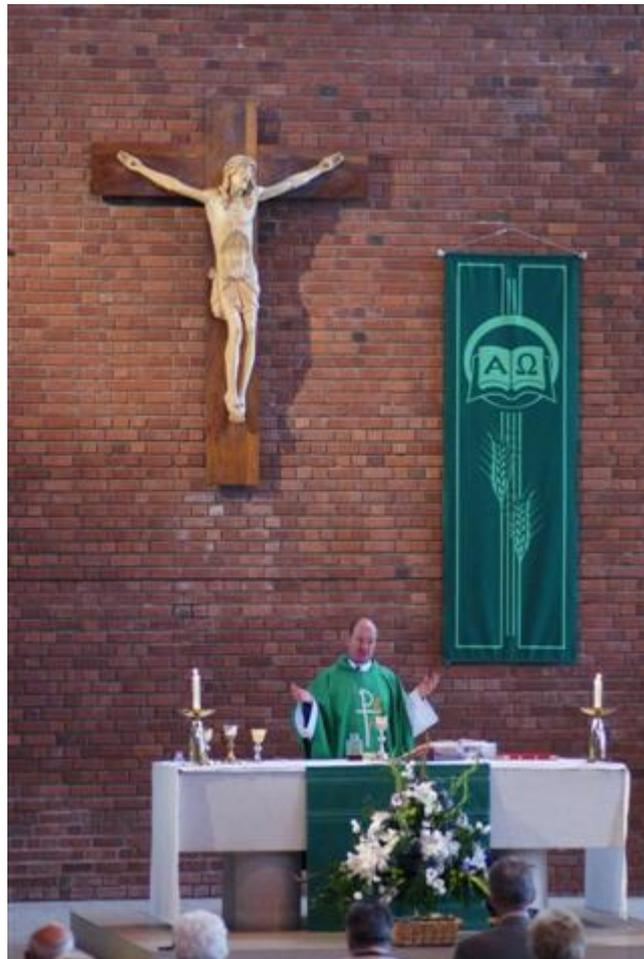
Fr Tracey saying Mass in St Patrick's Kilsyth















James Tracey - Canon of St Mary's Cathedral

On the 14th December 2021 six priests were inducted into the Cathedral Chapter of St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral in Edinburgh. They were

- The Very Rev Brian Canon Gowans
- The Very Rev Kenneth Canon Owens
- The Very Rev James G Canon Tracey
- The Very Rev Jock Canon Dalrymple
- The Right Rev Mgr Patrick J Canon Burke
- The Very Rev Jeremy C Canon Bath

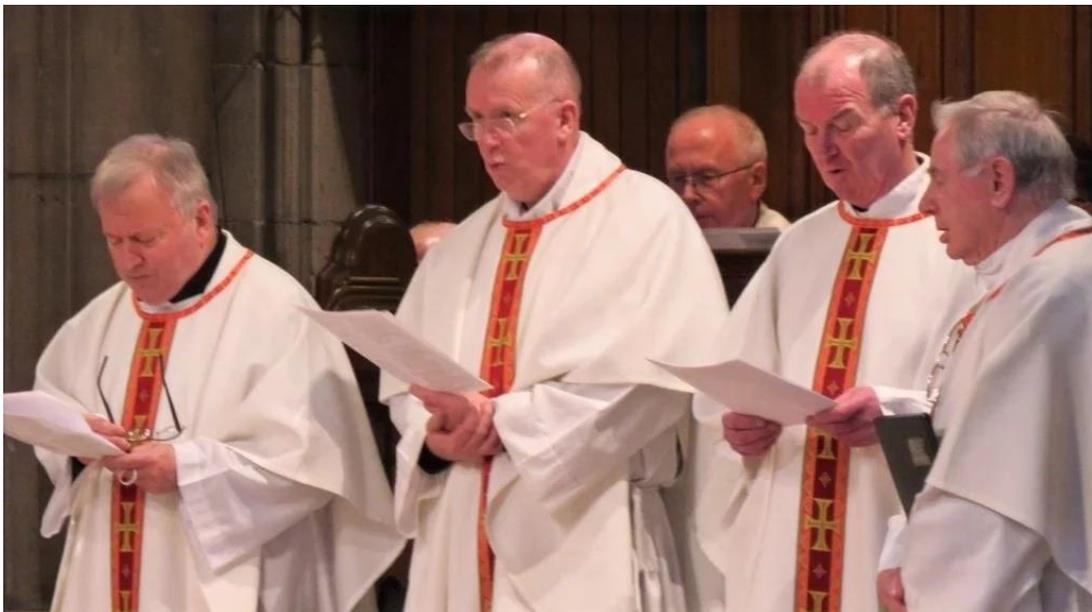
The Canons of the Cathedral Chapter are among the most senior parish priests within the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. Given their years of experience, the canons are expected to act in an advisory capacity to the Archbishop. As a mark of respect they are each assigned their own stall in the Cathedral.

In his homily, Archbishop Cushley explained the background and role of a canon, and said: "I would like to congratulate them all warmly on reaching this milestone, and we wish them continued health, consolation, and blessing in their service of the Lord."



From l-to-r: The Very Rev. Brian Canon Gowans, The Very Rev. Kenneth Canon Owens, The Very Rev. James Canon Tracey, His Grace Archbishop Leo Cushley, The Very Rev. Jock Canon Dalrymple, The Right Rev. Monsignor Patrick Canon Burke, The Very Rev. Jeremy Canon Bath.

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From l-to-r: The Very Rev. Brian Canon Gowans, The Right Rev. Monsignor Patrick Canon Burke, The Very Rev. James Canon Tracey

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The Very Rev. James Canon Tracey holds a prayer service at the grotto in the grounds of the Archdiocesan offices in Edinburgh.