



Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm

Sunday 11.30am

Daily Mass at 10am

Sunday Mass 11.30am

Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am

Saturday 9am

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10am & 4.30pm

Mon & Wed 6.30pm; Fri 8.30am

Sunday 2nd August—18th Sunday of the Year (A)

We pray for those who have died recently: Frances Toshney, Annie Sweeney, Margaret Grady **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Mary Laidlaw, Jim Hendren, Archie and Sheena McBennett, Marilyn McLaggan, Dave Squire

In your prayers: Please remember to pray for the sick, all those troubled in body, mind and spirit, for all those who are mentioned on our sick lists and for those who are anxious because of the present crisis.

Requirements for visits to the church and for Mass:

- * You will need to wear a face covering (mask or scarf) at all times when you are in the church.
- * There are sanitisers at the entrance and exit to the church and you are asked to make use of these when entering and leaving the church.
- * Stewards will help you identify a space for prayer: there will be spaces for couples / family groups and for individuals.
- * You will be asked to use a one-way system in the churches so please follow the directions of the stewards.
- * If you wish to light a candle, please use the disposable tapers provided and after use (and making sure that the taper is extinguished), please place the used taper in the bin provided.

Limited Attendance at Mass: The response from our communities in terms of those who wish to return to Sunday Mass has been very encouraging and demand is still growing. We have been looking at how we can respond to that demand and have decided from next Sunday, 9th August, to open up the 10am Mass in St Mary's to anyone who wishes to attend. Places will have to be booked in the usual way. If you are moving from another Mass to the 10am (we would welcome some movement, especially from the 11.30am in St Mary's), then please note that in your message (either via email or by phone). The significant change is that the 10am Mass will not be streamed and it will become the same as the other weekend public Masses. We will continue to stream the full celebration of Mass, but the live streaming will now be at 8.30am on the Sunday morning. You can still follow the streamed Mass later in the day as it remains on the Facebook page. So, if you are used to meeting your friends at 10am for Mass, please continue to do so. There is always a sense of community and encouragement when you know that you are praying with others. I am sure that you understand the need to provide another Mass for people who are ready to return to church.

More Help—Please: With another public Mass, we will need more people to act as stewards, not just for 10am but for all the Masses. Now that the congregation is more familiar with the procedures, we need fewer stewards at each Mass and they probably only need to turn up about 20 minutes early for the Mass. You will have seen that it is not too onerous a task but it is essential if we are to continue to offer public Mass in the present circumstances. It would be good to involve as many as possible.

Confessions in all parishes: Please ask for Confession before or after any of the Masses or phone to ask for a convenient time to call. Fr Mark 611282; Fr Alexander 825203.

Streaming of Mass: By the time that we move to the earlier time for the streamed Mass, Malcolm will have left us. I would like to invite 'early bird' parishioners who would be happy to do the readings and lead the responses to come and assist at this early Mass. Please contact me as soon as possible. Ever hopeful of a great response, I will make up a rota for all those who volunteer!!

Farewell: This will be Malcolm Hutchison's last weekend with us for the moment. Malcolm will have a few weeks' break before heading back to seminary—hopefully with the college in Rome being fully open again in September / October time. I personally owe a great debt of gratitude to Malcolm for his companionship over these last few months—about 15 weeks in total. Along with Fr Alexander and Fr Jean, Malcolm has been a great source of ideas and wise counsel as we have journeyed through these weeks. Many of you have also appreciated Malcolm's participation in the daily reflections and have commented with thanks on a number of his reflections without knowing the author. There will be true chaos reigning until Fr Jean returns and someone else takes up the reigns of keeping the parish priest on track!

Fr Jean's Return: Fr Jean is hoping to return from home in Malta some time in late August / early September, presuming that the situation in both our countries remains much the same as it is now. The situation in Nigeria is less clear and there is no idea when Fr Jude might be allowed to travel back to Scotland.

Track and Trace: If you have already submitted your contact phone number for Track and Trace, then there is no need to bring this with you every time you attend Mass. The information that we should hold is the name of one person from your family group and a 'phone number. This will only be used to assist in the track and trace initiative and the information will only be used to contact you should there be someone in the congregation at the same Mass who has developed symptoms of the virus.

Parish Census: The response to this has been tremendous and we will look to get things organised in the coming weeks, especially the updating of the email lists. If you haven't responded yet but you attend any of the three churches or would like to be connected with us to be kept in touch with what's happening, I would ask you to bring a note with you to Mass with the following details: **Name | address | 'phone number | email address | other parishioners in the household.** Please also add a note to tell us if we already have your email address and are receiving the daily emails. You can also email this information to stmaryslochec@dunkelldiocese.org.uk adding which church you usually attend or fill in the online form through Facebook.

Collections: Monies handed in up to 26th July amounted to: St Mary's £1538 | St Columba's £147 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £741. Thank you for your continuing support.

Offertory Envelopes for St Leonard & St Fergus': The new sets of envelopes are ready for collection. We cannot just leave the envelopes at the back of the church for you to collect, so if you would indicate to the stewards, they will be able to provide you with your envelopes. You may find that you have a different number from last year—we were ordering tens of extra sets simply so that people could keep the same number and we were wasting resources in the process. For those who Gift Aid your information has simply been transferred to reflect the change in number. There are a few sets of envelopes available for anyone who wishes to start using them for their collections and there are also Gift Aid forms for any tax payers who would allow us to claim back the tax from their donations.

Closure of the Gate on Gray's Lane: There has been an increase in anti-social behavior connected to the use of the lane at the side of the hall at St Mary's and I have decided that the gate should now be closed at all times except when the church or hall is in use. The gate will be open early enough in the morning for pupils going to school, but will not be open in the afternoon at the end of the school day. I am sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Absence from the Parish: I have the opportunity for a few midweek days away next week and possibly the week after. I will definitely be away from Sunday 9th after the afternoon Mass until Mass on Thursday 13th. I will confirm any other dates if travel to different parts of the country is still possible!