



Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm

Sunday 10am & 11.30am

Daily Mass at 10am

**Except Mon at 9.30am**

Sunday Mass 11.30am

Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am

Saturday 9am

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10am & 4.30pm

Mon & Wed 6.30pm; Fri 8.30am

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### Sunday 13th December—Third Sunday of Advent (B)

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**We pray for those who have died recently:** Ian Irons, Frank Jordan, Val Stone, Mary Welsh, Kathleen Mackle, Mary Wilkieson, Mary Dailly, Catherine Morrison, and Greg McWilliams **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Patricia Ann McFarlane, John Crichton, Peggy Stewart, James Low, Dennis Curtin, Molly Curtin, Maureen Laing, John Curran, Joe McLean, Annie McLean, Jim Turnbull, James Gowrie. We also remember all those mentioned in our books of remembrance. **Prayers for the sick:** Please continue to remember in your prayers the sick, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

**Change in Mass Time:** This week Mass on Monday morning will be at 9.30am in St Mary's.

**Lists for Christmas Masses:** All the places for the Christmas Masses have been taken. If you are still looking for a Mass for Christmas, please contact us with a general idea of what might suit you whether a Vigil or Christmas morning Mass and if there are sufficient numbers we will look to see if we can provide another Mass. As a reminder of the times of Masses, they are as follows:

- **St Mary's:** Christmas Eve Vigils 4.30pm; 6pm; 7.30pm; 9pm; Christmas Morning 10am.
- **St Columba's:** Christmas Eve Vigil 5pm; Christmas Morning 10am;
- **St Leonard and St Fergus':** Christmas Eve Vigils 4.30pm; 6pm; 7.30pm; Midnight Mass (still limited space); Christmas morning 10am.

We have added a further Vigil Mass at St Leonard and St Fergus' at 7.30pm. This is to try and accommodate requests that are still arriving for Masses. The sheets will be available again at Masses this weekend and, if you have not already done so, please check which Mass you have been allocated and the numbers we think that you have asked to have included in your family group. If we don't catch you at Mass, we will email or telephone. We may not have been able to give you the Mass you would have preferred, but our aim has been to turn no one away.

**Advent:** We will continue our celebration of the Season of Advent with a final moment of reflective prayer on the Sunday Gospels (Lectio Divina) this Tuesday which will be streamed on Facebook at 7pm and then remain on the Facebook page for viewing later. If you are participating in this time of prayer, you might want to create a prayerful atmosphere in your homes with a Crucifix or other picture/statue/icon and a candle. We will send out the readings being used via email. If you are reading this as a hard copy and have not already signed up to the parish email, please send your details to [stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

**High Tea at St Mary's:** The ladies who usually organise the Christmas party at St Mary's have prepared goody bags for those who would usually attend the Christmas Party. These will be given out at the end of the Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Included in the bag is a ticket for a free raffle—the prize is a hamper.

**St Columba's Church Cleaning:** This will take place this Thursday, 17th December after the morning Mass.

## Focus On Vocations

**Seminary Enquiries for 2021/22:** The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. Please contact Fr Mark.

**Sacramental Life of the Parish:** I would ask you to remember in your prayers the children from St Mary's PS who will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this coming Tuesday.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** For all who wish to make their Sacramental Confession before Christmas, we are available to celebrate the Sacrament before and after each weekday Mass and at request after our Sunday Masses. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions there will not be the opportunity to celebrate what has become the traditional Deanery Reconciliation Service in Advent.

**Collections:** Monies handed in up to 6th December amounted to: St Mary's £1001 | St Columba's £254 | St Leonard & St Fergus' £533. **Donations Received:** The raffle held in St Mary's last weekend for the Restoration Fund raised £200. We are also grateful for a donation to the Restoration Fund of £100 in memory of the late John Palmer whose funeral took place in St Mary's this week.

**Fabric Repairs to St Mary's:** At last, we have a clear view of the sanctuary again. I have to record my thanks to all the tradesmen who have worked so well and according to the timescales agreed. I also need to record our thanks as a community to Marian, Anne and Linda who worked tirelessly through Friday afternoon to clean the church—a monumental task this week after all the scaffolding had been removed and the benches replaced. Your heroic efforts are greatly appreciated.

**Blessing of Crib Figures of the Baby Jesus:** We will bless any of the crib figures of the Baby Jesus which you have brought to Mass today. We will simply ask you to hold them up at the end of Mass (before the distribution of Holy Communion) and we will bless them then.

**Newsletters, leaflets and cards:** Newsletters will again be distributed (for those who need a printed copy) as we leave the church. I would also ask that you don't leave Christmas cards for people to collect at the back of the churches as has been the customs in previous years. If you make a persona arrangement for others to pass them on, then that might be a way of ensuring that your greetings reach one another—this year perhaps this is even more important than in years past. Someone also suggested a Christmas card 'amnesty' this year and instead of sending / giving out cards you might want to give to charity the money that you might have spent. I would ask that no-one leaves any leaflets or prayer cards lying for others to take: no matter how worthy the cause, we have to be seen to adhering to the guidelines that have been set out to protect ourselves and others.

**Dunkeld News:** The December Issue of the Dunkeld News is available through the Diocesan Website. It is also hoped that there will be some printed copies available in the parishes.

**St Columba's Offertory Envelopes:** These should be ready for collection at Mass today. You may find that your number has changed—this is due to the fact that some people have moved to paying by Standing Order and gaps have appeared in the list. The records have been changed accordingly.

## Charities / Fundraising

**St Mary's Restoration Fund 100 Club:** This week's draw was made on Friday and the winner was no.64, Cecilia Mendoza. Congratulations to Cecilia and thanks to all who support this fundraising initiative. With some people having paid in advance for the part of or the whole year, so far the 100 Club has raised £1,225.

**SCIAF's Advent Focus:** This is centred on fundraising to provide clean water for the poorest people in the world who either have to travel far on foot to access clean water or risk drinking local contaminated water. All monies donated to SCIAF from our three communities during Advent will go towards this project.

**Sock Appeal:** At this time of year, we have our annual 'sock appeal' for the homeless. The socks collected are handed into the shelters in the city to be distributed to those in need. These can be left for collection in boxes provided at the back of our churches. Thanks to all who have responded so generously already to this appeal.