



Sunday 28th February—Second Sunday in Lent (B)

Sunday Mass Streamed from St Mary's at 10am

We pray for those who have died recently: Kathleen Key, Maureen Denney, Betty Adese, Mabel Scott and John (Jackie) Brown; **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Thomas Laing, Miroslawa Urban and Monica Easson. 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.

Lent 2021

Gospel Reflections: The Gospel reflection (Lectio Divina) for the following Sunday will continue this Tuesday at 7pm (Facebook).

Stations of the Cross: There will be the opportunity to meditate together on the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 7pm (Facebook).

Opening of the Churches after Lockdown: There is not complete clarity as to when the churches will reopen or the restrictions as to numbers that may still be in place. As soon as we have firm news and have thought out the implications for our churches, I will let you know. Even if we cannot all have Mass physically together, it is my intention to find a way of allowing people to receive Holy Communion on Easter Day itself and to collect some of the newly blessed water. Likewise, if we cannot all be together for Palm Sunday, I will make sure that there is a way in which blessed Palms can be collected.

St Leonard & St Fergus' Hall: Work started during the week to update the heating in the hall with the installation of a new system. As a community we are indebted to a small group of parishioners who secured a grant to cover the majority of the work. Perhaps we can look forward to a Christmas party this year when we won't need to keep our coats on!!

Justice & Peace Scotland: As Scotland prepares to host the UN climate talks (COP26) later this year, we have a unique opportunity to make an impact and increase the pressure on institutions and governments to respond with the urgency that the climate crisis demands. J&P Scotland is also sponsoring the event: **Scottish Churches: COP26, Divestment & Investment in Just & Green Recovery** on Wednesday 3rd March 7-8.30pm. The link to register is at Eventbrite: Scottish Churches: COP26, Divestment & Investment in Just & Green Recovery Tickets, Wed 3 Mar 2021 at 19:00.

SVDP: Digital Connection: The SVDP is a channel for the provision of a small number of tablet devices (and support) designed to help keep people connected. The offer is open to people over 65. If you would benefit from such a device, or know of someone who would, please contact Fr Alex or me as soon as possible.

Macmillan Cancer Support: The last countrywide annual Coffee Morning raised £10,082,117—enough money to fund 130 Macmillan nurses for a whole year. Our parishes were involved, playing their part in helping raise this money. Thanks again for all who supported the event held in St Leonard & St Fergus.

Think Vocations / Pray for Vocations

"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Are you listening to him? Is he calling you to serve his people in priesthood or consecrated life? Speak to Fr Mark, your local Vocations Director, contact *Priests for Scotland* or visit the website or Facebook pages (PFS or VocationNetworkScotland).

Lenten Resource: The Seven 'Words' of Jesus from the Cross

When I was growing up in the parish of St John's in Perth, the hymn below was a great favourite in the parish, sung during Lent. I always wondered what the 'seven words of love' were, referred to in the fourth verse. These, I now know, these 'seven last words of Jesus', are actually the seven phrases uttered by Jesus from the Cross. Many great spiritual writers have written meditations on these phrases and some composers have set them to music. I thought that the hymn and the 'last words' might make a suitable focus for some of our Lenten meditations and prayers this coming week.

O come and mourn with me awhile ;
See, Mary calls us to her side;
O come and let us mourn with her;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

Have we no tears to shed for Him,
While soldiers scoff and men deride?
Ah! look how patiently He hangs;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

How fast His Hands and Feet are nailed;
His blessed Tongue with thirst is tied,
His failing Eyes are blind with blood;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

Seven times He spoke, seven words of love,
And all three hours His silence cried
For mercy on the souls of men;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

O break, O break, hard heart of mine!
Thy weak self-love and guilty pride
His Pilate and His Judas were;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

A broken heart, a fount of tears,
Ask, and they will not be denied;
A broken heart love's cradle is;
Jesus, our Love, is crucified!

O Love of God! O Sin of man!
In this dread act your strength is tried;
And victory remains with love,
For He, our Love, is crucified!

- THE FIRST WORD "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." Luke 23:34
- THE SECOND WORD "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43
- THE THIRD WORD "Jesus said to his mother: "Woman, this is your son."
Then he said to the disciple: "This is your mother." John 19:26-27
- THE FOURTH WORD "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34
- THE FIFTH WORD "I thirst." John 19:28
- THE SIXTH WORD When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished;" and he bowed his head and handed over the spirit. John 19:30
- THE SEVENTH WORD Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."
Luke 23:46