



Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm  
Sunday 10am (also streamed)  
& 11.30am  
Monday-Saturday 10am



Sunday Mass 11.30am  
Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am  
Saturday 9am



Vigil Masses 4.30pm & 6pm  
Sunday 10am  
Mon & Wed 6.30pm; Fri 8.30am  
Exposition: Wed 6pm

---

### Sunday 4th July—Fifteenth Sunday of the Year (B)

---

**Our Beloved Dead:** We pray for Emmanuella Nwokolo, Harry Oldershaw, Monica Ward and Joe Kinsella who have died recently; and for Emily McRitchie, Frank Kelbie, Philip Wharton, Albert Lynch, Theresa Kennedy, Mary McDermott and Molly Gowrie, **and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.** We also remember all those mentioned in our books of remembrance. **Prayers for the sick:** Please continue to remember the sick in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

**Condolences:** As a community we extend our sincerest condolences to Fr Alex on the death of his sister, Emmanuella. We ask the Lord to give comfort to all the family, especially Emmanuella's husband and three young children.

**Sea Sunday:** Next weekend we pray for all seafarers, those who work and travel by sea. There will be a short appeal at all the Masses and a retiring collection for Stella Maris (Mission to Seafarers).

**Saturday 10th July:** It is my hope to attend the priestly ordination of Martin Eckersley in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh next Saturday afternoon at 3pm. Fr Gregory Murphy OP (St Joseph's) has very generously agreed to celebrate with us the two Vigil Masses at St Leonard & St Fergus'.

**Social Distancing in church:** If things proceed according to the government guidelines, from 19th July we should be able to reduce social distancing in our churches to 1m. We will arrange new signage to reflect this change. This should also mean that we are able to reduce the number of Masses back to something akin to what we knew before Lockdown 18 months ago. The live-streamed Mass will continue.

**Coronavirus Measures:** As cases of the 'Delta' variant increase, we are reminded to be vigilant in our measures to prevent the spread of the virus. All who are not exempt must wear face coverings while in church. As Catholics we have always been exceptionally good at our sense of belonging to something greater than ourselves and we understand that, at times, we will be asked to set aside our personal preferences for the common good. Please continue to do all you can to keep everyone safe and to help those who feel vulnerable to continue to be able to attend Mass.

**St Leonard & St Fergus Jubilee Fund:** We will mark the Golden Jubilee of the church's opening in 2025. Although this still seems some time in the future there are many things that we can be working on to prepare ourselves and the church for the celebration of such a milestone. There will be many ideas in terms of the revitalization of this great parish (especially following all the restrictions imposed over the last year and a half) and also for some work to the interior of the church and the landscape around the exterior. A generous donation of £800 received last weekend (for which we are extremely grateful) will start off the Jubilee Fund. Once we are free to congregate in significant numbers, we will have a meeting to discuss some of the ideas and proposals for celebrating the Jubilee.

### Think Vocations / Pray for Vocations

"I am sending you to them." The prophet Ezekiel is called and sent to speak God's word to his People. Could you be called in a similar way to bring the Gospel to people in priesthood or religious life? Contact Fr Mark, your local Vocations Director, email *Priests for Scotland* or see our website or Facebook pages: PFS or VocationNetworkScotland.

**Collections:** St Mary's £1020 | St Leonard & St Fergus': Not Available | St Columba's £289. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the parishes and the work of the Church. There are Standing Order Forms available in each of the churches for anyone who wishes to use this way of supporting the parishes.

**St Mary's Restoration Fund 100 Club:** Congratulations to this week's winner, Margaret McCluskey (no.97).

**Restoration Fund:** Last week's sale raised over £400 and if we add sales from the repository and donations to the fund handed in last week, the total going towards the Restoration Fund this week is £525. Thank you to those who are putting in the hard work to sustain the fundraising efforts.

**Feast Day: Friday 9th July—Our Lady of Aberdeen:** Standing high in a side chapel of a Brussels church is one of Scotland's treasures, a statue of Our Lady and Child which was saved from destruction in Aberdeen during the Reformation. For sixty-five years it was hidden until it was shipped to safety in the Low Countries. The statue remained in the Augustinian church in Brussels until 1796, when it was again removed for protection, this time to escape the ravages of the French Revolution. Safely restored to the Augustinians in 1805, it remained in their care as an object of devotion until 1814, when it was removed to the neighbouring Church of Our Lady of Finisterre. It is still venerated there as Our Lady of Good Success. In Scotland, devotion to Our Lady focusing on copies of this ancient statue has spread, and 9th July is now reserved as the feast of Our Lady of Aberdeen.

**Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Scotland:** I must apologise, as the existence of this Pastoral letter passed me by. I will share parts of it over the next weeks while there is room in the newsletter.

#### **Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Scotland on the Sixth Anniversary of Laudato Si' Pentecost 2021**

God saw all that he had made and indeed it was very good. God's creation is a great gift to all humanity, and humanity itself is an integral part of that creation. We are blessed by having the earth for our common home. It is a place of great beauty, teeming with life of all kinds, a world full of wonderful resources which enable us not only to live but to enhance our way of life. In nature, God's glory is revealed for all to see. St Francis of Assisi was prominent among the saints in giving praise to God for the wonder of creation.

We have been entrusted by God with the care of the earth, but sadly we have not just used the earth we have abused it. We are destroying the seas, polluting the atmosphere and consuming the abundant but limited resources of this world while neglecting the needs of our poor brothers and sisters and showing no concern for tomorrow.

The earth, our common home, is given to all of humanity and its resources are not just for us to use now but to be preserved and passed on to future generations. As Christians we thank God for gift of creation, but, because we have taken that gift for granted, when we look at creation as it is now, we are conscious of the failings of humanity; we are conscious of the need for what the gospel calls "metanoia", not just sorrow for the abuse of creation, not just a change of heart, but a change of life and how we live our lives.

A very solid scientific consensus tells us that human activity has brought the earth to a crisis point and that action is needed that is both urgent and deep rooted, particularly due to CO2 emissions.

Governments have a responsibility to work together, and with haste, to reduce emissions to a safe level. Governments also need to be concerned about adopting an economic model that no longer embraces consumption and waste, nor neglects the welfare of poorer nations. But this is not just an issue that we can leave to government to deal with. The COVID pandemic required us to undergo a complete change in our way of life in order to defeat the virus. Likewise, a radical and sustained change in our lifestyle is required if the abuse of our planet is to stop and the damage be reversed.

The environmental crisis raises questions about how we live, how we work, how we holiday, how we travel, how the goods we purchase are manufactured and transported to us. This is an issue of both environmental and social justice. It is not only that we must stop polluting the atmosphere, we need to recognise the right of all humanity to the world's resources.

(The second part will be published next week and the full text can be found on the The Bishops' Conference of Scotland website).