





Vigil Mass 4.30pm
Sunday 10.30am (also streamed)
Monday-Saturday 10am

Sunday Mass 11.45am Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am Saturday 9am Vigil Mass 6pm Sunday 9.15am Mon & Wed 6.30pm Fri 8.30am

Sunday 3rd October—Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

The Revised Mass Schedule until the weekend 23rd-24th September

Saturday Vigil Masses: 4.30pm—St Mary's 6pm—St Leonard & St Fergus

Sunday: 9.15am—St Leonard & St Fergus; 10.30am—St Mary's; 11.45am—St Columba's

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers — Gavin Russell, Martin Chalmers, Luis Gutierrez, Valerie Lubuguin, Kathleen Kerrigan and Maggie Crawford, who have died recently; and Raymund F Moore, Gerry Monteith, Charles Warden, James Gurvan, Georgina Dempsey, Charlie Cassidy, George Scott, Margaret Gallacher, Bernard Gallacher Jnr 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 and the terminally ill in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists.

A very warm welcome to Fr Sebastian: We are delighted to welcome Fr Sebastian Polak to our communities. Fr Sebastian will live in the house at St Mary's and will join us working in the parishes while also having special responsibility for the provision at St Mary's of a Sunday Mass in Polish. I know that you will make Fr Sebastian as welcome as you do any priest who has the privilege of serving in these parishes. I had thought that we would be welcoming Fr Sebastian among us in mid-November and would have let you know of these plans in plenty time before his arrival. Fortunately for us, he was able to join us with just a couple of days' notice.

Contact Numbers: 01382 825203—Fr Alex; 01382 611282—Fr Mark & Fr Sebastian.

Fr Jean: Many have been enquiring as to when we might see Fr Jean back in Lochee and Dundee. Fr Jean's academic studies will be spent in Rome (Oct-Jan) and Paris (Feb-Mar). Fr Jean will then return to St Andrews and to us in April next year (at the earliest). Please keep him your prayers as he continues his studies.

Absence from the Parish: I will be away from the parish (again), this time from Mon 4th—Thurs 14th October. Fr Alex and Fr Sebastian will be more than able to cope with the parishes in my absence.

October: The Month of the Holy Rosary: We will pray the rosary Monday-Saturday in St Mary's at 9.30am. The rosary in St Columba's and St Leonard & St Fergus' will continue to be prayed Monday—Saturday 20 beginning minutes before the times of Mass.

A Date for your Diaries: Justice & Peace Scotland has asked every diocese to hold a service "A Prayer for Our Earth" to pray for the success of the upcoming COP26 Conference in Glasgow. Canon Kevin Golden will hold one in St Andrew's Cathedral on Sunday 24th October at 3pm.

Think Vocations / Pray for Vocations

"What God has united, man must not divide." Many find their vocation in married life. Others discover a vocation to single and celibate life. Which is yours? How do you live it? Speak to Fr Mark, your local Vocations Director about priesthood, email *Priests for Scotland* or see the website or Facebook pages: PFS or VocationNetworkScotland.

Collections: St Mary's £1068 || St Columba's £312 || St Leonard & St Fergus' £532. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the parishes and the work of the Church.

St Mary's Restoration Fund 100 Club: Congratulations to this week's winner, Gerald Toshney (no.90).

Restoration Fund Monthly Sale: The monthly fundraiser which took place last weekend raised £520. Thank you to all those who donated produce, gave their time to work on the stalls, and to everyone who supported this fundraising effort.

Trotter Trust: We were informed this week that the Trotter Trust has made a grant of £2,500 to the Restoration Fund at St Mary's. We thank the administrators of this Trust for the generosity of this grant.

For those who wish to maintain social distancing: In St Mary's please use the side aisle pews on the left as you look at the altar and in St Leonard & St Fergus, the two areas at the front and to either side of the altar. Due to the size of St Columba's there would not seem to be the same need to designate a particular area.

Receiving Holy Communion: Those who wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to wait until the end of the Communion procession and come to the priest rather than to the Eucharistic Minister.

Masks in our churches: Just a gentle reminder that we are still advised to wear masks in church. I know that for many people this is uncomfortable, but others feel safer knowing that we are doing our best to follow this guidance. With numbers infected with COVID apparently on the rise again, in charity and with compassion for others, please continue to wear masks unless exempt.

Masks and Singing: Again as awkward and unpleasant as it is, I would ask you not to lower your mask when singing.

Monday 4th: St Francis of Assisi (1181 - 1226): Francis was the son of a prosperous cloth merchant in Assisi. When his father objected to having his goods sold without his consent to pay for the restoration of a church, the bishop commanded Francis to repay the money. He did. He also gave back to his father everything he had ever been given, even his clothes. He began a life of perfect evangelical poverty, living by begging and even then only accepting the worst food that people had to give. He preached to all the love of God and the love of the created world; because, having renounced everything, he celebrated everything he received, or saw, or heard, as a gift. A rich man sold everything and joined him in living next to a leper colony; a Canon from a neighbouring church gave up his position and joined them also. They looked into the Gospel and saw the story of the rich young man whom Jesus told to sell everything; they saw Jesus telling his disciples to take nothing with them on their journey; they saw Jesus saying that his followers must also carry his cross. And on that basis they founded an order. Francis went to Rome himself and persuaded the Pope to sanction it, though it must have seemed at once impractical and subversive, to set thousands of holy men wandering penniless round the towns and villages of Europe.

Because Francis was wearing an old brown garment begged from a peasant, tied round the middle with string, that became the Franciscan habit. Ten years later 5,000 men were wearing it; a hundred years later Dante was buried in it because it was more glorious than cloth of gold. There is too much to say about Francis to fit here. He tried to convert the Muslims, or at least to attain martyrdom in doing so. He started the practice of setting up a crib in church to celebrate the Nativity. Francis died in 1226, having started a revolution. The Franciscans endure to this day.

Tuesday 5th: Saint Faustina Kowalska (1905 - 1938): Helena Kowalska was born on 25 August 1905 in Głogowiec, near Łódź in Poland, the third of ten children of a poor and religious family. From an early age she had a religious vocation, and she showed great determination in pursuing it despite the opposition of her parents and rejection by the first few convents to which she applied. Through persistence and hard work she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, which she entered on 1 August 1925, taking the name Sister Mary Faustina. The mystery of the Mercy of God which forms the centre of St Faustina's spirituality was revealed to her by Jesus in visions and conversations from early 1931. Choosing an obscure and uneducated young girl as the apostle of devotion to the Divine Mercy, followed the pattern so often used by God: that his strength is manifested in weakness, and the weak and humble have the power to change the world. "Today I am sending you with my mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to my merciful heart." Faustina Kowalska was beatified on 18 April 1993 and canonized on 30 April 2000.

Thursday 7th: Our Lady of the Rosary: The feast of the Holy Rosary was instituted by Pope Pius V to celebrate the anniversary of the defeat of the Turkish fleet at the battle of Lepanto on the first Sunday in October 1571, which ended the threat of Muslim domination of the Mediterranean and was ascribed in part to the prayers and processions of the Rosary confraternity in Rome. Later the feast was moved to the fixed date of 7 October.