

# St Mary's, Lochee, Dundee

# NEWSLETTER

Called to be bearers of Good News

**Our Parish Vision:** "A place where people experience God in a personal way, so that they become delighted disciples, joyously putting God first, and willing to invite others to explore the love of God (for them) through our parish community."

## 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

**First Reading— Isaiah 25:6-10**

**The Lord will prepare a banquet for every nation.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever**

**Second Reading—Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20**

**There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me enough.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!**

**Gospel—Matthew 22:1-14**

**Invite everyone you can find to the wedding.**

**Communion Refrain**

**Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Oh Taste and see, Taste and see the goodness of the lord. Of the Lord.**

## Sacred Liturgy Schedule

**Vigil Mass at 4.30pm.**

**Sunday Mass 10.30am  
(livestreamed)**

**Mon - Sat Mass 10am**

**Confessions:**

**Saturday 10.30-11am**

**Saturday 3.30pm-4pm**

**Rosary before weekday Mass.**

**Tues: Novena to St Anthony post Mass**

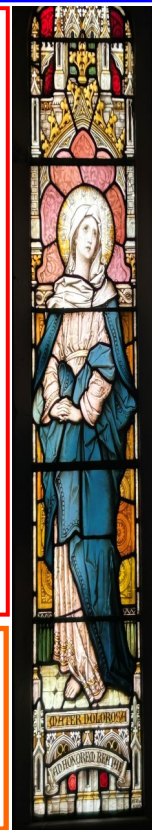
**Thurs: Adoration & prayers for the renewal  
of St Mary's Parish after Mass**

**Sat: Adoration 10.30-11am**

## Memorials and Feasts:

Tuesday, St Ignatius of Antioch, Memorial

Wednesday, St Luke, Evangelist, Feast



**Prayer to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception**

**O most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession.**

**O most Holy Mother, receive my prayers as I present them to God.  
(state your intentions here)**

**O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.**

**Our Beloved Dead:** Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Lena McDonald, William Reid, Jim Spencer, and Pat Ferrie; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Theresa Tardito, Winnie Smith, Bill Smith, Eileen Smith, James Webster, Wullie Bird, Isabella Nichol, Kevin Stephens, Mark Stephens, Agnes Stephens, Bob Findlay, Anthony McAndrew, Ella & John Jordan, Sarah Hynd, Nan Sharp, and Ellen Keenan. May they rest in peace.

**Prayers for the sick:** Please continue to remember the sick and the terminally ill in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists: Mary Miller, Isobel Curwood, Marion Brannan, Kerry McFadyen, Scott Brown, Mgr Basil O'Sullivan, William Reid, Ann Reilly, George Charles Milne, Sarah Bayley, Brian Davie, Baby Jude and Wilma Kelbie (this list is cleared each calendar month). Please send any names for these lists to the parish email address or add them to the lists at the back of the church.

**Funeral Mass** of Kathleen McDonald, Friday 27th October at 10am; Funeral Mass of William Reid, Monday 30th October at 10am. May they rest in peace.



St Mary's - 41, High Street, Lochee, Dundee. DD2 3AP

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Serving Priest - Fr Jim Walls; Trainee Deacon—Jim Murphie

Parish Website - [www.stmaryslochee.org.uk](http://www.stmaryslochee.org.uk)

Hospital Chaplain Mobile number 07821 624124; Safeguarding Coordinator: Emily Murphy

**Finance Matters:** Last week's collection: £1445 Restoration Fund: £91 (+£9,500 from Benefact Trust).

Next Special Collection: Mission Sunday, 22nd October

Thanks to everyone who financially supports the parish; and enables the Church to reach out to those in need.

**Gift Aid:** Please consider Gift Aiding your collection and/or paying by Standing Order (forms available in the foyer). Gift Aid donors are reminded that they need to ensure that they have paid sufficient tax to cover claims.

St Mary's has exceptionally generous parishioners as witnessed by the Collection each week and by your response to any special appeal, however, if you are struggling financially, especially with winter heating bills kicking in, please don't feel embarrassed to let the plate pass you by. Nowadays many people donate to the Church by Direct Debit and therefore don't contribute to the plate.

**St Mary's Restoration Fund: 200 Club:** Congratulations to this week's winner Maureen Crichton(34)

**Hall hire details:** Please note that our hall is available for private lets and community use at very competitive rates. For further information and bookings please contact: Yvonne St Clair on yvonne\_stclair@yahoo.co.uk or 01382-623618 Mob 07709040233

### **Dates for your calendar:**

**Dunkeld Diocesan Mission Group—organised Mission Event.** St Mary's Forebank; Diocesan Pastoral Centre. Saturday, 21 October (Saturday before Mission Sunday). The event will begin at 9.30 am with teas & coffee. There will be mass approximately at noon. The event will end at 3.30pm sharp so those who need to will be back home for vigil masses. Everyone to bring their own packed lunch.

**October 22, 2023 (World Mission Sunday) -** Take home a copy of the Mission Month magazine and read about the projects Missio Scotland is supporting in Sri Lanka, such as: nourishing children physically and educationally, providing women who have suffered greatly in their lives with the chance to earn a livelihood as well as literally and spiritually building the Church there. Mission Month and World Mission Sunday offer us the chance to support missionaries and the Church in proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world, particularly where the Church is young or poor, and remind us of the revitalising mission that is at the heart of our Faith. The World Mission Sunday collection, taken up worldwide, ensures that this life-saving and life-giving work can continue. Your donations and prayers make a vital difference to the Church's work in mission countries and are an effective way by which you can support the universal Church. Thank you for your generosity.

**Cathedral Dinner**—The next Cathedral Dinner will take place on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 after the 6.00 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral. All young people from 18-30 years are welcome.

**Dunkeld Serra:** The Serra Mass for Vocations scheduled for October 31 has been cancelled. The next Serra Mass in St Mary's will be on January 30th .

**Mass for Thanksgiving** for Priesthood and Intercession for priests in St Andrew's Cathedral on Saturday 18th November at 10 a.m.

**Parish Renewal Prayer Group**—Every Thursday after Mass in St Mary's. This group will pray specifically for a renewal of faith and missionary fervour in our parishes. All are welcome.

**Dunkeld Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024**—12th—19th July; Register your interest with Ruth Anne O'Neil on 07801 227 443 or dunkeld@pobox.com

Please submit names/items for this newsletter no later than Thursday evening to [stmaryslocheeadmin@dunkelldiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmaryslocheeadmin@dunkelldiocese.org.uk)

**Thursday 26th October at 6pm**, in the City Square, SPUC Dundee is holding the annual vigil to commemorate the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act.

This will be followed by Mass for pro-life intentions at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. Please join us for part or all of this event

Abortion figures in Scotland have risen by almost 20% in the last year. With almost half of abortions taking place at home, abortion is fast becoming normalised in our society. Our city has had the highest abortion rate in Scotland for the past two years.



**Please join The Society for the  
Protection of Unborn Children  
(Dundee Branch)**

**in the 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive, silent  
candle-light vigil, commemorating  
the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act**

## ALL GOOD GIFTS

Probably you have seen [Babette's Feast](#), or at least have heard about it. In it, an impoverished fine chef from Paris makes her way into a tiny Danish town where the religion of the area made people hard and cold to each other, at least according to this movie, afraid to enjoy or even to relate to one another. Babette, the cook, had only a small stash of possessions, but she was a top chef.

So she prepared, over many days, a huge, delectable, exquisite feast, serving after serving, all for the uptight townspeople. As they began to taste and enjoy, they began also to communicate in kindness to each other. They even danced!

I have heard critics say that this movie promoted self-indulgence, and I do not endorse such a thing. But I do notice similarities to the huge feast we hear about in the [First Reading](#).

There we find the famous invitation from the Lord of Hosts, full of unstinting promise. "A feast of rich food and choice wines," Isaiah says. A great feast, a "groaning board" in the language of medieval England, just like the banquet in Babette's Feast.

Sunday's [Gospel](#) reading also has a sumptuous feed. The king gets his very best livestock fattened up, seasoned, readied for cooking, with invitations sent out. If you thought the people in Babette's town were reluctant, look what happened here. Some people refused outright to come. Others simply ignored the invitation as if it had not been given, and others "laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them." The king punished these and then invited in street people.

Food is meant to be enjoyed, not refused.

But with so many people starving in today's world, how dare we fatten ourselves up with rich food and every

other kind of riches? Shouldn't we much more becomingly abstain and deny ourselves? Isn't the "First World" currently fattening itself on food far more lavish than the ancient world could ever have even imagined? Advertisements in the United States tell us we should luxuriate, should pamper ourselves, should not hold back. "Who says you can't have it all," they say.

How are we to respond, we who try to be faithful to God and God's promises?

Remember that Jesus feasted as well as fasted. He abstained from food for forty days at the beginning of his public ministry; but later on his words were, "the Son of Man came eating and drinking—and they said, 'Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners'" ([Mt. 11:19](#)). How would he have gotten such a reputation except by enjoying his times at meals with others?

Which is it for us, then, fasting or feasting?

I think the answer is simple yet difficult to grow into. I think we are meant to receive humbly and to give to others as well. The mistake is to adopt a stance of, on the one hand, only receiving (getting, grabbing) or on the other hand, only giving (denying oneself for the sake of the other). Sunday's readings invite us to come into the kingdom, to open up, to eat, to enjoy what is there.

To receive as Jesus did.

He went deep, accepting all things as coming from God's hand. When it was time to let go of it all—life, friends, peace, and possessions—he did that with love.

Receive and give. Jesus wants us to receive his life and then give it out to the world.

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## Synod Prayer Request—Please find below the prayer which the Synod conference are encouraging us all to pray daily.

"We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen."



New Liturgy Rota available and will be starting 5<sup>th</sup> November. The Second Vatican Council called for active participation of the laity in the liturgy and to help with this our Sunday Mass will now have a separate reader for each of the two readings and a cantor to sing the psalm, as well as someone to read the Prayers of the Faithful, and Welcomers to greet people at the door. The other important ministry of bringing down the gifts will be arranged on the day, with a variety of people being asked.

Thanks also to the small team (Cecilia, Dan, and Logan) who are creating and running the Power Point Presentation with the words of the hymns etc. This also enables more active participation in the liturgy. Again, we are looking for volunteers to facilitate this ministry at the Vigil.

The Vigil Mass needs more readers and cantors so please make yourself known to Emily Murphy, Pauline Johnstone or Fr Jim if you feel capable of serving the Lord in this manner.

**Thanks to all those who already serve the Lord and the parish in our Liturgical Celebrations.**

Alpha is having a 2 week break (Sun 8th & 15th) and will restart on Sunday 22nd; with the Holy Spirit retreat following on Saturday 28th.



If you need a visit from a priest whilst in hospital please phone 07821 624124 for the on duty Catholic Priest.  
If you would like a house visit simply call St Mary's on 611282.

ALL SAINTS, CHILDRENS PARTY  
Saturday 28th October  
at 5.30pm  
St Mary's Church Hall.

All children welcome to come to the 4.30pm Mass dressed as a Saint



Many thanks to all who contributed to Fr Alex's gift. Fr Alex was gifted a Chelsea strip and a cheque for his 4 years service to St Mary's.

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Thanks to Nancy Northam (See Genesis 6-8) 10-29-1998

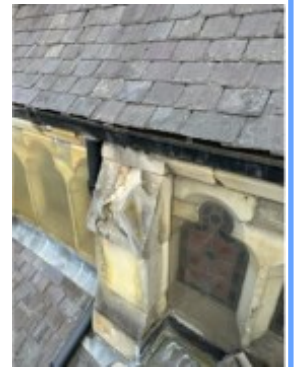
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**International Mass for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** (formerly know as the Feast of Christ the King); Sunday 26th November. This Mass will be something akin to our celebration of the Solemnity of Pentecost, so if you'd like to be involved please contact Lyn Smith or Karen Scott (Organist).

**Property Matters:** For the last two weeks an electrician has been carrying out an EICR (Electrical Installation Condition Report) at St Mary's. This ensures that all the electrical installations and systems within the Church, House and Hall are correctly installed, safe and well maintained. We are hoping to have this completed by Friday. This is a compulsory test required for Insurance Purposes that has to take place every 5 years. St Mary's requires a Fabric Team in order to coordinate the maintenance of our fine buildings. If you have experience in the building trade and would like to help please contact Allan Blyth or Fr Jim.

The **Benefact Trust** has awarded St Mary's Restoration Project a grant of £9,500. This adds to National Churches Trust pledge of £30,000; Wolfson Foundation £10,000, and Fife Environment Trust £48,000. We are currently waiting news from Historic Environment Scotland regarding our grant application. If this is awarded we should be able to start work on Phase 1 of St Mary's Restoration Project which is dealing with the exterior of the Church Building. Please hold this in your prayers.

The **Annual High Level Inspection** of St Mary's Church and House took place recently. As well as clearing the gutters, several loose stones were removed and one of the high level buttresses made safe. All of the work highlighted by the report will be included in the exterior work that will take place as part of St Mary's Restoration.



Once again the **Lee Walker's Celtic Supporters Club** has donated a considerable amount of foodstuffs for distribution from the Church House. Thanks to all of those who donate food and toiletries for making God's love visible. If you are in need please don't hesitate to approach Fr Jim in confidence. Many thanks to Steve Keenan for delivering the groceries.

The **Saint Vincent De Paul Society** also does sterling work in the parish. If you are in need of help with food, electricity, gas, or furniture etc. please don't hesitate to speak with one of the SVDP members at the door of the church.



Please keep 5 minutes silence before the start of each Sunday Mass. The bell will ring 5 minutes before Mass to mark the start of silence. This creates a decompression chamber in which we acclimatise to the Sacred and come into God's presence.