



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."

33th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First Reading– Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A perfect wife - who can find her?

Responsorial Psalm

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading—Thessalonians 5:1-6

Let not the Day of the Lord overtake you like a thief.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!

Gospel—Matthew 25:14-30

You have been faithful in small things; come and join in your master's happiness.

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

Feasts and Memorials

Tuesday, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial; Wednesday, St Cecilia, Memorial; Friday, St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, Memorial

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: George Anderson, Jim McCord, Janina McClement, Mrs Rizza, Joseph George Murray and Jim Carlin; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ian Irons, John Lynch & Susan Bruce. 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: Loretta Stuart, Kerry McFadyen, Scott Brown, George Charles Milne, Brian Davie, Baby Jude, Georgina Robbie, Andy Madoc Jones, Chic (Charles) Whytock, Ann Reilly, Margaret Ann Young, Kathleen McDonald 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.

Funerals

Janina McClement, Funeral Service at Dundee Crematorium, Wednesday 22nd at 1.30pm. May she rest in peace.



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

Tel: 01382 611282 | Email: stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk | facebook.com/stmaryslochee

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

Parish Website - www.stmaryslochee.org.uk

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

Finance Matters: Last week's collection: £1290 Restoration Fund: £10.50

Next Sunday there will be a Special Collection for **SCES** (Scottish Catholic Education Service).

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 A Blythe (5)

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:

The re-scheduled St Vincent de Paul meeting will take place this Tuesday (21st November) at 7pm.

The re-scheduled Parish Council Meeting will take place this Thursday (23rd November) at 7pm in the Church House.

Taize Prayer (Silence, Scripture, chants, candles): Thursday (23rd) 6—7pm in remembrance of our beloved dead.

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.

Next Sunday , 26th November is the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King (previously the Feast of Christ the King) and my hope is that St Mary's Primary School will help lead this Mass through providing readers, bidding prayers, displays, gift bearers etc. Please keep the children in your prayers as they prepare a Mass themed: 'One Family: many voices.'

Christmas Ecumenical Service: The Christmas tree lights will be switched on in Lochee on **Wednesday, 29th November, 2023**. St. Mary's will conduct a service at 6.00 p.m. in the church. Lochee Parish Church will provide refreshments after the lights are switched on.

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

St Clements & St Ninians, Pilgrimage and Leisure Trip to India 2024—8 -23rd November. We are having a trip to India - visiting Goa, Tamilnadu and Kerala from 2024. 15 nights - 16 days. Cost £2495 based on two sharing, single supplement £740. If you would like further information and a copy of the itinerary please contact Fr Johny or Therese Devlin 07813051689 email therese@devlinproperties.co.uk

LOURDES 2024 NURSING TEAM are looking to build a team to support Hospital pilgrims in Lourdes next year. Are you a Registered Nurse who could help in a Nursing role, recently retired nurse or have healthcare experience and would like to be part of the team? Fares for 2024 will be part subsidised depending on monies raised from fundraising. Please email mrskimberleyblack@hotmail.com or call Kimberley 07947837289 if interested or would like more information.

Catholic Education Week (16th to 30th November) Please pray for all those involved in Catholic Education endeavouring to instill Christ-like values into our children. Jesus our Teacher, in your love for us, help us to develop our own talents so that we may	become like you and lead lives of goodness. Bless all learners and all teachers. May our Catholic schools continue to serve our families, our communities and our country. Help us, through our learning, to	believe in you and to celebrate the life of your Church. Help us to grow in holiness as we grow in friendship with you and try to become saints. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen
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St Mary's Christmas Sock Appeal for the homeless. Box at rear of Church.

Please submit names/items for this newsletter no later than Thursday evening to stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk

GLANCING THOUGHTS — TRUE HUMILITY AND TALENTS

Some people think that humility is a matter of taking yourself to be small, unworthy, not up for much.

But, in the [Gospel](#) parable, the servant is dismissed as wicked and useless, if he thinks he is too little to do much with his talent, and his talent is taken away from him. The Lord doesn't praise him for humility.

So what is humility? It is the opposite of pride—but what is pride? Pride isn't denying that there is some excellence, some talent, in yourself when there really is. Rather, pride is a failure to recognise that that talent is given you by the Lord.

Of course, we are small and unworthy. What else would we be? Our talents are not a function of what we are and can do. Every excellence in us is a gift of the Lord's. We can acknowledge the excellence that is truly in us without danger of pride, provided we remember that such excellence comes from the Lord.

Not only that, but in the [Gospel](#) Reading our Lord announces a funny distribution principle: to him who has, more will be given. So here is the idea. A person who does not refuse a gift of the Lord's receives it and consequently has more. Then, because he has more, the Lord will offer him another gift. If he does not refuse that new gift, it will be given—and so he will have more. And then more will be given to him. And so on and on, till a person blazes in glory for the Lord.

Unlike the useless servant in the parable, then, we can aim as high as we like, with true humility, provided we recognise as gift every excellence we have. Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back in service of love for the Lord.

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Prayer for a good and holy Bishop:

Dear God, you sent your Son to reveal what it is to be truly human. We, in Dunkeld Diocese, are awaiting a new Bishop, please send us one after your own heart: a tender heart with a zeal for souls, a love of the poor and children, compassion for the sick and those on whom time has taken its toll. Bless him with an enthusiasm for Sacred Scripture and the gift for breaking open your Word so that we, his sheep, may be inspired and nourished to lead lives worthy of our Christian calling, and enabled to evangelise others. Amen.



**Marriage, Family
and
Life Office**

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland

NATIONAL WEBSITE LAUNCHED FOR MARRIAGE, FAMILY & LIFE

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland has now established a national office and commission for Marriage, Family and Life. We are delighted to be able to launch our website —**Please visit the Bishops' Conference national commission website at www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk**

Thanks to all of those who donate food and toiletries for distribution from the Church House Door. If you are in need please don't hesitate to approach Fr Jim in confidence.

The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul (SVDP) - As winter approaches and the temperature drops please note that the SVDP supports anyone in need of assistance with food, electricity, gas, clothing, furniture etc. Please don't be shy to approach one of the SVDP members or Fr Jim for assistance.

St Mary's Restoration Project (All under one roof)

The Restoration Steering Group met on Friday to hear confirmation that our grant application to Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for £100K has been accepted. This is good news although it's only another step in the process which now sees HES send out their own experts to access for themselves the work that St Mary's requires, and for us to update the estimates that were submitted at the beginning of the year. Please keep this process in your prayers.

An email received this week from Charis Soares:

I hope you are well. I am writing to ask if your parish would be willing to support my small business, which has recently been established to supplement my income as I endeavour to continue working for the **Diocesan Youth Service on a voluntary basis**.

My business is called 'The Celtic Saint', and I offer greetings cards and graphic design services with an underlying Catholic ethos. I would be most grateful for any support you can give. **The full range of my products and services can be viewed on my website at www.thecelticsaint.co.uk** - including a series of Christmas cards for the upcoming season.

November lists are available in the foyer of the Church. Please write your list put it in the envelop provided and return it in the Collection Plate. All the lists will remain on the altar throughout the month of November in remembrance of our departed loved ones. May they be enjoying the eternal banquet in the company of God and all his angels.



Over the last year the area of Clement Park has lost a considerable number of highly respected members of the parish and the local community. Please keep this tight knit community in your prayers as they come to terms with the loss of so many of their loved ones.

The Alpha course continues this Sunday at 12 noon in Upper Church Hall ...don't worry if you've missed this course next one coming shortly in the New Year...

Alpha



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.

Parish Leadership Team— I continue to meet with the Parish Leadership Team weekly for 2 hours of prayer, discernment, planning and decision making. The Leadership Team comprises Jim Murphie (trainee deacon); James Milne, Marian Milne and Anne Hampton. To give you a flavour of what we are about please see the minutes of our last meeting below:

- Discussion on Divine Renovation three keys supplemented with the video.
- Discussion on Alpha and its successor programme. Was noted the importance of continuing formation with the next programme. Later discussion on disagreements and how to deal with it within the context of Alpha.
- Discussion on Sycamore possibly being used during advent.
- Discussion on RCIA: RCIA to possibly involve Bp. Robert Barron's Catholicism. The importance of continuing the prayer ministry elements from Alpha was noted. RCIA team to be formed.
- Discussion on possible new charitable causes for the parish to contribute. Possibilities: sponsoring a girls' school in Pakistan, local projects, SCIAF's well projects. Was noted that the parish already supports numerous charities including Wells.
- Discussion on holiday cover and the funerals that took place while Fr Jim was absent.
- Discussion on Hall restoration. Year planner put in sacristy for the Hall bookings.
- Discussion on liturgy rota, still only one reader for the vigil mass. PowerPoint team doing well.
- Discussion on Feast of Christ the King. Father Jim to investigate. Sentiment shared that rushing it is not ideal as only two weeks to go.
- Discussion on prayers before mass. Suggested that priest, servers, readers etc all to come into sacristy 10 minutes before mass to prepare in prayer. Agreed that altar server prayers used before mass.
- Discussion on parish social events. Jack the Ripper to go ahead on the 17th of November. Three weeks given for Christmas dinner menu.
- Discussion on parish council. Father Jim to ask Ann Creegan to chair the meeting as he will not be available.
- Discussion on Church sign, poorly positioned, not very visible at all.

New Liturgy Rota available and will be starting 5th 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. 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

<https://www.sciaf.org.uk/get-involved/appeals/579-israeli-palestinian-emergency-appeal>



From the Bishops' Conference of Scotland: May the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Peace, grant us peace, and we pray for all the victims, for those who are injured, and we also pray for all those who offer sacrifices for the good of the people in the Holy Land, especially those who tirelessly pray for the small Christian community in the Gaza Strip."

Malachy and Gloria would like to invite you to an afternoon of Celebration for his 40th Birthday, Gloria's Graduation, and 3 year anniversary of his online ministry. The afternoon will start with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3pm in St Mary's Lochee on this Friday (24th), followed by a reception in the Upper Hall. Come let's give thanks to God.

Thanks to all those who helped with the Christmas Fayre, and The People V's Jack the Ripper. As well as helping the parish financially these events are wonderful for building community and reaching out to the wider community.



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.