



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."

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING (YEAR A)

First Reading—Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

As for you, my sheep, I will judge between sheep and sheep.

Responsorial Psalm

His goodness shall follow me always, the end of my days.

Second Reading—Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!. Alleluia!

Gospel—Matthew 25:31-46

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

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

This Sunday we celebrate Catholic Education with children from St Mary's P.S. & St John's H.S. leading our Sunday Liturgy. Please keep all the teachers, support staff and pupils in our Catholic Schools in your prayers.

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: Joseph George Murray, Loretta Stuart, Grazia Wood, Molly McBain, Jane McKernie, Eileen Marra, Paul Stewart and Jim Carlin; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ian Irons, Purves Blyth, Leonie Stanton, Peter Timmons, Miranda-Lynette Kelly, & Frances McKernie. 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: 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, Wendy Birnie, Margaret Burke, & Lyn McIntyre (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 for Jim Carlin (past president of St Matthew's SVDP conference) on Wednesday 6th December at 10am in St Mary's.



We conclude the Month of November, the Month of the Holy Souls, by entrusting them to God's mercy.

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: £1,456 Restoration Fund: £3,083 (including Jack the Ripper £366; Christmas Fayre £1154; £1000 Donation; Mary Millar Funeral Collection £157; Harry Grieve Funeral Collection £406).

Special Collection today for **SCES** (Scottish Catholic Education Service).

Next Sunday: Special Collection for the Poor Mission Fund (a fund available for the less well-off parishes in the diocese)

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.

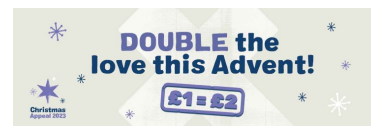
St Mary's Restoration Fund: 200 Club: Congratulations to this week's winner Jim Low (52)

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

Mary's Meals - Double the Love: From 22 November 2023 to 22 January 2024, donations made to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1 million. There are many ways to give, including our gift cards and e-cards. Find out more at marysmeals.org.uk.

This Advent, the same applies to **SCIAF**, donations will be matched up to £83,500 so your gift can make an even greater impact. <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/donate>



From Ann Creegan: A big 'Thank You' to everyone who donated items, gave of their time, and supported our Christmas Fayre. The grand sum of just over £1200 was raised. Thanks also to those who organised refreshments for the Ripper. The final total collected for The People V's Jack the Ripper was £670. Many thanks to Michael & Fraser Mulford.

St Mary's Christmas Sock Appeal for the homeless. Box at rear of Church.

Dates for your calendar:

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.

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 for 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

GLANCING THOUGHTS — EMBODIED LOVE

The [Gospel](#) reading for this week is very rich. It invites us to reflect on the difference between true love and its false imitation, between real Christianity and its fake lookalike. It encourages us to exercise ourselves in the care of all God's children. It prompts us to reflect on all the different kinds of hunger there are in the world, and the very different kinds of feeding those various hungers require.

These are all good things to ponder, but there is still more to see. Here is one more thing.

Think about what it is for God himself to be incarnate. A human woman took the Lord to her breast and suckled him there. The apostle John reclined by the Lord and laid his head on the bosom of the Lord. A woman washed the Lord's feet with her tears, and a woman rubbed his feet with lotion. How did those people get so lucky? Of all the millions and millions of God's people, how can it be that so few touched God in the flesh, that only one woman anointed his feet? Wouldn't you have liked to be among these very lucky people?

It is good to have a God who enters human history, but anything in history is local, constrained in time and space, cut off from so many things that aren't right here, right now. How can it be that only those few people, who were there then with Jesus, had access to the Lord flesh to flesh? In desperately sad and stricken moments, what wouldn't you yourself have given to lay your weary head on the breast of your Lord?

The answer to these questions and the consolation that the questions seek is in the [Gospel](#) reading: whatever you did to one of the least of my own, the Lord says, you did it to me.

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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.

"We are all wounded. Take those wounds to the Eucharist. Every time you go to a Eucharist, stand by an altar, and receive communion, bring your helplessness and paralysis to God, ask God to touch your body, your heart, your memory, your bitterness, your lack of self-confidence, your self-absorption, your weaknesses, your impotence. Bring your aching body and heart to God. Express your helplessness in simple, humble words: Touch me. Take my wounds. Take my paranoia. Make me whole. Give me forgiveness. Warm my heart. Give me the strength that I cannot give myself." Rolheiser OMI

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.

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.

Journeying towards Jesus in Advent—come and prepare for Christmas with like-minded people after Sunday Mass in the Upper Hall (12 Noon until 1pm) preceded by soup & a roll; and the Session will be repeated each Weds 7pm in Lower Hall. An ideal way to get into the real spirit of Christmas.

Session 1: Sunday 3rd December— Preparing for the end: the 1st week of advent explores the theme of the end of the world. We will reflect on Jesus' teaching on the last Judgement, which kindly coaches his followers how to prepare for the end time.

Session 2: Sunday 10th December—In the 2nd week of Advent we will look at the figure of John the Baptist, the wild man from the wilderness, who stands between the hidden life of Jesus and his public ministry.

Session 3: Sunday 17th December— For the 3rd week of Advent we will journey with Joseph as he faces six interruptions in his life. We watch this gentle man follow his dreams as his life is diverted to take new roads.

Session 4: Sunday 24th December—We conclude our Advent journey with a reflection on the birth of Christ and its significance for us today. **All are welcome no previous experience necessary.**

The Alpha course finishes 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.

LOCHEE HARP CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

Following last year's success, the Harp are again appealing for the donation of suitable toys and gifts in aid of the children at St Mary's P.S.

Donations can be dropped off at New Beechwood Park, Lundie Avenue on Thursday evenings between 6.30-8.00pm or alternatively, collections can be arranged by messaging the club on its social media accounts.

The Appeal will be open until 19th December and then all toys and gifts received will be taken to St Mary's for the Head Teacher and staff to distribute as appropriate.'

Loss and Damage: a Call to Action

At COP26 in Glasgow, one of the biggest disappointments was the failure to agree a fund for Loss and Damages. Countries which are most vulnerable to climate change and yet the least responsible, need financial support from industrialised countries who were, and continue to be, responsible for gas emissions. A Dialogue was set-up to continue the conversation. At COP27 in Egypt no conclusion was brought to this dialogue. Now is the moment for world leaders to take responsibility for the damage caused by climate change especially affecting the smallest and most vulnerable countries. COP28 in the United Arab Emirates should not be mere talk but take decisive action to create a robust fund to aid those struggling with climate change that threatens their very existence. *May those taking part in the Conference be strategists capable of considering the common good and the future of their children, more than the short-term interests of certain countries or businesses. In this way, may they demonstrate the nobility of politics and not its shame.* (Laudate Deum 60) I pray that the hearts and consciences of all participants will be sensitive and open to the cries of the poor and weak and I entrust them to the intercession of St Andrew, our patron saint, on whose feast day COP28 will begin in Dubai.

Archbishop William Nolan
President of Justice and Peace

New Liturgy Rota available for Sunday Morning Mass, and Welcome Rotas for both Masses. 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.

The Vigil Mass needs more readers and cantors so this weekend Marian Milne will be available before and after the Vigil Mass to enlist people to the various ministries of reader, cantor, welcomer, gift bearer. Please be generous in your response.

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."

Christmas Greetings in the Newsletter.

Rather than distribute cards to all your friends in the parish simply put a message in the newsletter. For example: 'Mr & Mrs Clause wish all their friends a White Christmas', or 'Bob and Jean Smith pray their friends and family have a Blessed Christmas'. This will be done to raise money for the Christmas Flowers, so please pop your message in an envelope along with a donation and drop in the collection plate. Any surplus cash will be kept for flowers in ordinary time. 'Fr Jim wishes all the generous people of St Mary's Lochee a reflective Advent followed by a joyous Christmas.'



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.