



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."

14th January, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

First Reading—Samuel 3:3-10,19

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening

Responsorial Psalm

Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

Second Reading—Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20

Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

Gospel—John 1:35-42

They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.

Communion Refrain

**We come to share our story, we come to break the bread,
we come to know our rising from the dead.**

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 week:

Restoration Steering Group meet on Friday 19th January at 4pm in Church Hall. Many thanks to all those who contribute to this group and the essential work of St Mary's Restoration Project.

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Stella Johnson, Jean Harris, Stephen Harper, Brian Moore, Stephen Drummond, Kerry McFadyen, Linda Watson, Gabriel Denis, Trevor White, Terry Proctor, Tony Sule, Brian Lawrence, Pearl Marshal, Betty Alexander, Muriel Cashley, Frances Smith; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Reilly; Jim, Betty and Graham Gilchrist; Kathleen Murray, James Walls; Susan Cassidy and Veronica Tennant. 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: Ann Reilly, Jo Duncan, Anne McCluskey, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Tom Brown, Cathy McDonald, Brian Murray, Chick Whytock, Wendy Birnie, Margaret Ann Young, George Charles Milne, Allan Gourlay and Agnes Mulligan. (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: Pearl Marshal, **St Mary's Lochee**, Reception of Remains Thursday 18th at 4.30pm, Funeral Mass Friday 19th at 10am.

Brian Moore, St Andrew's Cathedral, Reception of Remains Thursday 18th at 4.30pm, Funeral Mass Friday 19th at 12.30pm.



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

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www.youtube.com/@StMarysLochee Parish Website - www.stmaryslochee.org.uk

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

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

Finance Matters: Last week's collection: £1257 Restoration Fund: £ 714 (including £700—'Buy a Brick' scheme)

Last week's **second collection for Justice and Peace £306**

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, Emily Murphy (65).

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>



Dates for your calendar:

St Joseph's 150th Anniversary Mass on Thursday 18th January 2024 at 6pm. All are welcome to this sacred milestone.

Burns Afternoon: Thursday 25th January, 1-4pm, Tickets £5 (available in the New Year).

Dunkeld Serra: The next Holy Hour (6pm) and Holy Mass(7pm) to pray for Vocations and for our priests is Tuesday 30th January in The Immaculate Conception, Lochee.

Godspell (a St Mary's P.S. production); Weds 7th, Thurs 8th, Fri 9th February. Raising funds for St Mary's Restoration. Tickets on sale soon.

Steve Murray (Retired Football Player) will give a talk in St Mary's Hall on **Friday 9th February at 7pm** based on his experiences with Celtic, Dundee, Aberdeen and Scotland. Steve was lucky enough to play under Jock Stein and alongside Jimmy Johnstone etc and has many amusing anecdotes. The talk will mirror a match with two 45 minute halves and a 15 minute break. Come and hear Steve speak about, 'The beautiful game.' **Tickets £10** available at the back of Church before or after Mass from George Creegan.

Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes—on **Monday 12th of February** in St Mary's Lochee, we are celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes with Holy Mass at 7pm

Parish Council Meeting—the next meeting will be on Thursday 29th February 2024 at 7pm.

Regular Events—Weekly:

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.

The **Parish Leadership Team** meets every Monday outside holidays. This team helps me to make good decisions for the parish.

Monthly:

Serra Mass: first Tuesday of the Month, 6pm Adoration, 7pm Mass for Vocations.

Taizé Holy Hour: last Thursday of the Month, 7pm Adoration, Silence, Chants and Scripture.

Diocesan Events

St Clements & St Ninians, Pilgrimage and Leisure Trip to India 2024—8-23rd November. For further info please contact Fr Johny or Therese Devlin 07813051689 email therese@devlinproperties.co.uk

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 **LOURDES 2024 NURSING TEAM** Are you a Registered Nurse who could help in a Nursing role,? Fares for 2024 will be part subsidised. Please email mrskimberleyblack@hotmail.com or call Kimberley 07947837289 if interested.

GLANCING THOUGHTS—WHO'S CALLING

In the First Reading, Samuel, who was still young, was waked up by hearing his name called in the night. He thought that the person calling him was Eli, the old priest whom Samuel served. But Samuel was wrong in thinking this. It was the Lord calling.

God had to call three times before the experienced old priest Eli tumbled to the fact that it was God who was calling Samuel. God had to call four times before Samuel finally answered by saying, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

Who would believe this story? Wouldn't you suppose that if God called you, you would know something very special had happened? Who would believe that God could call you and you wouldn't recognize that you were having a wild, spooky, religious experience? Who would believe that you could get the voice of God confused with the voice of the old guy in the neighboring room?

The answer is, 'Eli'. That is, in the story, it is the wise old priest who believes these things. It is Eli who understands that you can be in direct contact with God and still not know that it is God who is talking to you.

But if God's voice can be confused with some ordinary voice, how does Eli know, how does Samuel know, how does anyone know that it is God calling?

The answer is that you can't know until you are willing to listen. God doesn't force monologues on the unwilling. He invites to conversation. When Samuel is ready to tell God that he is willing to listen, then the real connection between God and Samuel begins.

The connection, that starts with that willingness of Samuel's, grows into a friendship that is rightly described this way: the Lord was with Samuel. At that point, no one at all could miss the fact that it was God who had called Samuel.

And so here is one moral of the story in the First Reading. The voice of God can be anywhere, in any guise. It isn't thunder and lightning or extraordinary psychic happenings that connect a person to God. Rather, it is the willingness to listen, to trust and obey, that makes the Lord known to you.

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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.

Baptism Preparation Course: runs for 4 Sunday's of February; starting Sunday 4th February. This course helps parents engage with the church prior to their child's baptism.

This course is for parents looking to have their child baptised in St Mary's.

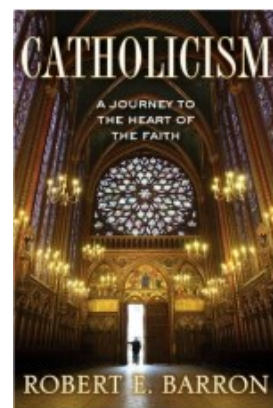
During the baptism itself the parents/guardians of the child are asked : 'You have asked to have your child baptised in doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her *in the practise of the faith*. It will be your duty to bring her/him up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are doing?' And the parents respond: 'We do'.

'*In the practise of the faith*' principally means bringing the child to Mass. This is a promise to God that shouldn't be taken lightly, however, it has been my experience that the majority of parents seldom bring their child to Church again. In essence this is a lie at the heart of what it means to be Church, and has exacerbated the decline of the Church in the Western World. To help those presenting their child for baptism to truly live the promises they make during baptism this course will explore the Baptismal Rite and the commitments that the parents/guardians are taking on. It will also enable the families to get to know each other and create a sense of belonging, and most importantly to have a genuine experience of God. Please pray that this course encourages real faithful commitment to Jesus and His Church in all those who participate.

If you're thinking about joining the Church....
'Catholicism' by Bishop Barron continues this Sunday in Upper Hall at 12 Noon.

This week focuses on 'The mystical union of Christ and the Church.'

It is designed to help those thinking about joining the Church however would benefit anyone seeking to deepen their understanding of the faith.



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We're funding repairs to your church.



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.

Are you or someone you know feeling like you can't go on?

Are you struggling to see a way ahead?

Hope Point, Dundee Wellbeing Support is open **day & night**

Let us help you stay safe and together find a way to positively solve the difficulties you are facing.

Phone, text or face to face.

There is always help.
There is always hope.

Call: 0800 955 0008

Text: 01382 604 123

4 South Ward Road, Dundee, DD1 1PN



<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."



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.

Ministries Day Saturday 24th February

Starting with Mass and Adoration at 10am.

Practice Sessions for all those involved as Readers, Cantors, Welcomers, and Altar Servers.

Finishing with packed lunch at 12.30pm.

Please make every effort to attend if you serve in one of these ministries, and come along if you think you might be able to get involved.

Leadership Team—Request.

At the Leadership Team on Monday we discussed the need for having refreshments after the Reception of Somebody's Remains. This would allow families a pleasant environment in which to share memories (an important part of the grieving processes) and allow the parish to show hospitality. If you are interested in being involved in this ministry please contact Fr Jim or any other member of the Leadership Team.

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 deepens 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.

Teas and Coffee after the Sunday 10.30am Mass have proven a huge success. Its popularity means that we require more people to help so that a rota can be put in place. Please speak to Janice Hearn, Lyn Smith or Fr Jim so that this enjoyable time can continue.

St Mary's Restoration Wall 2023-24 is now located in the entrance of the Church. To purchase a brick please speak with either Ged Fitzpatrick or Alison Houston before or after Mass. The wall will find a permanent location once all the bricks are purchased either in the Church Entrance or Church Hall.

Family Ceilidh

All are welcome to a Family Ceilidh in St Mary's Church Hall on **Friday 26th January, 6-9pm.**

There will be Scottish dancing, poetry, music as well as music and dancing from other cultures. Traditional food and drink will be available.

Please submit names/items for this newsletter no later than Thursday evening to

stmaryslochee@dunkelldioocese.org.uk