



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."

18th February, 1st Sunday in Lent (B)

First Reading—Genesis 9:8-15

God's covenant with Noah after he had saved him from the waters of the flood.

Responsorial Psalm

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading—Peter 3:18-22

That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel—Mark 1:12-15

Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Jacqueline McDonald, Rose Brown, Barbara Davie, John Long, Joseph Callaghan, Margaret Gethins, Mary Agnes Malone, Harry Bolland and Joe Carrol and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Jimmy Carroll, Mary Tinney, Alice Kely, Martin Boag, Catherine Folan, Ellen (Keenan) Squire, Louise Hayes, George Stephen, Anna & Alex Small and Angela Fortuna. 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: George Charles Milne, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Tom Brown, Martin Conroy, Billy Higgins, Margaret Turner, Fiona Kieth, Jim Gibson, Agnes Mulligan, Jo Duncan, Chic Whytock, Wendy Birnie, Margaret Souter, Cathy McDonald and Margaret Ann Young. (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 at St Mary's: Harry Bolland, Reception Monday 19th @ 6pm, Funeral Tues 20th @ 10am;
Funerals elsewhere: St Andrew's Cathedral, Margaret Gethins, Reception Sun 18th @ 4.30pm, Funeral Mass Mon 19th @ 10am; St Pius X, Mary Agnes Malone, Reception Sun 25th @ 6pm, Funeral Mass Mon 26th @ 11.30am.
May they rest in peace.

Sacred Liturgy Schedule

Vigil Mass at 4.30pm.

Sunday Mass 10.30am (livestreamed)
(refreshments after Mass in hall...all welcome)

Mon - Sat Mass 10am

Confessions:

Saturday 10.30-11am

Saturday 3.30pm-4pm

9.20am Stations of the Cross 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



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AGNUS DEI



The above 2 Mass parts will be used during Lent.

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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: £1,474 Restoration Fund: £3,166—(including brick money, Steve Murray ticket sales and donations).

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

Today's Special Collection is for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund.

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, Joan Robertson (15).

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:

Restoration Core Group formed to liaise with Maria Ogden (Heritage Grant Consultant) and the full Restoration Steering Group. The Restoration Steering Group will continue to meet monthly in order to supervise, advise and help on St Mary's Restoration and Fundraising. These meetings will be presented with a summary of Maria's work and updates to actions will be circulated beforehand to make the meetings more concise. Thanks to all those who contribute to this vital work within the parish, and Ged Fitzpatrick for agreeing to act as a coordinator for these groups.

Restoration Core Group meeting with Maria Ogden, Friday 23rd at 11am in St Mary's chapel house.

Restoration Full group meeting in St Mary's Chapel House 4pm Friday 23rd February.

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:

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

Taizé Holy Hour: last Thursday of the Month, 6.30pm Adoration, Silence, Chants and Scripture.

Diocesan Events

The next **Cathedral Dinner** for those aged 18-30 will take place on Sunday 25th February, in the Cathedral Hall just after the 6 pm Mass. If you would like to come, please sign up to help us prepare enough food! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/mfcF1pS6nybqRa1r5>

The Episcopal Ordination of our Bishop Elect Martin Chambers will take place in St. Andrew's Cathedral on Saturday, 27th April, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. More information once we have the ticket allocation for St Mary's.

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.

Pilgrimage to Knock, Mon- Fri, 14-18 October 2024—Cost £709 (per person sharing) £909 in single room. £45 travel insurance. The cost includes return flights (Edin-Knock), 4 nights half board. For further info phone 01382 778449/ Mob: 07488276858 or 07867950633, Email: stpiusx@dunkelldiocese.org

Update for the St Clements & St Ninians, Pilgrimage and Leisure Trip to India 2024—8-23rd November. "An information evening will take place in St Clements hall on Friday 23rd February at 7pm." All welcome. For further info please contact Fr Johney or Therese Devlin 07813051689 email.therese@devlinproperties.co.uk

The Liturgical Season of Lent

The Liturgical Season of Lent prepares us for the New Life of Easter. It mirrors the natural season of Spring whereby new life slowly emerges from the damp cold earth. The solemn atmosphere of our Lenten Liturgy soaks in through our senses; and so the sanctuary is clothed in purple, with no flowers, and we use Latin chant and silence, whilst skipping the Gloria and using the Confiteor and the Kyrie, and the Apostles Creed. We will also use SCIAF's Bidding Prayers (that this year focus on Rwanda) for each of the Sunday's of Lent. Even our weekday celebrations will forego hymns and concentrate on singing the Mass Parts. Also, the Stations of the Cross will precede weekday Mass (apart from Saturdays) starting at 9.20am. All of this is so that when we gather to celebrate the Great Easter Vigil we truly experience the beauty of the Liturgy and the Risen Lord Jesus.

To enhance our experience of fasting during Lent we will dispense with the closing hymn and process out in silence.

Also, in discussion with the Leadership Team we have decided that all those ministers involved with our Saturday Vigil or Sunday Morning Mass should gather in the sacristy 10 minutes before Mass for a short prayer and to make sure that all are present. This includes the Eucharistic Minister, Readers, Cantors and Servers. Lastly, during Lent faith sharing sessions using Sr Joyce Rupp's 'Cup of our Life' will take place after both the Vigil Mass and Sunday Morning Mass in the Church Hall, to which all are warmly welcome.

Joyce Rupp's 'Cup of our Life' is an exceptional programme for spiritual growth whilst providing beautiful reflections for each day of Lent and material for weekly group meetings. The basic premise is to imagine ourselves as a cup being filled with God's grace and pouring it out in love for others, however, each week focuses upon a different facet of the cup: Week 1—The Cup of Life; Week 2—The Open Cup; Week 3—The Chipped Cup; Week 4—The Broken Cup; Week 5—The Cup of Compassion; and, Week 6 -The Cup of Blessing. I highly recommend this course, and look forward to sharing with you through Lent the wonders of our God. Please bring along a cup that means something to you. The book is readily available on the internet, or there are some for sharing.

Also in Lent...a morning for Ministers of the Liturgy...

Ministries Morning

It is important that all those who serve as ministers in the Church regularly attend ongoing formation to properly perform their ministry.



CANTORS

Saturday 24th February

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

Programme: 9.30am Rosary; 10am Mass; 10.30 Adoration (with opportunity for confession); 11am Cup of tea; 11.30am Workshops; 12.30 Packed lunch.

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.

Faith Sharing Groups

after the Vigil and Sunday Morning Masses in St Mary's Church Hall. All are welcome...no previous experience necessary. Material provided weekly. Come along and prepare for Easter...filling your cup with God's grace...



Baptism Preparation Course continues this week with the children being presented during Mass to St Mary's community by their parents/guardians. This echoes Jesus being presented in the Temple by his mum and step-father. It is a public declaration by the parents/guardians that they are willing to be active members of St Mary's bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do, and by bringing their child up in the practice of the faith through regular attendance at Sunday Mass.



SCIAF: WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR WEE BOX? This Lent, use your WEE BOX to make a BIG CHANGE in the lives of our sisters and brothers overseas, especially women and girls in Rwanda.

If you don't yet have a WEE BOX at home, please pick one up today, visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox or call 0141 354 5555.



WEE BOX Prayer

Loving Father, Merciful God, we worship you. You are a mighty God, far above the sin of this world, yet you choose to show compassion to each of us because you love us. We remember the country of Rwanda. Bring your comfort on those who live with trauma and suffering, and bring your healing power in their lives. Help us understand the ways of Jesus better, so that we can show love in action to our sisters and brothers across the world. Amen



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.

The Rainbow and the Goodness of God

In the First Reading, God gives Noah the rainbow as a reassuring sign of God's goodness: he will never again do what he has just done. God will never again destroy everything with a flood.

But why isn't it bad enough that God did it once? God brought it about that every human being, except for Noah and his small family, died by drowning in one great natural catastrophe. Where is the goodness of God in the story of the flood?

Well, here is one way to think about God's action.

Consider the medical treatment for certain fatal cancers. For those deadly diseases, doctors can try to save the patient with an autologous bone marrow transplant. The doctor takes bone marrow from the patient and hunts for any cells that are not cancerous. He saves those healthy cells, but he kills the cancerous ones. Then he clones the healthy cells and puts them back into the patient. By this painful measure, there is a chance that the doctor can save the life of his patient.

In the story of the flood, God tries the analogue of this same procedure on the human race, doomed to die because of sin. God takes a few morally healthy human beings and puts them into a new world, to reproduce there. The morally sick and destructive population of the old world dies in God's flood.

But, you might think, what dies in the treatment for cancer is only cells. What died in the flood is human beings!

True, but notice this other difference between the medical treatment and the flood. In the flood, the selection between the sick and the healthy people is made by the people themselves. Those who aren't on Noah's boat don't want to be on it. To get on the boat, they would have to acknowledge their sins and accept God's means to safety. If they repented they would be among the healthy, the righteous invited on the boat. But this is what they refuse to do.

The boat is there for those who don't refuse it. And, as the Gospel reading makes plain, that boat is always there, in Christ, who saves all those who do not reject him.

And so the rainbow is a sign of the goodness of God, who calls everyone to salvation

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On behalf to the people who receive food from St Mary's Door, many thanks to The Lee Walker Celtic Supporters Club who once again have donated 17 bags of shopping. A great witness of Christian charity.

People gathered from all over the Diocese to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. May all those who devote time and energy to the various Lourdes pilgrimages experience God's grace, peace and strength.



Thanks to all of those who donate food and toiletries for distribution from the Church House Door. Please don't be shy to approach a member of **The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul (SVDP)** or Fr Jim in confidence.

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 of Fr Jim so that this enjoyable time can continue.

The Parish's thanks to the Grieve Family (and the Logie Club) for donating the **£1,000 raised during the Harry Grieve Memorial Pool Competition** Weekend to St Mary's Restoration Fund.

The Parish's profound thanks to Stevie Murray for giving a talk about his football career which raised £1320 for St Mary's Restoration Project.

Thanks also to two anonymous donors who gifted £1,000 to the Restoration Fund, and £700 to St Anthony's Bread for food for the needy.

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.

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.



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