



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.

17th March, 5th Sunday in Lent (B)

First Reading—Jeremiah 31:31-34— I will make a new covenant and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm—A pure heart create for me, O God.

Second Reading—Hebrews 5:7-9—He learnt to obey and became the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation—Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Gospel—John 12:20-33—If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

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

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47



Main Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday Procession with Palm Branches into Church prior to Sunday Masses.

Tuesday 6pm Penitential Service with General Absolution (+individual confession)

Wednesday 7pm St Andrew's Cathedral, Chrism Mass.

Holy Thursday—7pm **Mass of the Last Supper with feet washing.**

Good Friday—3pm **The Lord's Passion with kissing of the Cross.**

Holy Saturday—8.30pm **The Easter Vigil with the Liturgy of Light.**

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: James Thomson Arthur Harvey and Irene Duffy Braken and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Veronica Assenti, Carlo Assenti, James Goodman, Stephen Keenan, Mark Vannet, David & Nan Hynd, Stephen Keenan, Mark Vannet, Mary Love, Irma Cabrelli, Justin Markie, Kevan Quinn and Sandy Duncan. May they rest in peace.

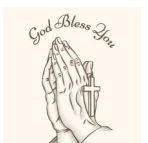
Prayers for the sick: Please continue to remember the sick and the terminally ill in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists: Fiona Keith, Margaret Turner, Billy Higgins, Billy McDonald, Ann Reilly, Margaret Burke, Scott Lyons, Agnes Mulligan, Gillian Boland, Lesley Ianetta, Loraine Anderson, Angus MacAulay, Jim Gibson, Martin Conroy, Chic Whytock, Wendy Birnie, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Cathy McDonald and Ann McCann. (this list is cleared each calendar month). Please send any names for these lists to the parish email address or add them to the list in foyer.

Funerals at St Mary's: James Thomson, Funeral Mass, Tues 19th March @ 10am;

Arthur Harvey (late husband of Cathy Harvey) Funeral Service (not Mass) Tues 19th March @ 1.30pm;

Dorris Easton, Reception, Weds 20th March @ 6.30pm.

freepik.com



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

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

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: £1381 Restoration Fund: £17—(donations).

Last Week's Special Collection for Papal & Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF) —£509

Last week's Cake and Candy Sale & Mothers' Day Tombola for SCIAF— £350

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, R. Robertson (95).

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:

Alpha Course begins Sunday 14th April at 12 Noon in Upper Hall. Please make an effort to attend.

Parish Workers Social—Friday 19th April

Ceilidh in aid of Restoration Fund—Friday 17th May

Aiming High—play by Gerry and Clare Fulton—Friday 24th May 7pm

Regular Events—Weekly:

Prayers for Parish Renewal —Every Thursday after Mass in St Mary's—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for a renewal of faith and missionary fervour in our parish. 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: Note change of date for March as last Tuesday falls during Holy week. Mass for vocations and prayers for our priests will be on Tuesday, 9th April. Holy hour at 6pm followed by Mass at 7pm.

Taizé Holy Hour: as last Thursday of the Month is Holy Thursday this will be rearranged.

Diocesan Events

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.

Cecilian Choir Charity Concert 22nd May, St Mary's Lochee, Church Hall.

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

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

Renew your faith in Jesus via...

The Alpha course starting Sunday April 14th in St Mary's Upper Church Hall at Noon.

Alpha is a great way to explore and deepen your faith, and to develop the courage to pass it on. Why not come along and invite a friend.

Please sign up at the back of church, or just come along.



The Governance of the Parish

As parish priest I am ultimately responsible for the running of St Mary's, Parish, however, I cannot do this alone with any great effectiveness given the size of the parish and the renovation project currently underway. Also, moving the parish from 'maintenance to mission' requires good leadership but also collaborative ministry from every single parishioner.

To help move the parish from maintenance to mission I have enlisted the help of James Murphie (trainee deacon), Marian Milne (sacristan); Moira Leck; James Milne and Anne Hampton. These faithful parishioners form the Parish Leadership Team whom I meet every Monday for 2 hours to discuss what's going on in the parish and decisions that have to be made.

This does not mean that the Parish Council is defunct, however, it does mean that it's primary function is reporting to me what's happening in the parish.

Another important aspect of Parish Administration at this time is management of the Restoration Project. This has evolved over the last year to entail a Restoration Steering Group (a large group involved with fundraising, advertising and liaising with partner groups) and a Restoration Core Group (a small group that liaises with Maria Ogden [grant consultant] and then feeds back to the larger group. Without the help of all those people in the Leadership Team, Parish Council, Restoration Steering Group and Restoration Core Group it would be impossible to run St Mary's. At this juncture we also need to acknowledge the support of the Diocesan Curia especially John O'Meara (Diocesan Property Manager) and Melissa Walton (Diocesan Accountant). If you feel that you have any skills that could be used in the running of St Mary's please speak with Fr Jim, or any member of the Leadership Team.

MINISTRY OF CANTOR

Thanks to all those who took part in the Ministries Morning.

The feedback from the workshop leaders was positive.

Suggestions that came from the Readers group that will be adopted:

- Readers sit together at the front and after reading go back to their own place.
- Two seats have been placed behind the Lectern for the cantor and 2nd reader.
- The following Sunday's readings will be noted in the Newsletter. Readers' bow to the priest on approaching the altar, and to the altar with the priest when leaving.
- Reading at a slow pace is best.
- A readers' night will be arranged in the Church for practice and feedback. This will take place Tues 19th March at 7pm in St Mary's Church. **All readers please attend** as this will assure uniformity in practice.

Welcome Ministers' workshop after Mass on Sunday 17th March. Could all Welcomers please attend.

'Among the many signs n symbols used by the Church to celebrate its faith, music is of pre-eminent importance. As sacred song, united to the words, it forms an integral part of the liturgy' (*Music in Catholic Worship*).

The ministry of Cantor is to sing the verses of the Responsorial Psalm and Gospel Acclamation and to lead the people in singing the Antiphon. It is not like a soloist entertaining an audience: the role of the Cantor is to communicate, to lead, to facilitate – the Cantor's role is to lead the people in prayer at that point in the liturgy.

We need to build up a bank of people who can be Cantors at Mass and to make up a rota (just like Readers and Eucharistic Ministers), to assist those who already give their time and talents to this ministry and spread the load a little.

If Ministry of Cantor is something you would like to try or you would like to find out more about it, please come forward to the organ after Sunday Mass and speak to Karen (organist) or Jim (trainee Deacon).

St Mary's Lochee was made for mission.

After all, Jesus didn't give the Church a mission — He gave his mission a Church. The trouble is (and this is hard to hear), most parishes are living through an identity crisis: they've forgotten their purpose.

And so congregations are shrinking.

Parishes are aging.

Priests are discouraged and disengaging.

But that's not the end of the story. **Resurrection is.**

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, you can bring life back to your parish and people to Jesus. Amen.

...think Alpha...think new life...think a flourishing parish bringing people joyfully to Jesus...God loves big dreamers!



Glancing Thoughts—Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

In the Gospel, some Greeks ask to see Jesus. Jesus responds by saying that anyone who loves his life will lose it. To gain your life, you have to be like a grain of wheat: it brings forth much fruit only by falling into the earth and dying.

The Greeks must have been baffled. What has this speech of Jesus' got to do with their request to see him?

But consider those Greeks. They accord Jesus rock star status. They don't even ask to talk to the great man. They want only to see him. And they don't dare come to Jesus directly. They just approach one of his friends, Philip, and they call Philip "Kyrie," that is to say, "Lord." Even Lady Gaga's groupies wouldn't call one of her friends, "Lord," would they?

Jesus' response helps those Greeks to see him—the true Lord, not the rock star the Greeks were looking for. The true Lord did not come to get status and power. He came to lose his life, to fall and die, like a grain of wheat.

The point is made emphatically at the end of Jesus' response to the Greeks. He ends with a prayer: "Father," he prays, "glorify your name." Jesus, the true Lord and not the rock star, came to seek God's glory. He did not come to seek not his own.

The final part of the lesson for the Greeks, and for us, comes in God's response to Jesus' prayer. God honors Jesus by answering his prayer out loud: "I have glorified My name, and I will glorify it again!"

"This voice didn't come for my sake, but for yours," Jesus tells the awed bystanders. God's voice came to finish the lesson: God honors those who seek to honor him.

True glory lies not in rock star status, then, but, on the contrary, in being willing to fall and die like a grain of wheat. It lies in being willing to let go, to lose one's life in this world in love for the glory of God's name.

And so the Greeks do get what they asked for. In the response of Jesus to them, they, and we, see the true Lord, and with the true Lord the pattern for racing for glory in our lives, too. Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Copyright © 2024, Eleonore Stump. All Rights Reserved. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce for personal or parish use.

Think Vocations 2024—5th Sunday of Lent

Some Greek visitors asked to see Jesus. As a priest, deacon or religious you might be the person who brings people to Jesus, to see and know him, through your life, your work, your preaching.

Speak to your local Vocations Director (Fr Jim Walls) or visit the *Priests for Scotland website* - (<https://priestsforScotland.org.uk>) or our [Facebook](#) pages ([PFS](#) or [VocationNetworkScotland](#)).

Faith Sharing Groups after the Sunday Morning Mass 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...

<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

The Architects have now provided us with a timetable for Phase 1 of the Restoration Project: the Exterior of the Church. Work is due to start in August 2024 with the majority of the work being completed by March 2025.

Phase 2 would be the hall; Phase 3 the interior of the church; and Phase 4 the Church House.

Between September 9th and 11th Forgotten Skills Workshops will take place at St Mary's involving pupils from 3 local Secondary Schools.

A Church Maintenance Course will be hosted by St Mary's on Wednesday 25th September and led by the project architect.

Thanks to those who hosted Professor Graham Morton and students from Dundee University who visited St Mary's on Friday and learned about the Social History of the Lochee.

REFLECT WITH SCIAF. This Lent, your prayers and donations are making a BIG difference to people in Rwanda and around the world. As you prepare for Easter, SCIAF have created several prayers and reflections to use as part of your Lenten worship. Please visit sciaf.org.uk/resources

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.

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.

