



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.

7th April, 2nd Sunday of Easter (B)

First Reading—Acts 4:32-35

United, heart and Soul.

Responsorial Psalm

Give thanks to the lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Second Reading—John 5:1-6

Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Gospel Acclamation—Alleluia, Alleluia! Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. Alleluia!"

Gospel—John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came.

Sacred Liturgy Schedule

Vigil Mass at 4.30pm.

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

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat Mass 10am

Weds 10am Eucharistic Service

Confessions:

Saturday 10.30-11am

Saturday 3.30pm-4pm

9.20am The 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

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Psalm 4; John 2:1-5; Luke 24:35-48

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.



Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Jim Gibson, Patrick Peoples, Billy McDonald, Sarah Reid, Rosemary McCaffrey, Mark Jamieson, Agnes Mohammed and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frank McCabe (Snr), John Lynch, Elizabeth Lynch, Mary Whyte, Harry Whyte, Betty Bryce, Martin Bryon, Patrick Monteith, Stella Stewart, Elizabeth (McLaren) Reilly, Barbara Cossans and Donna Marie Culloch. 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, Jim Lowden, Martin Conroy, Elizabeth Keeping, Wendy Birnie, Kathleen McDonald, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Angus McCallum and Scott Lyons (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: Patrick Peoples, Funeral Mass, Friday 12th April @ 10am;

Rosemary McCaffrey, Funeral Mass, Monday 22nd April @ 10am;

Funerals Elsewhere: Agnes Mohammed, Funeral Service, Tuesday 16th April @ 11.30am Ashtons Cardean Street;

Sarah Glen Reid, Thursday 25th April @ 12.30pm in Dundee Crematorium;

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: £1762 Restoration Fund: £206 SCIAF Wee Boxes: £364

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, Dave Tillen (115).

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

Dear Lord, thank you for providing for the needs of the parish, please keep us focused on your real treasure living amongst us: the poor.
St Vincent De Paul and St Francis pray for us.

Dates for your calendar:

Dunkeld Serra—Tuesday 9th April, at St Mary's Lochee there will be a Holy Hour at 6pm followed by Holy Mass at 7pm to pray for an increase in priestly and religious vocations, for all those discerning a vocation and for our priests. All are invited. Following one on Tuesday 30th April.

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

Parish Workers Social—Saturday 20th April...complimentary tickets available for those who serve in the parish; please collect from the back of the church.

Ceilidh in aid of Restoration Fund—Friday 17th May; .

Aiming High—play by Gerry and Clare Fulton—Friday 24th May 7pm—tickets coming soon.

Meet and Greet with Jim Craig (Lisbon Lion) - Fri 21st June 7pm

Regular Events—Weekly:

Prayers for Parish Renewal every Thursday after Mass

Parish Leadership Team meets every Monday to help me make better decisions.

Monthly:

Dunkeld Serra last Tuesday of the Month for Vocations.

Taizé Holy Hour: Last Thursday of the Month

Many thanks to all those who those who handed in Easter gifts. They are much appreciated and I'm enjoying them very much including the many beautiful cards.
May God bless
your generosity.

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. St Mary's has received an allocation of 10 tickets. If you wish to be considered for a ticket please write your name on the list in the foyer.

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.

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

Fundraiser Notice—Dunkeld Lourdes Service.

As part of our fundraising effort we are holding a silent auction for two excellent experiences.

- Firstly a **4-Ball at Royal Troon** with snacks beforehand and a meal afterwards.
- Secondly a four people package for **Destiny Race Day at Perth Races.**

The auction lots will be open at the Dunkeld Lourdes Service Ball on Saturday 27 April 2024, bids will be accepted up until then. For further information please contact dunkeld@pobox.com or phone 07801 227 443.

St Mary's Summary Accounts 2023

Income		Expenditure	
Offertory & Gift Aid	£90,196	Priests Salary & Supply	£6,069
Candles, Flowers, Repository	£6,744	Travel & Hospitality	£3,446
Hall	£16,009	Property Costs incl. major repairs**	£133,173
Special (2nd) Collections incl. poor box	£17,432	Liturgical & Pastoral inc. papers, books, wine, flowers	£11,276
Restoration Donations received	£79,603	Special (2nd) Collections e.g. J&P, SCIAF wee boxes etc. **	£19,750
Grants Received	£9,500	Office expenses inc. stationery, printing	£8,728
Investment income	£2,142	Domestic & Establishment	£5,054
Youth Group Evangelisation	£2,850	Heat & Light ****	£13,674
	£366	General Purpose levy	£20,128
		Insurance	£3,040
		Hall running costs	£2,488
		Fundraising other	£108
Total Income	£224,842	Total Expenditure	£226,934

Balance in bank account as at 31 December 2023	£66,283
Flagstone Investment Management (banking platform)*	£86,680
Total cash at 31 December 2023	£152,962

*Ringfenced restoration fund

**Property costs include Restoration expenditure of £120,654 including temporary roof repairs to hall, church and house as well as new heating systems in the Church and House; and architect and other professional fees.

***incls. 2022 collections paid in 2023

**** **Heat and Light contracts end 30 Sept. '24 - expect increase.** 2023 contracts arranged prior to market volatility.

Restoration Fund

	Total
<u>Income</u>	
Restoration Fund donations	£79,603
Other- Investment Income	£2,142
Other - Funeral Income	£563
Total Receipts	£82,308
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Office Expenses	£148
Property Costs	£120,654
Fundraising Costs	£105
Other Payments	£75
Total Payments	£120,982
Total Surplus/ Loss	-£38,674
Balance remaining in fund at 31.12.2023	£38,189.94
Balance remaining in fund at 29.02.2024	<u>£41,673.34</u>

Thanks to the Finance Team (Irene Delaney, Pauline Johnstone & Anne Hampton) and Melissa Walton (Diocesan Accountant) for compiling these accounts. Given the reasonably complex nature of these accounts if you have any queries please contact Fr Jim to arrange an appointment.

This week St Mary's has hosted Benson Okolo, a young man from Nigeria, studying in the UK, who has expressed an interest in discerning a vocation to the priesthood in Dunkeld Diocese. As Vocations Director I also met with another two young men who have similarly expressed an interest in the priesthood. Please keep these young men in your prayers that they may truly discern God's will in their lives, and that the Church may make a good discernment also as regards their suitability. **St Ignatius of Loyola pray for them.**

Thanks to the **Companions of the Order of Malta** for once again handing in bags containing toiletries, underwear, a t-shirt, and an Easter Egg for distribution at the Church House Door. If anybody is in need please speak to Fr Jim or a member of the SVDP. Mr Sid Grant (the **SVDP Diocesan President**) will visit the parish, and make an appeal for members, over the weekend of Sat 27th/Sun 28th April.

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.

GLANCING THOUGHTS—VICTORY IS OURS

Here is what the Readings for this week claim. By his cross, Christ conquered sin; by his resurrection, he destroyed death. At Easter, we celebrate his victory with joy.

The Second Reading affirms that Christ's victory is ours. If we have faith that Jesus is the Christ, then we are begotten by God. If we are, then we conquer the world. And if we do, then we love God, we love the children of God, and we keep God's commandments obediently. In that condition, we are victorious with Christ.

But these lines in the Second Reading look like joy-destroyers, don't they? If we don't keep God's commandments, if we don't love God's children, we don't conquer the world. And if we don't conquer the world, then we aren't begotten of God. And in that case we don't really have faith. How do we have victory then?

And it gets worse.

In another place, the same Epistle says that anyone who says he doesn't have sin is a liar (I John 1:8). So it seems that there is a Catch-22 here. If you sin, you aren't victorious. You are a loser. But if you try claiming that you don't sin, you are guilty of lying, which is a sin; and so you aren't victorious in that case either.

It seems that whether you think you sin or think you don't sin, you lose. So what happened to our victory? Where is joy?

The solution is to notice what faith is. Faith is the belief that Jesus is the Christ, the one who—the one who what? Well, the one who conquers sin and death.

So here is the message from the Readings. For our part, we are saved from sin and death by believing that we are saved from sin and death—by Christ. There is no Catch-22. Even in our sinful state, where truth forces us to confess our disobedience and our failures in love, we are victorious—over the sin and death in ourselves—as long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us.

This faith is what God requires of us, and the Second Reading is right: this requirement isn't burdensome.

So here is our joy: As long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us, the victory of Christ is ours.

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SCOTTISH BISHOP RESPONDS TO THE ASSISTED DYING BILL MARCH 28, 2024 PRESS RELEASE

Bishop John Keenan said, "Liberal Democrat MSP, Liam McArthur, has today published a damaging bill which attacks human dignity and introduces a dangerous idea that a citizen can lose their value and worth.

"The Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill may refer to 'assisted dying', but this is a euphemistic term which doesn't accurately describe the reality. Assisted dying is already practised by our health professionals and organisations, in the form of palliative care. An accurate term for what the Bill seeks to legalise is assisted suicide. It is a law which will allow a doctor to provide a patient with a lethal cocktail of drugs to kill themselves.

"When vulnerable people, including the elderly, poor and disabled, express concerns about being a burden, the appropriate response is not to suggest that they have a duty to die; rather, it is to commit to meeting their needs and providing the care and compassion they need to help them live.

"This Bill has been introduced in Holy Week, when Christians reflect on the suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus, the man who is their Lord and God and showed us what it means to be truly human. Where Liam McArthur's Bill sees little point in human suffering and promotes the idea that a person's life can become so hopeless as to be no longer worthwhile, this week is a timely reminder that when we support each other in suffering it can lead to a truly dignified death and offer the best of hope and possibility for our world."

This week a new **History Sub Group** of St Mary's Restoration Committee met. This group has been formed as the parish is required to investigate, preserve, and present its historical heritage as a qualification for certain grants.

The newly formed group is full of enthusiasm, local knowledge and expertise, however it is also open to new members who have similar interests and talents. To enable you to decide whether you'd be interested in joining hereafter follows a broad remit for the group:

1. To produce (an updated/Modern) version of the Historical Record of St Mary's (building upon the previous Anniversary Booklets and other archive material).
2. To create a historical novel about St Mary's to stimulate interest in the Restoration Project and the Parish in general.
3. To produce Historical Display boards highlighting interesting aspects of St Mary's Heritage.
4. To develop St Mary's website into a historical archive.
5. To create an Interactive Visitor's Leaflet.
6. To create a catalogue of historical material.
7. To investigate the historical link between the parish and the school.
8. To record an oral history of the parish.

If you have any stories to tell about St Mary's or indeed are interested in joining the group please contact Mary or George Burton via the parish email address.

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.



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

stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk