



# 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."

## 31st March, Easter Sunday(B)

**First Reading—Acts 10:34, 37-43— We have eaten and drank with him after his resurrection.**

**Responsorial Psalm—This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.**

**Second Reading—Colossians 3:1-4—You must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.**

**Sequence**

**Gospel Acclamation—Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!**

**Gospel—John 20:1-9—He must rise from the dead.**

## 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:** Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 118; John 5:1-6; Gospel John 20:19-31



**'He is not here. He has Risen.'**

**Praying you all experience the Risen Lord this glorious Easter Sunday.**

Many thanks to all those who helped prepare and lead our Holy Week Liturgies. Without the cleaners, the flower arrangers, the readers and cantors, the musicians, the Eucharistic Ministers, the Altar Servers, the Welcomers, the staff and children of St Mary's P.S., the computer operators and PP compilers, the Sacristans, those who prepare the Paschal Fire, and clear the church grounds our celebration of Our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection would be a much poorer affair. By way of thanks a Parish Workers Social has been arranged for Saturday 20th April in the Church Hall. Admission by Free Tkt.

**Our Beloved Dead:** Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Jessie, Cairney, Chic Whytock, Patrick Peoples and Agnes Mohammed and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: George Fleming, David Keir, George Tennant, James Goodman and Bob Sharp . 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: Jim Low, Marion Brannan, Betty Baily, Wendy Birnie, Fiona Kieth, Margaret Turner, Billy Higgins, Billy McDonald, George Charles Milne, Agnes Mulligan, Ann Reilly, Margaret Burke, Scott Lyons, Gillian Boland, Lesley Ianetta, Loraine Anderson, Angus MacAulay, Jim Gibson, Martin Conroy, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Cathy McDonald, Jim Low, & 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:** Jessie Cairney, Funeral Mass, Thursday 4th April @ 10am;  
Patrick Peoples, Funeral Mass, Friday 12th April @ 10am.



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

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[www.youtube.com/@StMarysLochee](https://www.youtube.com/@StMarysLochee) Parish Website - [www.stmaryslochee.org.uk](http://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: £1558 Restoration Fund: £997—(Brick Money & donations).

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, E. King (93).

**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](mailto: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:

**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 coming soon

**Ceilidh in aid of Restoration Fund**—Friday 17th May

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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stpiusx@dunkelldiocese.org)

**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](mailto: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.



## 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
		General Purpose levy	£20,128
		Insurance	£3,040
		Hall running costs	£2,488
		Fundraising other	£108
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£224,842</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£226,934</b>

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

\*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.

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

### **MINISTRY OF CANTOR**

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.

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.

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).

## EASTER SUNDAY REFLECTION—TRUE JOY

The Psalm for Easter Sunday says, “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Above all days, Easter is a day of joy.

But what is joy? The answer St. Francis gave to this question is famous. St. Francis said to his Brother Leo, “When we come to [our house] St. Mary of the Angels, soaked by the rain and frozen by the cold, all soiled with mud and suffering from hunger, and we ring at the gate of the place and the brother porter comes and says angrily: 'Who are you?' And we say: 'We are two of your brothers.' And ... he does not open for us, but makes us stand outside in the snow and rain, cold and hungry, until night falls—then if we endure all those insults and cruel rebuffs patiently, ... oh, Brother Leo, ... perfect joy is there!”\*

Whatever we may think of St. Francis’s explanation of perfect joy, Easter reminds us that Francis’s kind of joy is not the end of the story. At Easter, we celebrate the other kind of joy, the kind each of us longs for, when every tear is wiped away, and there is no sorrow anymore—no more suffering from weather or hunger or hurtful human beings. As we sing in the much-loved hymn by Fr. John Foley, S. J. at Easter “the cross and passion past, dark night is over, bright morning comes at last!”\*\* When we ourselves rise to meet our risen Lord, in that bright morning we will hear him say, “Come away, beloved. The winter is past; the rain is gone, and the flowers return to the earth.” (Song of Songs 2:10-12) In the loving union of that encounter, all the heartbrokenness of our lives will be redeemed. That will be perfect joy.

If all we had was the joy St. Francis describes, our courage might fail us in this life. Easter celebrates now the perfect joy waiting for us when we and all creation are reborn with our resurrected Lord into the everlasting love of God. This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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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.

“Implicit in assisted suicide is that the value of human life is measured by efficiency and utility and not by dignity. In crude terms, it means an individual can lose their value to society because of illness or disability. We are called to care for those who suffer, including those at the end of life. In this way, the appropriate response of civic society to suffering is not to facilitate death by prescription, but rather, to provide good, reliable care, including palliative care, for all those who need it.

“Assisted suicide sends a message that there are situations when suicide is an appropriate response to one’s individual circumstances, worries, anxieties. It normalises suicide and accepts that some people are beyond hope.

“Furthermore, assisted suicide undermines trust in doctors and damages the doctor- patient relationship. And in countries where assisted suicide is legal, there is evidence that vulnerable people, including the elderly and disabled, experience external pressure to end their lives. In Oregon, where assisted suicide is legal, it is common for around half of people to list fear of being a burden as one reason for hastening their death. It is little wonder that most major disability organisations in the UK are opposed to assisted suicide.

“Assisted suicide is also uncontrollable. Every country where assisted suicide or euthanasia is legal has seen so-called ‘safeguards’ eroded and eligibility criteria expanded to include people with arthritis, anorexia, autism, dementia. And also, children.

“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.”

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](mailto:stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk)**