

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."

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First Reading— Isaiah 5:1-7

The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel

Responsorial Psalm

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel

Second Reading—Philippians 4:6-9

The God of peace will be with you

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my father. Alleluia!

Gospel—Matthew 21:33-43

He will lease the vineyard to other tenants.

Communion Refrain

**Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
Oh Taste and see, Taste and see the goodness of the lord. Of the Lord.**

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

**Thanks to all those who supported
the Macmillan Coffee Morning in the
Church Hall run by the school on
Friday. A great effort by all.**



Prayer to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception

O most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession.

O most Holy Mother, receive my prayers as I present them to God.
(state your intentions here)

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son.
O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Aoife Moss and Mary Abbott; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Anne Low, Irene Petrie, George Scott, Theresa Tardito, Winnie Smith, Bill Smith, Billy Milne, Robert Vannet, Helen Heron, Margaret Young, Brother Joseph Hynd O.S.M., Margaret Gallagher, Bernard Gallagher (Jnr), John Tinney, Elizabeth Winter, Robert Winter, Charles Warden & Mary Noonan. 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: Mary Miller, Isobel Curwood, Marion Brannan, Kerry McFadyen, Scott Brown, Mgr Basil O'Sullivan, William Reid, Ann Reilly, George Charles Milne, Sarah Bayley and Wilma Kelbie (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.

Funeral Mass of Mary Abbott, Monday 9th October at 10am.



St Mary's - 41, High Street, Lochee, Dundee. DD2 3AP
Tel: 01382 611282 | Email: stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk | facebook.com/stmaryslochee
Serving Priest - Fr Jim Walls; Trainee Deacon—Jim Murphie
Parish Website - www.stmaryslochee.org.uk
Hospital Chaplain Mobile number 07821 624124; Safeguarding Coordinator: Emily Murphy

Finance Matters:

Last week's collection: £1808

Restoration Fund: £480

Next Special Collection: Mission Sunday, 22nd October

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.

Financial transparency:

If any person/organisation wishes to collect in the church they must have the express permission of the Parish Priest, and abide by the protocols laid down by the Diocese as informed by OSCR.

St Mary's Restoration Fund: 200 Club: Congratulations to this week's winner Rena 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:

World Mission Sunday, 15th October—Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when Pope Francis invites Catholics all over the world to contribute to a special collection for Missio (The Pontifical Mission Societies), his official charity for overseas mission. This year, the theme is "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." Please support Missio Scotland in helping missionaries whose hearts have been filled with and guided by the Holy Spirit and who have travelled far from their homes to work within and alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, such as Sri Lanka. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission, to share God's love with all people. Please give generously.

Dunkeld Diocesan Mission Group—organised Mission Event. St Mary's Forebank; Diocesan Pastoral Centre. Saturday, 21 October (Saturday before Mission Sunday). The event will begin at 9.30 am with teas & coffee. There will be mass approximately at noon. The event will end at 3.30pm sharp so those who need to will be back home for vigil masses. Everyone to bring their own packed lunch. **PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS** is the theme for this year. We invited Aid to the Church in Need to be our guide. Their theme just now is very much on persecuted Christians in Africa and especially in Nigeria. They will provide us with presentations, videos. They plan to bring along either a lay person or Nigerian priest who have worked in refugee camps.

Dunkeld Serra: The next Holy Hour (6pm) followed by Mass (7pm) to pray for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life, is Tuesday 31st October followed by refreshments and vocations talk.

St Mary's Reader/Eucharist Ministers Rotas for beginning of September until end of October available in foyer as are **Welcomers/Offertory Procession Rotas**. Thanks to the small team that are organising these.

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.

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

Please submit names/items for this newsletter no later than Thursday evening to **stmaryslocheeadmin@dunkelldiocese.org.uk**

Thursday 26th October at 6pm, in the City Square, SPUC Dundee is holding the annual vigil to commemorate the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act.

This will be followed by Mass for pro-life intentions at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. Please join us for part or all of this event

Abortion figures in Scotland have risen by almost 20% in the last year. With almost half of abortions taking place at home, abortion is fast becoming normalised in our society. Our city has had the highest abortion rate in Scotland for the past two years.



Please join The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (Dundee Branch)

in the 20th consecutive, silent candle-light vigil, commemorating the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act

REFLECTIONS

There is a very powerful truth-telling device, as we saw two Sundays ago: the device called *story*.

Our brains love stories because they include events with “before-and-after” built right in, along with suspense, action, relationships and intercommunication; not to mention emotion and elation and disappointment and so on. These elements are the most like daily experience of any device we have in the language.

So, on Sunday we will hear several stories of a vineyard.

The first tells about “a friend” who carefully built a vineyard: clearing stones, building a watchtower, planting the choicest vines ([First Reading](#)). He even “hewed out a wine press.” But the vineyard yielded bad grapes. God tells the people of Jerusalem and Judah in vivid language that they themselves are this vineyard, and that he is going to destroy it, trample it down. They would not let God's love grow up among them.

In the [Gospel](#) Jesus embroiders this tale. In just one sentence he handles the part about planting a vineyard, digging out a wine press, building a tower. Then he goes further.

In this version he says that the owner rents his rich vineyard to tenants, as was the custom, and he trusts them to raise choice grapes for him. In due season he sends his servants to collect the yield—which must have been great because the tenants dishonestly want to keep everything including the vineyard. So they beat or stone or even kill the servants!

Next, a surprising, seemingly implausible twist to the tale. The owner decides to send his own son, thinking that the tenants will surely respect him. Would you have done the same? Wouldn't you or I have said, “I will keep my family away from these criminals”?

I surely would. But not the owner. He sends his only son into the trap and the tenants kill him.

The details of the two stories are different, but is it the same story, about God punishing those who fail to produce?

Actually the two parables are not the same. There is much, much more in the Gospel. Jesus hints at this afterwards:

Did you never read in the Scriptures:
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
by the Lord has this been done,
and it is wonderful in our eyes. ([Gospel](#))

This is a new metaphor, and it is the key to the Gospel tale. It fills the story with dramatic new meaning.

The son sent into the vineyard is Jesus himself!

He is to be rejected and killed, just as the prophets and the owner's son were. But here is the difference: as God's son he is entirely willing to go among the sinning people. He lives by compassion, and danger takes second place.

If the main character in the Gospel were called *Life*, and it had its own choices to make, it would desire to turn into another being, one called *Love*. Life always yearns to go back to its source, the everlasting union called by that simple name, love.

Greed and disregard stop this progress. True Life gets buried. It rises again when we look to Jesus on Sundays. He is love. He is there for us in our vineyard.

God sent his own son into the trap of human life not because life is perfect, but because love is.

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Synod Prayer Request—Please find below the prayer which the Synod conference are encouraging us all to pray daily.

"We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen."



More than 400 people gathered at the Vatican on Wednesday to officially begin the Synod on Synodality. During the first full day of work Oct. 5, participants met in small groups of about 12 people to discuss the first part of the [Instrumentum Laboris](#), a document that will guide discussions over the nearly monthlong assembly.

Alpha is having a 2 week break (Sun 8th & 15th) and will restart on Sunday 22nd; with the Holy Spirit retreat following on Saturday 28th.



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.

Please keep all those children who enrolled for the Sacraments last week in your prayers. Please also keep their families in your prayers so that they may come to an even deeper realisation of how much God cares for them, and come to practise their faith through regular attendance and passing on God's care.



The next **Baptism Preparation Course** will start early next year. If you would like your child baptised please contact the parish via email to register for this course.

Thank You...

The parish's thanks to Anne Singleton and her helpers for running St Mary's Community Café for the last 10 years. The effect that they've had on numerous people's lives is incalculable. Please hold them all in your prayer. Although the Café has now closed there is still demand for food at the Church House door. Thanks to the increase in Foodstuffs donated by parishioners the weekly bill has decreased from £130 to £75. If you can afford to donate foodstuffs please leave them in the baskets in the foyer. The favoured items are UHT milk, coffee, tea, biscuits, Pot Noodles, tinned rice, tinned fruit, tinned meat, cup of soups, beans, and breakfast cereals. Many thanks to all who contribute, and to the ladies who help make up the bags and may God bless your generosity.

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.

October 8, 2023 (This is Mission Month)

The month of October is when the Church throughout the world reflects on and prays about its mission to bring the Good News to the whole of humanity.

Mission is one of the central themes of the historic Synod taking place in Rome at the moment. The climax of Mission Month will be World Mission Sunday on October 22. Please take home one of the copies of the Mission Month magazine.

ALL SAINTS CHILDRENS PARTY
Saturday 28th October
at 5.30pm
St Mary's Church Hall.

All children welcome to come to the 4.30pm Mass dressed as a Saint

Michael Marra (North East Region) MSP has expressed his support for St Mary's Restoration Project, and has sent a poster with his contact details offering to help with any issues you might have. The poster is on display as you come into St Mary's.

Thanks to all those who are contributing to the Restoration Fund whatever the amount. Your generosity has enabled St Mary's to have its heating system upgraded to a more efficient and effective system. Please keep the workmen in your prayers who have so diligently worked to have this working for winter.

CREATE A
SPACE OF
**Sacred
Silence**

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.