



# 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."

**28th January, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

**First Reading— Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

**I will raise up a prophet and I will put my words into his mouth.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

**Second Reading—Corinthians 7:32-35**

**Give your undivided attention to the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!**

**Gospel—Mark 1:21-28**

**He taught them with authority.**

**Communion Refrain**

**We come to share our story, we come to break the bread, we come to know our rising from the dead.**

## 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**

**Wednesday 31st Memorial of St John Bosco**

**Friday 2nd Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (World Day of Prayer for the Consecrated Life)**

Special Mass to celebrate the Feast and pray for the Religious of our Diocese: St Andrew's Cathedral 1pm Friday 2nd Feb. All Welcome.

**Our Beloved Dead:** Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: George Donnelly, Jim McGregor, Eillen Haggarty, Anne McCluskey, Muriel Cashley, Michael Donnelly, Robert Walsh, Margaret Caswell, Christine McCrudden, and Fr Ben O'Brien O.S.A.; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Max Stuart, Lisa Mestiri, Catherine Lowden, Alexander Lowden, Andrew Cord, Dorothy Gardiner, and Paul Quay. 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: Margaret Burke, Stuart Edmonds, Ann Reilly, Jo Duncan, Scott Brown, Brian Davie, Tom Brown, Cathy McDonald, Brian Murray, Chick Whytock, Wendy Birnie, Margaret Ann Young, George Charles Milne, Allan Gourlay, Andy Madoc Jones, Georgina Robbie, Fiona Keith, Margaret Dear, Mary Malone, Jim Gibson, Fr Colm McGlynn O.S.M. and Agnes Mulligan. (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, Lochee:**

**Muriel Cashley,** Reception of Remains Weds 31st Jan @ 6pm, Funeral Mass Thurs 1st February @ 10am;

**Michael (Mike) Donnelly,** Funeral Mass Thursday 8th Feb @ 10am;

**George Donnelly,** Reception of Remains Sunday 11th @ 6pm, Funeral Mass, Monday 12th @ 10am;

**Robert Walsh,** Funeral Mass Tuesday 14th Feb @ 10am. May they rest in peace.

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: £1372 Restoration Fund: £1223 (£1000—'Buy a Brick' scheme)

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

The list of Special Collections for 2024 is available in the foyer. The next Special Collection is for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund and will be taken up on 17/18th February

**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, Kate Cuthill (29).

**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

### **Dates for your calendar:**

**Dunkeld Serra** —All are invited to the next Holy Hour and Holy Mass to pray for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for our priests. It will be on Tuesday 30th January, Holy hour at (6pm) and Mass at (7pm), followed by a talk by Father Malcolm Hutchison, in The Immaculate Conception Church, Lochee.

**SCIAF Talk: Wednesday 7th February 2024**—Michael Hamilton from SCIAF is to come to St. Joseph's to give a talk about this year's Lenten project about gender violence in Rwanda. Coffee and tea will be served from 10 am with the talk starting about 10.30. It will last about an hour.

**Restoration Steering Group** meet this Friday (2nd) at 4pm in St Mary's Church Hall.

**Steve Murray (Retired Football Player)** will give a talk in St Mary's Hall on **Friday 9th February at 7pm** based on his experiences with Celtic, Dundee, Aberdeen and Scotland. Steve was lucky enough to play under Jock Stein and alongside Jimmy Johnstone etc and has many amusing anecdotes. The talk will mirror a match with two 45 minute halves and a 15 minute break. **Tickets £10** available at the back of Church before or after Mass from George Creegan.

**Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**—on **Monday 12th of February** in St Mary's Lochee, we are celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes with Holy Mass at 7pm

**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**

**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](mailto:email.therese@devlinproperties.co.uk)

**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.

### **Prayer for a good and holy Bishop:**

Dear God, you sent your Son to reveal what it is to be truly human. We, in Dunkeld Diocese, are awaiting a new Bishop, please send us one after your own heart: a tender heart with a zeal for souls, a love of the poor and children, compassion for the sick and those on whom time has taken its toll. Bless him with an enthusiasm for Sacred Scripture and the gift for breaking open your Word so that we, his sheep, may be inspired and nourished to lead lives worthy of our Christian calling, and enabled to evangelize others. Amen.

## REFLECTION—Hard Hearts

Sunday's Responsorial Psalm comforts us. "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts." Yet the readings for Sunday seem to say the opposite. They speak of thunder and fear and of devils being driven out. If these don't harden our hearts, what would?

Take the First Reading. Moses quotes God's words from one of God's conversations with him: I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into his mouth. Moses will act as intermediary between God and the people so that their terror may be lessened. (Exodus 19:16-20:26).

But look at their reaction to God's gift of the ten commandments. Moses recalls it in today's First Reading. "Don't make us listen to that voice again, or see that great fire again because we might die from it." The people did not even hear the word of God because fear had frozen their hearts. Do you or I ever find God too large and threatening for our small selves? Do we ever want to ignore his voice, especially when it is speaking commandments that go against what we want? Don't we put a wall up to protect our hearts?

Maybe we construct that wall today by taking the name of the Lord our God in vain. Or by ignoring religion. Or by dishonoring our parents, or desiring to commit adultery, or by stealing or lying or by simple lust. So many movies and television shows depict the joys of these sins. They are hard to resist! We are lured.

But God's voice lures us also. It says, come, be forgiven. Be eased by God's comfort; bask in the beauty of the love that only wants your good.

In the Gospel Jesus teaches "as one having authority." Are we afraid of him too? I suppose the answer is yes. He drove out devils, and they became violently afraid, no joke about it. They heard God's voice very clearly, maybe with more clarity than you or I do. They hardened their hearts like stone. "What do you have to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

There is plenty to be afraid of, and our fear is often warranted. But turning our hearts to stone is not warranted. We need to trust that God will remain with us no matter what, and that Christ's gentle heart will banish our fear. That is how we can say, along with the psalm, "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your heart."

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**Faithful (and beloved) parishioner George Donnelly's** Reception of Remains will be on Sunday 11th February at 6pm followed by his funeral Mass Monday 12th February at 10am. George served St Mary's parish all his life starting as an altar boy then helping with the Youth Club before becoming a welcomer, funeral bell ringer, money counter, and cross bearer for Stations of the Cross. A well known and loved face in Lochee. Lochee and St Mary's will be a poorer place without him. May he rest in peace.

### Baptism Preparation

**Course:** runs for the 4 Sunday's of February; starting Sunday 4th February. This course is primarily aimed at helping the parents experience the Holy Spirit and establish a living link with the church

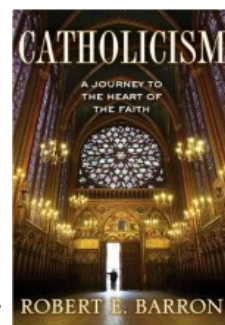


I have been appointed Vocations Director for the Priesthood in Dunkeld Diocese, and am responsible for encouraging and nurturing vocations to the priesthood. These will only come with a renewal of our own spiritual lives, which will feed into our families and parishes. Please pray for this renewal.

### If you're thinking about joining the Church....

'Catholicism' by Bishop Barron continues this Sunday in Upper Hall at 12 Noon.

It is designed to help those thinking about joining the Church however would benefit anyone seeking to deepen their understanding of the faith.



This year Lent starts early as Ash Wednesday is 14th February and we need to look ahead to prepare for this solemn season of the Church's year. As per last year we will sing the Latin Mass parts from the Roman Missal unaccompanied as Musical accompaniment should be restrained during this solemn season. These are the ones that most of us are familiar with and can be found on You Tube 'How to Sing the Latin Chant Mass' with Jennifer Rodriguez ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcEtHharcDU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcEtHharcDU)). We will also sing these at weekday Mass rather than our usual hymn.

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 Upper Church Hall, to which all are warmly welcome.



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.

**Burns Night** was celebrated in style at St Mary's with an Afternoon Burns Tea and an Evening Family Ceilidh. These events saw parishioners (from the youngest to the oldest) enjoying traditional Scots fayre and culture, with some international spice thrown in! Thanks to those who helped host and support these events. Our youth helpers were an absolute credit to the parish.



The Burns Afternoon Tea raised the healthy sum of £350 for the Restoration Fund.

<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 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.

## Ministries Day Saturday 24th February

Starting with Mass and Adoration at 10am.

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

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.

### Leadership Team—Request.

At the Leadership Team on Monday we discussed the need for having refreshments after the Reception of Somebody's Remains. This would allow families a pleasant environment in which to share memories (an important part of the grieving processes) and allow the parish to show hospitality. If you are interested in being involved in this ministry please contact Fr Jim or any other member of the Leadership Team.

Thanks to all of those who donate food and toiletries for distribution from the Church House Door. If you are in need please don't hesitate to approach Fr Jim in confidence.

**The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul (SVDP)** - As winter deepens and the temperature drops please note that the SVDP supports anyone in need of assistance with food, electricity, gas, clothing, furniture etc. Please don't be shy to approach one of the SVDP members or Fr Jim for assistance.

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 or Fr Jim so that this enjoyable time can continue.

**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.



**'Fundraising and Football are woven into the fabric of St Mary's.'**

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

[stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)