



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."

22nd Dec, 4th Sunday in Advent—Year C

First Reading—Micah 5:2-5a

From you shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading—Hebrews 10:5-10

Behold, I have come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation—Alleluia, Alleluia! Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word. Alleluia!

Gospel—Luke 1:39-44

Why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Advanced notice: Christmas Eve Mass 7pm preceded by Carols at 6.30pm; Christmas Day Mass 10.30am

Sacred Liturgy Schedule

Vigil Mass at 4.30pm.

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

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat Mass 10am

Wed 10.30am Christmas Day Mass

Friday 27th Eucharist Service 10am

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: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2: 41-52

Our Beloved Dead: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Gavin Owens, Mark Stuart, Robert Pankhurst, Bobby Gardiner and Wilma Nelson ; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Samuel Tinney, Alec Thompson, Francyne Walker, Anne Markie, Eddie Flood, Ella Feeney, Noble Ovington and Ged Mulholland. **RIP**



Prayers for the sick: Please continue to remember the sick and the terminally ill in your prayers, especially those mentioned on our sick lists: Alex Findlay, Karl Mercier, Maureen Murray, Ann Fyfe, Betty Baily, Marion Brannan, Bobby Gardiner, Anne Reilly, Maureen Crighton, Jan Sturrock, Martin Conroy, Jacqui Conroy, Marlene Kenny, Harry Hill, Wendy Birnie, Janice Copeland, Frances McKernie, Andrew Lynch, Margaret Turner, Susan Ramsay, Agnes Milne, Jim Murray, Agnes Mulligan, Veronica Cornock, Kate Cuthill and Sister Mary Timmons. (this list is cleared each calendar month). May Our Lady of Lourdes (The Immaculate Conception) intercede for them.

Please send any names for these lists to the parish email address or add them to the list in foyer.

Funerals:

Mark Stuart, 1pm Funeral Service, Mon 23rd Dec

Wilma Nelson, 12 Noon Funeral Service, Fri 3rd January, 2025

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

Tel: 01382 611282 | Email: stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk | facebook.com/stmaryslochee
www.youtube.com/@StMarysLochee Parish Website - www.stmaryslochee.org.uk

Serving Priest - Fr Jim Walls; Trainee Deacon—Jim Murphie

Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Hospital Chaplain Mobile number 07821 624124; Safeguarding Coordinator: Emily Murphy

Finance Matters: Last week's collection: £1324

Restoration Fund: £414

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 Restoration Fund: 100 Club: Congratulations to this week's winner, Margaret McCluskey (97).

Mini Fete—The proceeds of which will go to SCIAF during Nov/Dec.

Mary's Meals, Foreign Currency collection—There will be a box at the back of the church for collecting any foreign currency for Mary's Meals. Thanks for your support.

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



**St Vincent De Paul
Scotland**

**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.**

**and
pray for us.**

St Margaret of



Christmas Services

Tuesday 24th December—Christmas Eve Mass 7pm preceded by Carols at 6.30pm.

Wednesday 25th December—Christmas Day Mass 10.30am

Tuesday 31st December—New Years Eve—11pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God preceded by Taize Prayers for Peace at 10.30pm, followed by the bells with refreshments.

Wednesday 1st January— Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, Mass 10.30am (World Day of Prayer for Peace).

A great big 'thank you' to St Mary's Primary School for an excellent Carol Concert on Thursday.

Dates for your calendar:

In her Majesty's Service—a talk by former Royal Security Officer Alex Garty—Friday 7th February

Holmes on the Hilltoon—another comedy by Gerry Fulton—Friday May 9th, 2025

Regular Events—Weekly:

The Parish Leadership Team —meets every Monday during term time to help me make good decisions. It's members are Jim Murphie (Trainee Deacon), Marian Milne (Sacristan), Moira Leck (Schools Liaison), & Anne Hampton (Finance).

Novena to St Anthony of Padua - every Tuesday after Mass—concludes with blessing with relic.

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.

Monthly:

St Peregrine's Mass (1st Saturday of the Month at 10am). St Peregrine is the patron saint of those suffering from cancer and offer incurable diseases. We now have a relic of St Peregrine, St Anthony of Padua and St Martin de Porres. If anybody wishes a blessing please just ask. Each Saturday Mass is offered for the sick.

Filipino Mass (1st Sunday of the Month at 1pm) Next, Sunday 5th January, 2025

Dunkeld Serra Mass: (2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm). Please keep praying for priests, deacons, and religious.

Syro-Malabar Catechism Classes & Mass (3rd Sunday of the Month at 3.15pm) Next, Sunday 19th January, 2025

Taizé Holy Hour: (4th Thursday of the month at 6.30pm) Next, Taizé Prayer, Thursday, 23rd January, 2025

Diocesan Events:

Jim Murphie's Diaconate Ordination will be on Saturday 3rd May 2025 at 12 noon in St Andrew's Cathedral.

The Dunkeld Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee are delighted to announce that Bishop Andrew McKenzie will lead our 2025 pilgrimage to Lourdes from 7th to 14th July 2025. For further information please email dunkeld@pobox.com or phone 07801 227 443

Please submit names/items for this newsletter no later than Thursday evening to stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk



Baptism Preparation.....the start of a life giving process...

If you would like to know more about having your child baptised please contact Stella Andrews on andrews24@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 07817160513.

The Alpha course continues this Sunday after Mass in the Church House Meeting Room. Please hold participants in your prayers.



*****Seasons Greetings*****

Dear Fr Jim and all the parishioners of St Mary's, Lochee. Wishing you all a holy and happy Christmas and every blessing for a peaceful new year. I am remembering you all in prayer here in the city of the tombs of the apostles, Peter and Paul, that the Lord may bless you and keep you. Fr Mark

This week St Mary's witnessed a remarkable outpouring of charity/Christ's Love.

As well as the bags of toiletries and thermals from the Knights of St Malta, the Fire Brigade handed in 6 electric blankets and 20 boxes of food; the Salvation Army donated 53 bags of toys, and St John's High School donated 100 bags of shopping. As well as a good number of individually wrapped Selection Boxes, Gift Bags and Hampers donated by parishioners. We have also had a £300 donation from Lochee Harp towards food for the poor. Other cash donations have been exchanged for food vouchers for families. Thanks to all those who have contributed to this outpouring of care.

The Saint Vincent De Paul Society has done a wonderful job in getting the majority of these donations out to people so that they can have the basics (and a little bit of joy) at Christmas.

We have also had a phone call of thanks from the Salvation Army for the winter socks.



St Marys Lochee Restoration Fund—registered with Easy Fundraising. Raise Free donations with your shop. Sign up here: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-marys-lochee-restoration-fund/7a4r01/c2s/FZ9Up2Ac/CE957/> [facebook/](#)

Conversations in the Spirit

Small Groups

Thanks to all those who hosted and/or led these groups. These small groups have proven very useful throughout the world, and feedback from our own groups has been positive.



Through rooting the discussions in prayer, respectful listening and concise speaking the Holy Spirit directly influences the topic under consideration. Thus helping us to discern where God's calling us individually and as a parish. Small Groups also deepen the bond of Christian friendship between participants. More to come throughout Lent...

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF SCOTLAND STATEMENT ON SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT ENDING THE TWO-CHILD BENEFIT CAP, 9TH DECEMBER, 2024

The Catholic Bishops of Scotland have welcomed the Scottish Government's vow to lift the two-child benefit cap, which could potentially result in benefits being paid out to families of 15,000 children. The bishops look forward to seeing more detail on how the Scottish Government intends to lift the cap and hope that it will be lifted as quickly as possible to allow more children and families to receive support they so badly need.

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/end-benefit-cap>

The Parish of St Mary the Immaculate Conception, Dundee

Don't carry cash but want to make a donation?

Scan this QR code with your phone to make a donation. If you are a UK taxpayer you can also Gift Aid your donation and we will be able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate.



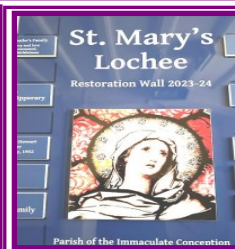
This parish is a Parish of the Diocese of Dunkeld, a Designated Religious Charity, Number SC001810



Day by Day—readings for the Advent Season. Available in Foyer... £1



SCIAF Real Gifts available from repository or online <https://shop.sciaf.org.uk/collections/all>



Restoration Bricks still available. Application Forms in the foyer.

St Mary's Christmas Socks Appeal for homeless men—Box at the rear of the church.

HOPE POINT, DUNDEE WELLBEING SUPPORT WE ARE HERE ALL WEEKEND; NO MATTER WHAT TIME OF DAY OR NIGHT.

If you are in distress and feeling like you can't go on, please do reach out to our friendly team.

Freephone: 0800 955 0008; Text: 01382 604123; In Person: 4 South Ward Road.

Glancing Thoughts—Where the Truth Lies

In the Readings for Sunday, there is the sketch of a wonderful world.

In that world there are angels, who take care of human beings. There is a ruler, who shepherds people and protects them. By his power and his goodness he brings peace to all the earth.

There is peace for the troubled psyche of every person too. God turns each unsettled, uneasy, unhappy heart to himself. And, turned to God, every heart can be at peace.

There is salvation from sin and even holiness. God has redeemed his people and consecrated them to himself. They are the saints of God.

And there is glory.

Who was this Elizabeth? An ordinary Jewish woman of her time, distinguished by her barrenness and not much more. And yet look at her in the Gospels, filled with the Holy Spirit and exercising the office of prophet to Mary, mother of the Lord. She is glorious in this story, isn't she? In the world sketched by the Readings there is the glory and beauty of holiness available for all God's people.

But consider the everyday world we live in. Do we find angels, majestic rulers, goodness protecting the people, peace in the world, holiness in our hearts, glory in our lives? Look around the mall, listen to the news media. What world are the writers of the Readings living in?

And yet our own experience of grace gives us hope in the world of the Readings, doesn't it?

The ugliness and the evil, so easy to see, overlie a deeper reality, which we can sense in the quiet moments of our lives when, like Mary, we are open to the call of the Lord. The everyday world of the mall and the news media, which looks so compelling, is a thin thing which will crumple and dissolve in time. What will remain is the world we hear about in Sunday's Readings.

In Deuteronomy, Moses tells the people, "The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms!" (Dt 33:27). Underneath, in the refuge of the everlasting arms, is where the truth of the Readings lies. And the Truth behind the Readings lies in the womb of Mary, waiting to be born.

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



Please remember Maureen Murray in your prayers as she celebrates her 80th Birthday this week. Maureen is a remarkable woman who lives her faith in so many ways. Her smile says it all.

AD MULTOS ANNOS.

The parish's thanks to Mgr Ken McCaffrey and Fr Malcolm Hutchison for covering last weekend during my illness.



Restoration Update

The preparatory work for the Start Date of January 6th has begun. In the process the outside of the church has been brushed removing loose debris and



stone, as well as scaffolding erected around the tower which has allowed a major Perspex window guard to be reinstated. Please keep this whole project in prayer.

funeral link

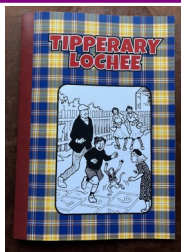
Do you need support and friendly advice on how to arrange an affordable funeral?

CALL
01382 458800

moresupport.lesshardship

Thanks to all those who have used their loaf to bring a loaf for the school children.

Given the school holidays are fast approaching no further bread is required.



ON SALE HERE

Step Back in Time into Lochee of Old Real Characters from the Day True Stories

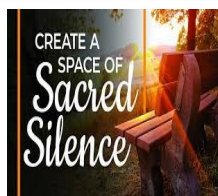
(As seen on YouTube - Konglomerate games)

Perfect as a Stocking Filler or a First Foot Only 40/-

(or £2 to the young ones)

All proceeds to the Restoration Fund

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.



Don't miss the 'missa'... a word that means 'sending out', from which we get the word 'Mass' and 'Mission'. The final blessing and the final hymn send us out with a Mission to spread the good news.