

Welcome to
St. Peter and St. Paul's
Byron Street - Dundee



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The Charity Shop & Repository within the Parish
Centre in Milton Street is open from 10.30am till
2pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



Nineteenth Sunday of the Year 12 August 2007

Next Sunday is the 20th Sunday of the Year - Year C

Sunday Mass

Anticipated Mass on Saturday at 6.00pm

Mass on Sunday at 9.30am & 11.30am

Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11.30am Mass

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday from 10.15am to 10.45am

Saturday from 5.00pm to 5.30pm

Mass this Week

Mass on Monday at 11.00am

Mass on Tuesday at 11.00am

Mass on Wednesday at 11.00am & 6.30pm

Mass on Thursday at 11.00am

Mass on Friday at 11.00am

Mass on Saturday at 11.00am

Wednesday this week - 15 August - is the **Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady and is a holyday of obligation.**
The school will celebrate the 11.00am Mass.

Note: The Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11.30am Mass will begin again on Sunday 19 August.

Let us pray for Caleb Gardiner, Kenny Macdonald,

who are seriously ill

the sick and housebound: Flora Murray, Thea Atkinson, Jenny Robertson, Moira Brodie, Liz Donnelly,
Rose Farquhar, Alex Kane,

also: Sandra Tatini, June Herd,

who died recently,

and Alice Donachie, Cathrine Gray, Catherine Stewart, Ronald Duncan, Jim Shepherd,
Joseph Lynch, Nancy Foley, Thomas Clark, George Harris, **whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

This long, exciting story

The Israelites simply knew that God existed. Without even thinking about it, they knew. They did not conclude, as a philosopher, that since everything had to come from some place there had to be a God. They did not marvel, like an artist, that behind all of this beauty there must be perfect beauty whom she called God. No, every Israelite was as certain of God's existence as of their own.

Primitive people did not have the conceptual tools to know how they knew God. But with our modern philosophy and psychology, we know how both they and we experience God. The instant that we are aware that we exist, we immediately know that we did not bring our self into existence, that another Self is our Origin. As soon as we say "I am," that Original Self says "So am I" We call it God -- and realize that when we know that we are, we know that God is. In our basic humanity, we are the same as those primitive peoples.

The reason that atheism is possible is that the recognition of our self occurs at a very deep level of consciousness -- and we don't often delve to those depths where we encounter God along with our self. And, since we are free, we have the power to reject or even deny that experience. People instinctively believe in God but atheism is a choice.

Our experience of God has a history because we are pilgrims. When the Israelites recognized themselves as a partners with God, they naturally wondered who that God was, what that God was like, how that God acted, how that God related with them.

As they interpreted their life story as a dialogue with God, they came to believe that God had chosen their ancestors to be God's Chosen People. Then they recorded their human history as a working out of God's history in time. They wrote how God chose Abraham, how Moses led them from slavery, and how God gave them a Promised Land. They even dared to record their failures, their infidelity God, their grievous sins. Their Psalmists prayed and begged and cursed God; their Prophets beat them into repentance and forgiveness. For them, God was not an article of faith, but a vivid, urgent fact of life. Whenever they thought of themselves, they thought of God.

Jesus was an Israelite therefore, he thought of God the same way his ancestors did: as a powerful presence in his life and Jesus came to recognize God as Father. The disciples recognized themselves as Jews, so they recognized the same God and Jesus added the paternal dimension to their experience of God. The Israelite experience of God had progressed from a distant voice in the desert to God-in-the-flesh living their daily life with them.

You and I are latter-day Israelites. Like them and all people, we have a minimal awareness of God whenever we become aware of our own self. We are not religious orphans -- we have a grand family history. We limit God if we restrict God to our private experience. Our personal faith has a vast, exciting history.

A Photograph of the Dunkeld Pilgrimage to Lourdes

is in this week's Scottish Catholic Observer. The SCO is famous for its gaffes and this week it is a small one - they have put the titles in the wrong place, so look under *Archdiocese of Glasgow* for the very good photograph of Dunkeld pilgrims.

**We welcome Mgr Ken McCaffrey to the parish
for the Sunday Masses this Sunday.**

A mother gave her child a pound coin and a 50p piece. "Sweetheart," the mother said, "you can place either one in the offertory basket. It's entirely up to you." As they were driving home, the mother asked the daughter what she had decided to give. "Well, at first I was going to give the pound," said the daughter. "But the man behind the pulpit said God loves a cheerful giver, so I felt like I would be much more cheerful if I gave the 50p instead."

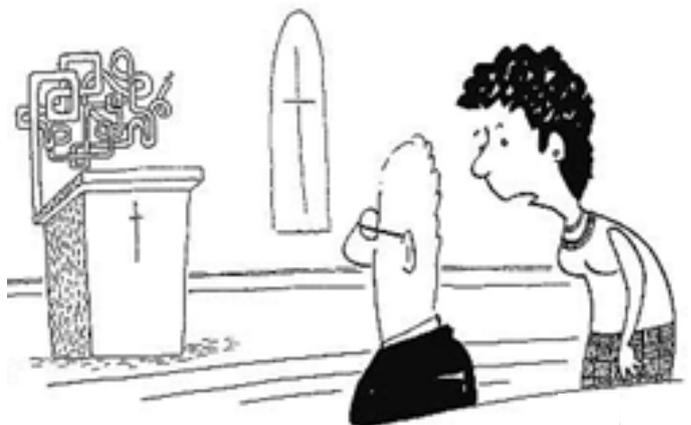
The problem used to be too much mail through the letter box but now it is too much email. Just like the telephone answering message people are setting up email answers. Here are some to choose from:

I will be unable to delete all the unread, worthless emails you send me until I return on April 1st. Please be patient and your mail will be deleted in the order it was received.

The e-mail server is unable to verify your server connection and is unable to deliver this message. Please restart your computer and try sending again. (The beauty of this one is that when you return, you can see how many in-duh-viduals did this over and over).

Thank you for your message, which has been added to a queuing system. You are currently in 352nd place, and can expect to receive a reply in approximately 19 weeks. I've run away to join a different circus.

HOMILY HUMOUR



**He remained on the same point for so long
he went into screensaver mode.**