

St Peter and St Paul  
29 Byron Street, Dundee DD3 6QN



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The Charity Shop and Repository within the parish Centre in Milton Street is open from 10.30—2.00 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

*25th Sunday of Year C - 23RD September 2007*

*This Week*

*Monday: Funeral Mass at 10.00 a.m.*

*Tuesday: Mass at 10.00 a.m.*

*Wednesday: No Mass*

*Thursday: Mass at 10.00 a.m. [St Vincent de Paul]*

*Friday: Mass at 10.00 a.m.*

*Saturday: Mass at 10.00 a.m.*

***Please note the times of Mass each day this week***

## SUNDAY MASS

Anticipated Mass on Saturday at 6.00 p.m.

Mass on Sunday at 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

We pray for: **Kenny Macdonald, Kathleen McGhee, Rose Farquhar, Helen Traynor & Laura Turnbull** who are ill; for **Carol Dolan, Helen Devine, Liz Donnelly, Andy Adams, Marie Fagan, Jenny Robertson, Thea Atkinson & Ann McConnachie** who are housebound; for **Donal Reid, Bernadette Mutton, Moira Brodie & John Dolan** who died recently; and for **Andrew Chalmers, Gordon Gray, Alex Rollo, Margaret Grady, John Johnstone, Chris Dailly, Ellen Morrison, John Lynch & Kirsty Mulford** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## CHURCH REFURBISHMENT

*The Diocesan Fabric and Planning Board at their meeting on Wednesday last approved the refurbishment of the Church as planned by Mgr Creegan. It is hoped that this major work will start towards the end of October. The architects are JF Stephen of Glamis who were responsible for the new churches in **Our Lady of Mercy in Aberfeldy and St Anne's in Carnoustie**. Naturally such a major renovation will involve some inconvenience over some months. We will use the Hall for Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for weekday Mass. Should there be Funerals, these will be in one of the other Churches. We shall have more details next week after a site meeting on Tuesday morning with the contractors at 11.00 a.m.*

## *TRUSTEESHIP OF THE GIFTS OF GOD*

Today's gospel asks us to look at some of our daily working practices and apply them in a religious context. There are good insights to be drawn from normal working practice, and lessons to be learnt.

The parable is about an estate manager who abuses his employer's trust, but is astute in looking after his own interests. We meet familiar elements of corporate organisation. We meet a manager, a sacking, a whistle blower, customers or clients, and the need for financial and narrative reporting. Both the parable and the wider section of the gospel refer to trusteeship.

The estate manager is dodgy. He is dodgy for many reasons. He is dodgy for wasting money. He is dodgy for not being able to account for the assets of the enterprise. He is dodgy, probably, for taking his own commission, kickbacks, on transactions.

The manager abuses the system by using the enterprise assets for his own ends. He abuses his own very good powers of prudential management for his own ends. He is a worldly manager using worldly wisdom concerning worldly wealth.

Management of money and wealth seems to draw to it abuse and odd motivations. We seem to show up our human uncertainties in some areas of life when we use slang or rude words, which indicate cultural fault lines. So it is with money and wealth. The verbal sediment collects: mammon, filthy lucre, lolly, dough, etc.

We also show up our view of life in any tally of our spending. We give priority to some ends of life in preference to others. Our orientation to property and money display our hopes in life. Some of these are likely to be disordered. Some of them are likely to be hidden from ourselves and in need of an occasional audit.

Like the dodgy manager we can get trapped into a cramped and blinkered view of life. We can get locked into money and property with their yield as ends in themselves. We can get locked into the use of our own skills as yielding reward just for ourselves. We experience a slippage in our vision of life. Our money has become an omen of bad tidings. Like a gauge or thermometer, it can show our control systems to be out of order.

In the gospel it is taken for granted that we should exercise trusteeship in all its good practices. We should use resources for their specified purposes. We should show our accountability in suitable figures and explanations. We should show judgement, foresight and care in what we are doing. Present-day good corporate practice develops safeguards in respect of these values of administration.

The full thrust of this gospel says more than this. This section points beyond these everyday values. We exercise many skills about matters of property and money, but these matters cannot be ends in themselves nor a total security against all human risk. The very exercise of these skills we use in practical administration, if just for our own ends, are diminutions of ourselves.

Many of the categories we use in administration, wealth, prudence or wisdom, accountability, etc., can be applied in a wider and true analogy to our relationship to God. As he is our creator, we owe him everything. We are called to act as his trustees. All we have comes from him. We must be accountable to him. We must be assiduous. We must act for his ends and not just our own. We must use his gifts of prudence and foresight to do this.

We must not fall into a cramped, obsessive, view of possessions or a cramped, obsessive, view of our own practical strivings. The good of the manager, the good of the enterprise, the good of those for whom we hold trust, the good of society and the good of mankind before God and neighbour are all part of one connected whole.

*PARISH SERVICES*

**Children's** Liturgy of the Word at 11.30 a.m. Mass on Sundays.  
The Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays after Mass  
until 10.45, and from 5.00 to 5.30 p.m.

From Gerry McLaughlin

The next rota for Special Ministers of the Eucharist is now available. Please collect a copy from the back of the church. Unfortunately my PC was hit by a virus last month and I lost my address book which means that some people who normally receive the rota by e-mail won't have this time. My apologies for the inconvenience. If you wish to receive it by e-mail please let me know - [gerry.mcl@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:gerry.mcl@blueyonder.co.uk).

*PARISH ACTIVITIES*

*PRIZE BINGO*

In the Church Hall on Sunday 30th September in aid of Dundee Argyle [under 19] Football Club. This to help a group of young boys pay their League Fees. Tickets are £1 from Moyra Foley.

**PARISH CENTRE**

See the Notice Board for all Parish events.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY**

Some Fund Raising Activities are being organised by Natalie Dowey, our Youth office, to assist the 20 young people travelling to World Youth Day in Sydney in July 2008. You will be invited over the next few months to support these events so that our young people will be able to join the youth of the world with Pope Benedict in Australia.

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