

**Diocese of Dunkeld**  
Scottish Charity No SC001810

## ***St Peter and St Paul***

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Parish website: [www.stpeterandstpaul.co.uk](http://www.stpeterandstpaul.co.uk)

Webmaster: Andrew Kelly

Deacon: Rev Charles Hendry [818183]

Parish Sister: Sister Mary Rose [322304]

Hall Manager: John Mackie 858942

Bookings: [john.mackie4@btinternet.com](mailto:john.mackie4@btinternet.com)

The Charity Shop and Repository within the parish centre are open from 10.30 - 2.00pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays

## ***The Year of St Paul***

***Sunday 24th August 2008***

***TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [ A ]***



### **SUNDAY MASS**

SATURDAY [anticipated Mass of Sunday] : 6.00 p.m.

SUNDAY : 9.30am and 11.30 a.m.

***Monday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.***  
***Tuesday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.***  
***Wednesday: No Mass***  
***Thursday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.***  
***Friday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.***  
***Saturday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.***

**Weekday Morning Mass,  
will now be at 9.30 a.m.,  
unless announced.**

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

on Saturday after Morning Mass

5.30 - 5.45 p.m. on Saturday and after Evening Mass

on request at any other time

**The Collection for Sunday 10th August was £1081.11. Many Thanks**

The SECOND COLLECTION for the Bishop's Mensal Fund was £358.57

Please pray for: **Patricia Malone, Michael McInally & James Ward**, recently deceased; for **Canon Keegan, Denis Mahoney, John Johnston, Harry McGhee, Emily Blackley, Sr Agostina Badini, Vincent Kierans, Barbara Henderson & Mina Ness** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We also will remember all those who are sick at home or in hospital. [Sam Macgregor, Winnie Reid, Gloria Thomson & Nan Grant]

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**Scottish National Pilgrimage  
in honour of  
St Margaret  
Patroness and Queen**

**Sunday 7th September 2008  
at  
3.00 p.m.  
in  
Carfin Grotto  
Principal Celebrant  
Cardinal Keith O'Brien  
Preacher  
Bishop Joseph Devine**



*We intend to begin our preparations for the Celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist earlier this year. Children in Primary 4 will start their preparations for these celebrations very soon.*

*It is an essential requirement for the celebration of the Sacraments that children take an active part in the life of their parish by attending Mass on Sundays.*

Some children, now in P5 did not receive the Sacraments last year. If parents wish their children to take part in the Sacramental Preparations and those children are not presently in Primary 4 in St Peter & St Paul's School, please contact Fr Ken before the end of August.

#### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

This should start shortly on Sundays at 11.30 a.m. Mass. I shall be meeting shortly with those who lead this activity and we will let you have further details as soon as possible.

#### **NOVENA TO OUR LADY ON SATURDAYS**

Following a request to resume the Novena in honour of Our Lady, this will start after Morning Mass on Saturdays.

#### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Eucharistic Adoration will resume from Wednesday 3rd September from after Mass at 9.30 a.m., until 4.00 p.m.

The **DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS** will take place in St Andrew's Cathedral, on Wednesday 17th September, at 7.00 p.m. Please mark that date in your diary and come and join Bishop Vincent and the priest of the Diocese in praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life..

Bishop Logan will lead a **HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS IN** St Andrew's cathedral, on Sunday 21st September, from 3.00 - 4.00. You are invited to attend.

#### **JOURNEY OF FAITH**

I have had a few requests to reintroduce the **JOURNEY OF FAITH** on Thursday evenings. Please let me know if you would wish to be involved and we will make arrangements for Thursdays beginning in early September.

#### **CATHOLIC PAPERS**

There is a selection of Catholic Papers available at the back of the Church. The Scottish Catholic Observer keep us in touch with the church in Scotland.

#### **BAPTISMS**

Congratulations to families recently on the birth of children. If you wish to arrange a Baptism in the parish, please have a word with Mary Margaret Wilson who will make the necessary arrangements.

#### **MARRIAGES IN THE DIOCESE OF DUNKELD**

Six months notice is required for a marriage to be celebrated in a church in the Diocese. Please make sure that you speak to the parish before booking any venues for Receptions.

#### **GIFT AID**

Gift Aid works by allowing charities to take a donation (which is money the donor already pays in tax) and then reclaim the gross equivalent (its value before tax was deducted) at the basic rate This is 20% from April 6th 2008. In practice this means that for every pound donated to charity using Gift Aid the charity can claim an additional 25 pence from HMRC. If you pay Income Tax, please consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme in the parish. It is a painless way of contributing that little extra to the parish and the diocese. See Brida Tennant or Margaret McBeth.

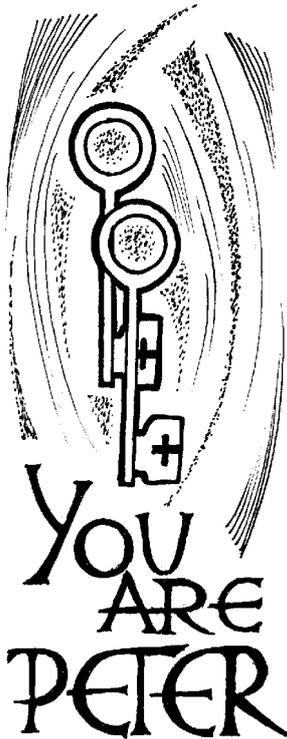
#### **THE YEAR OF ST PAUL**

Please see the Decree from Rome about the Year of St Paul which is on the notice board at the back of the Church. We will be arranging special events to mark this year as we have been designated the Pilgrimage Church for the Diocese.

## THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

Most of us have at least one set of keys. If you are like me, you will lose one or other set from time to time. We know that keys have the power to open and shut, and we do not like to think of that power falling into the hands of strangers. We are careful about who we give our keys to. We give them only to those we really trust.

The first reading and gospel reading today make reference to the giving of keys to people. In the first reading, the Lord gives the key of the house of David to Eliakim. This key gave him the authority to open and to shut the palace in Jerusalem where the king, David's successor, lived. In today's gospel reading, Jesus promises to give the keys of the kingdom of heaven to Peter. The keys of a royal palace are one thing; the keys of the kingdom of heaven are quite another. Of course, Jesus was not speaking literally. The kingdom of heaven is not a purely earthly kingdom; there are no keys to it in the sense in which we all



have house keys. However, the language of giving keys suggests that Jesus is investing Peter with significant authority — authority not in the sense of power, but in the sense of responsibility and service. It is extraordinary that the Christ, the Son of the living God, should give such responsibility to a human being, to flesh and blood. What was the responsibility given to Peter that was signified by the keys? The language of 'binding' and 'loosing' is a Jewish expression and it refers to teaching authority. Jewish rabbis had authority to bind and loose the Jewish law, to declare which parts of the law were binding and which could be interpreted loosely. What Jesus is portrayed as doing in our gospel reading today is giving Peter responsibility for interpreting, not the Jewish law, but the teaching of Jesus for the members of the church.

Jesus was willing to entrust enormous responsibility to human beings. He may have given special responsibility to Peter, but he also entrusted great responsibility to all his followers. At the very end of Matthew's gospel he called on all his disciples to go forth and make disciples of all the nations. In the Our Father we pray, 'Thy kingdom come.' We, thereby, recognise that the coming of God's kingdom is primarily God's responsibility. We look to God to see to the coming of God's kingdom. Yet, there is a great deal in the gospels to suggest that the coming of God's kingdom is also our responsibility. Jesus has made the coming of God's kingdom, the promotion of God's values, dependant on all of us — on some more than on others, certainly, but on all the baptised. Jesus was taking a tremendous risk in doing this. Peter, who was given the greatest responsibility, left a lot to be desired.

In next Sunday's gospel reading, which follows immediately after our gospel reading today, Jesus turns to Peter and says, 'Get behind me Satan.' The rock on which the church was built immediately became an instrument of Satan. Yet, there is no indication in the gospel that Jesus then took back the responsibility he had given to Peter. Jesus presumably knew that he was dealing with very fickle instruments, and yet he entrusted enormous responsibility to them.

Most of us are reasonably aware of our own failings and limitations; the older we get, the more aware we become of them. In spite of our weaknesses, Jesus continues to entrust us with responsibility for the coming of God's kingdom on earth. What else can he do? We are all he has. The choirs of angels cannot do the job he wants done. It is a job for flesh and blood, for flawed people who are, nevertheless, generous, and who learn to trust the Lord as much as he trusts them. When it comes to doing the work of the Lord, whatever that might mean for any one of us, we are not on our own. The Lord is with us. We have his word for it. 'I will be with you always until the end of the age'. The Lord will work within us and among us, if we grasp the responsibility he has given us. That is clear even from today's gospel reading. When Peter made his marvellous confession, Jesus said to him, 'It was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.' Jesus was saying to him, 'Well done, but it was not all your doing.' It is never all our doing. If we do what only we can do, God will certainly do what only God can do.