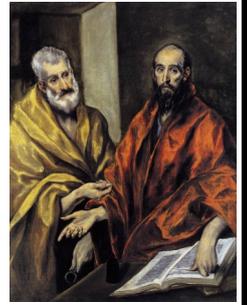




Diocese of Dunkeld  
**St Peter and St Paul's**  
29 Byron Street  
Dundee DD3 6QN  
Tel: 01382 825067  
Scottish Charity No SC001810



Parish Priest: Mgr Ken McCaffrey [Dean]  
Fr Andrew Marshall [studying in Rome]

[ken.mccaffrey@stpeterandstpaul.co.uk](mailto:ken.mccaffrey@stpeterandstpaul.co.uk)

Deacon: Rev Charles Hendry [818183]

Hall: Fay Martin [07932 432577]

Ninewells Hospital Chaplain: 07821 624124 [Hospital Mobile] [Pager:660111]

**Schools:**

St Peter and St Paul's School [436448]

St John's High School [307060]

Webmaster: Martin D Kelly

[webmaster@stpeterandstpaul.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@stpeterandstpaul.co.uk)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stpeterandstpauluk](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterandstpauluk).



*God loved the world so much  
that he gave his only Son*  
John 3:16

**23rd Sunday of the Year**  
**6th September 2020 - Liturgical Year A**  
**Next Sunday is the 24th Sunday of the Year**

*God loved the world  
so much that he gave  
his only Son*  
John 3:16

**This week:**

**Monday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.**

**Tuesday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.**

**Wednesday: Mass at 9.30 a.m. [The Nativity of Our Lady]**

**Thursday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.**

**Friday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.**

**Saturday: Mass at 9.30 a.m.**

**Vigil Mass at 6.00 p.m.**

**Next Sunday: Masses at 9.30 and 11.00**

**Hopefully we will continue to stream our Masses on You Tube.**

Our Masses are open each day for approximately 30 people on a first come first served basis. Please follow the directions and keep social distance. Holy Communion [in the hand] will be distributed at the end of Mass.

*Sermon four of five from Matthew's Gospel provides today's gospel. This is directed to the community. What is to be done regarding the wrongdoer? We can almost hear echoes of an early Christian debate! Jesus teaches that on the one hand, the community must be saved from damage at the hands of wrongdoers, but on the other, every compassionate effort must be made to help the wrongdoer undergo a change of mind and behaviour*

**Of your charity, please pray for:**

**Our recently deceased:** Cathy Walls and Pat Findlayson

**and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Bill Collins, Lydia Shearer, Hilda Mackie, Irene Duncan & Elizabeth Chaplain

**or those sick in hospital or at home:** Mike McKay, Alfred Gray & Thom McGougan

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Thank you for the considerable donations [£809 (Gift Aid - £477) received this week by cheque and into the parish bank account'

If you are able to make a donation to the parish or a direct debit, our bank details are:

**Royal Bank of Scotland - Kingsway Circus Branch**

**277 Strathmartine Road, Dundee DD3 8NS**

**Trustees for the RC Diocese of Dunkeld—St Peter and Paul Mission**

**Sort Code: 83-18-12**

**Account Number: 00106267**

**SCIAF Collections was £125**

**Today's Mass Readings for the 23rd Sunday of the Year**

*Ezekiel 33:7-9* - God tells Ezekiel he will be held accountable for his task as a prophet.

Response: O THAT TODAY YOU WOULD LISTEN TO HIS VOICE

HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS

*Romans 13:8-10* - Paul insists that what is done in love cannot hurt another.

*Matthew 18:15-20* — Jesus shows how love can sometimes include confrontation.

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**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

There are no scheduled time for Confession as yet and we cannot use the Confessional Box. We are available for face to face, socially distanced confession on request any day of the week except Sunday.

**Hospital chaplaincy and visitation**

If you or a loved one is in hospital and wish to receive the Sacraments, please make contact with the Duty Hospital Chaplain on 07821 624124. Other priests have been refused entry to wards at this time. The chaplain can be contacted by pager through the hospital switchboard on 01382 660111.

**SCIAF BOXES**

Some of you may still have SCIAF Lenten Boxes at home. If you have, perhaps you can change any money into notes or a cheque and let me have it as soon as possible. The Government have agreed to double any donations received by the end of September.

We are open for Mass on each morning at 9.30 a.m., and at the usual times for Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning, and please follow directions to seats

Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass and should be received in the hand, and you are asked to leave immediately after receiving Holy Communion.

Using social distancing we can probably allow 27/30 people to Mass. There is no Holy Water and the Fonts and there will be no sign of peace. You must wear a mask at all times and sanitise your hands.

Please do not congregate outside the church after Mass.

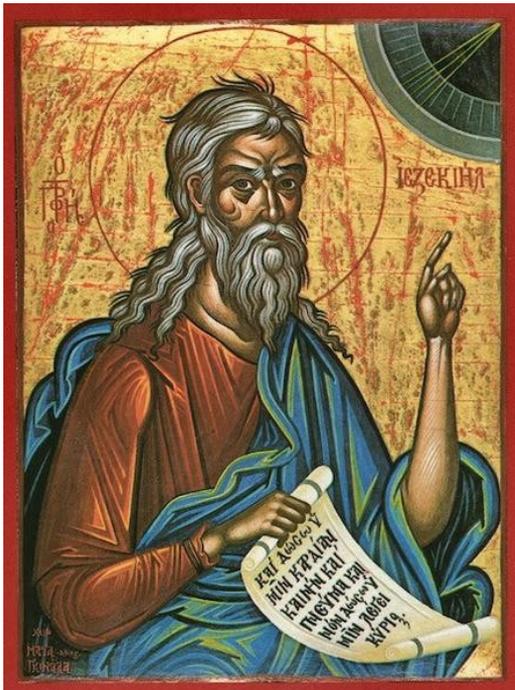


### FIRST COMMUNIONS and CONFIRMATION

All being well we hope to have our delayed First Communion on the Feast of Christ the King - Sunday 22nd November - at 11 o'clock Mass. More details later. First Confessions will be arranged also.



Confirmation, all being well, will be in St Andrew's Cathedral on 30th November at 7.00 p.m., Feast of St Andrew, with St Mary's, Lochee and Our Lady of Victories.



Today's readings confront us with two aspects of the question. Firstly the need for a sense of individual responsibility in the way of conversion. Ezekiel certainly made it clear that the individual is addressed by the Word of God calling for repentance. There is no way out of this personal responsibility.

But all of this should not be seen simply in terms of what the individual owes to the community. The whole Church is called to be supportive of each person who seeks reconciliation. This is especially important in a world where so many people feel threatened by the alienating force of impersonal state structures. The Church is not called to be mega-corporation.

Individuals who are perplexed by their own failures or oppressed by the weaknesses of others, need a community that does not drive them further into isolation but one which calls them through forgiveness and love into the life of fellowship. Living in this fellowship does mean that we owe debts to one another, and as Paul reminds us today the only obligation that ultimately counts is the

debt of love we owe one another.

This reconciled community will be an effective sign to the world not because it creates a superficial harmony, but because it faces the reality of sin in itself. It finds forgiveness as the solution to this threat. Renewal of the ministry of reconciliation in the Church increasingly takes the form of communal services of penance, linked to the celebration of the sacrament. This is an effective way of bringing home to people that all sin affects the community and reconciliation must include the community.

## Where the buck stops



In recent years, disclosures about paedophile priests have shocked and dismayed many Catholics. Old priests with long experience of dealing with sinners and their sins, with all their sordidness, were known to have broken down and wept. That a fellow-priest betrayed his sacred trust with the most innocent of all victims, a child, was beyond their comprehension. What angered people most of all was that his superiors knew about his child abuse aberration for years. How many victims might have been spared had those superiors removed him from ministry.

This issue is clearly linked to today's gospel where Christ said to his disciples: "If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother." Then there is a further process if he does not listen, and finally, "if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector." One wonders whether Christ had anything as heinous as child-abuse by a disciple in mind, when he gave them those practical instructions.

Ironically some who preach against permissiveness can be guilty of its grossest forms. Permissiveness, with its tragic consequences, is symptomatic of our times. From bishops to bosses, politicians to policemen, parents to teachers, "passing the buck" is rampant. We want the privileges of power without its burdens. We shy away from problems, cast a blind eye, shirk the responsibility to speak out. And when the scandal leaks out we want to claim we didn't know. But such ignorance is rejected in Ezekiel where the Lord says: "I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel." And he went on to state plainly: "If you do not warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then I will hold you responsible."

American President Harry Truman had a card on his desk in the White House declaring in bold capitals THE BUCK STOPS HERE!, "The buck stops here." This message would fit in any office where people are "their brother's keepers." But nowhere would it fit better nowadays than on the kitchen mantelpiece, with its four simple words pointing straight at us like an accusing finger. For people with others in their care, the main task is not be to be popular but to be of help. And we help most by accepting our responsibility.

