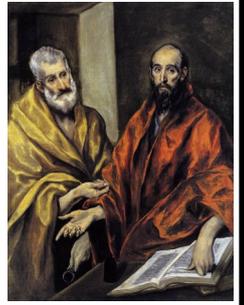




Diocese of Dunkeld  
**St Peter and St Paul's**  
 29 Byron Street  
 Dundee DD3 6QN  
 Tel: 01382 825067



Scottish Charity No SC001810



Parish Priest: **Mgr Ken McCaffrey [Dean]**

[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)

Web Site: [www.stpeterandstpaul.co.uk](http://www.stpeterandstpaul.co.uk)

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



He was Transfigured  
MATTHEW 17:1-8

2nd Sunday in Lent  
**28th February 2021 - Liturgical Year B**  
 Next Sunday is the Third Sunday in Lent

THIS IS MY SON  
 THE BELOVED  
MATTHEW 17:1-8

**This week:**

- Today:** No Mass at 9.30 a.m.  
 Reception of Remains of Sheila Black at 5.00 p.m.
- Monday:** No Mass at 9.30 a.m.  
 Funeral Mass for Sheila Black at 11.00 a.m.
- Tuesday:** Mass at 9.30 a.m.
- Wednesday:** Mass at 9.30 a.m.
- Thursday:** Liturgy of the Word at 9.30 a.m. [Fr Ken has an eye appointment]
- Friday:** Mass at 9.30 a.m.
- Saturday:** Mass at 9.30 a.m.
- Next Sunday:** Mass at 9.30 a.m.

**THE SUNDAY OBLIGATION IS SUSPENDED**

*Please tune into Mass on St Peter and Paul's YOU TUBE Link*



## Of your charity, please pray for:

**Our recently deceased:** Sheila Black [Funeral Mass on Monday at 11.00 a.m., Christine Rice, Mamie Malkowska, Kathleen Keys, & Julie McGowan  
**and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Frank Chaplain & Theresa Low  
**or those sick in hospital:** Teresa Macgregor, Eddie Cleary, Sylvia Delnavo, Jean McKennie & Jack McKennie

### **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**.

### **FINANCE UPDATE**

This year, as you know, has been most challenging in these times of lockdown.

The Virus has had an impact on our parish finances. Our weekly income has been devastated by Church closures and earlier with restrictions in number attending services and many regular contributors have been unable to support the parish during the past year for a variety of reasons. Our income has decreased by around 40%. We have in these cold times kept our church heated and the Gas bill and Electric Bill have been quite high; just over £700 in the last quarter.

We are grateful for those who have supported us by Gift Aid and those who have put their collection envelopes and donations through the door or made donations through our Bank.

If you can make an offering our details are:

Royal Bank of Scotland - Dundee Kingsway Circus Branch, 277 Strathmartine Road, DD3 8NS  
Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld No 3 Charity—St Peter and Paul Mission  
SORT CODE - 83-18-12  
ACCOOUNT - 00106267

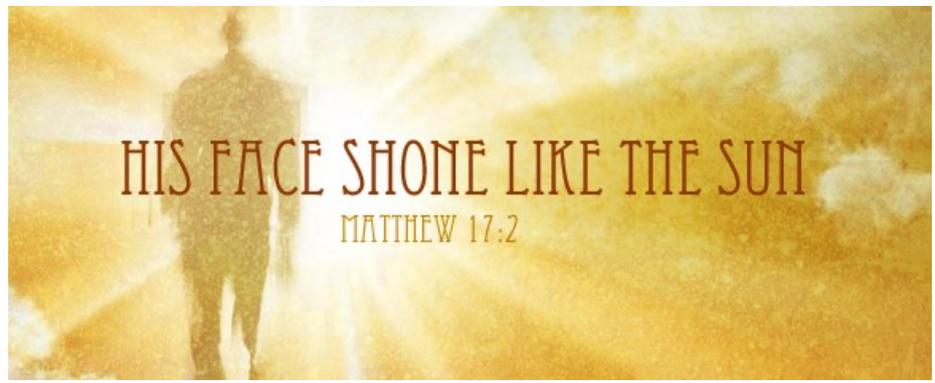
Thank you all for your continued support  
Thank you for donations of £920 received this past week

### **LENTEN SCIAF APPEAL**

Our SCIAF Boxes have been delivered. They may be collected from the Church if you are out for a walk or essential reasons. The Little Chapel will be open during daylight hours after Mass on Sunday. Please enter by the side door, sanitise your hand take a SCIAF Package. Also available will be a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Stephen for Lent and the parish newsletter. Please follow the Government Guidelines and stay safe. Please feel free to take SCIAF booklets and newsletters for your neighbours. CCTV will be in operation at all times.

## Freedom to let go

I came across a sentence in a book I was reading recently which struck me very forcibly: 'all love relationships flourish only when there is freedom to let go of what is precious, so as to receive it back as a gift'. It is not easy to let go of what is precious.



The more precious someone is to us, the harder it is to let go of that person. The more attractive someone is to us, the more we feel inclined to possess that person. Yet, in the effort to possess someone we can easily lose them. At the heart of all loving relationships is the freedom to let go of the other, and in letting go to receive the other back as a gift. Parents know that there comes a time when they have to let go of their sons or daughters, even though they are more precious to them than anything else. They may have to let them go to another country or to the person whom they have chosen as their future spouse. Yet, in letting go of their children, parents invariably discover that they receive them back as a gift. Single people too have to learn the freedom of letting go what is precious so as to receive it back as a gift. In any good and healthy friendship, people need to give each other plenty of space.

In today's reading Abraham is portrayed as being willing to let go of what was most precious to him, the only son of his old age. In being willing to let his son go to God, he went on to receive him back as a gift. Many people find it a very disturbing story, because it portrays God as asking Abraham to sacrifice his only beloved son as a burnt offering to God. We are rightly shocked by the image of God asking a father to sacrifice his son in this way. Abraham lived about a thousand years before Christ. In the religious culture of that time it was not uncommon for people to sacrifice their children to various gods. The point of the story seems to be that the God of Israel is not like the pagan gods. If Abraham thought that God was asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac like the people who worshipped other gods, he was wrong. God was not asking this of Abraham. Yet, the willingness of Abraham to let go of what was most precious to him if that was what God was asking remained an inspiration to the people of Israel. He had already shown a willingness to let go of his family and his homeland as he set out towards an unknown land in response to God's call.

The early church came to understand the relationship between Abraham and Isaac as pointing ahead to the relationship between God the Father and Jesus. Like Abraham, God was prepared to let go of what was most precious to him, his one and only Son, out of love for humanity. God was prepared to let his Son go to humanity, with all the dangers that entailed for his Son. Saint Paul was very struck by this extraordinary generosity of God on our behalf, as he says in the 2nd Reading, 'God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all'. God let his precious Son go to humanity even though the consequences of that were the rejection of his Son and, ultimately, his crucifixion. Even after Jesus was crucified, God continued to give him to us as risen Lord. When Paul contemplates this self-emptying love of God for us, he asks aloud, in the opening line of that 2nd Reading, 'With God on our side who can be against us?' Paul is declaring that if God's love for us is this complete, then we have nothing to fear from anyone. Here is a love that has no trace of possessiveness, a love that makes us lovable.

In today's gospel reading, Peter, James and John are taken up a high mountain by Jesus, and there they have an experience of Jesus which took their breath away. It was an experience that was so precious that Peter could not let it go. He wanted to prolong it indefinitely and so he says to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. He and the other two disciples had a fleeting glimpse of the heavenly beauty of Christ, and did not want to let go of it. Beauty always attracts; it calls out to us. Yet, Peter and the others had to let go of this precious experience; it was only ever intended to be momentary. They would receive it back in the next life as a gift. For now, their task was to listen to Jesus, 'This is my beloved Son. Listen to him'. That is our task too. We spend our lives listening to the Lord as he speaks to us in his word and in and through the circumstances of our lives; we listen to him as a preparation for that wonderful moment when we see him face to face in eternity and we can finally say, 'it is wonderful to be here'.

# DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

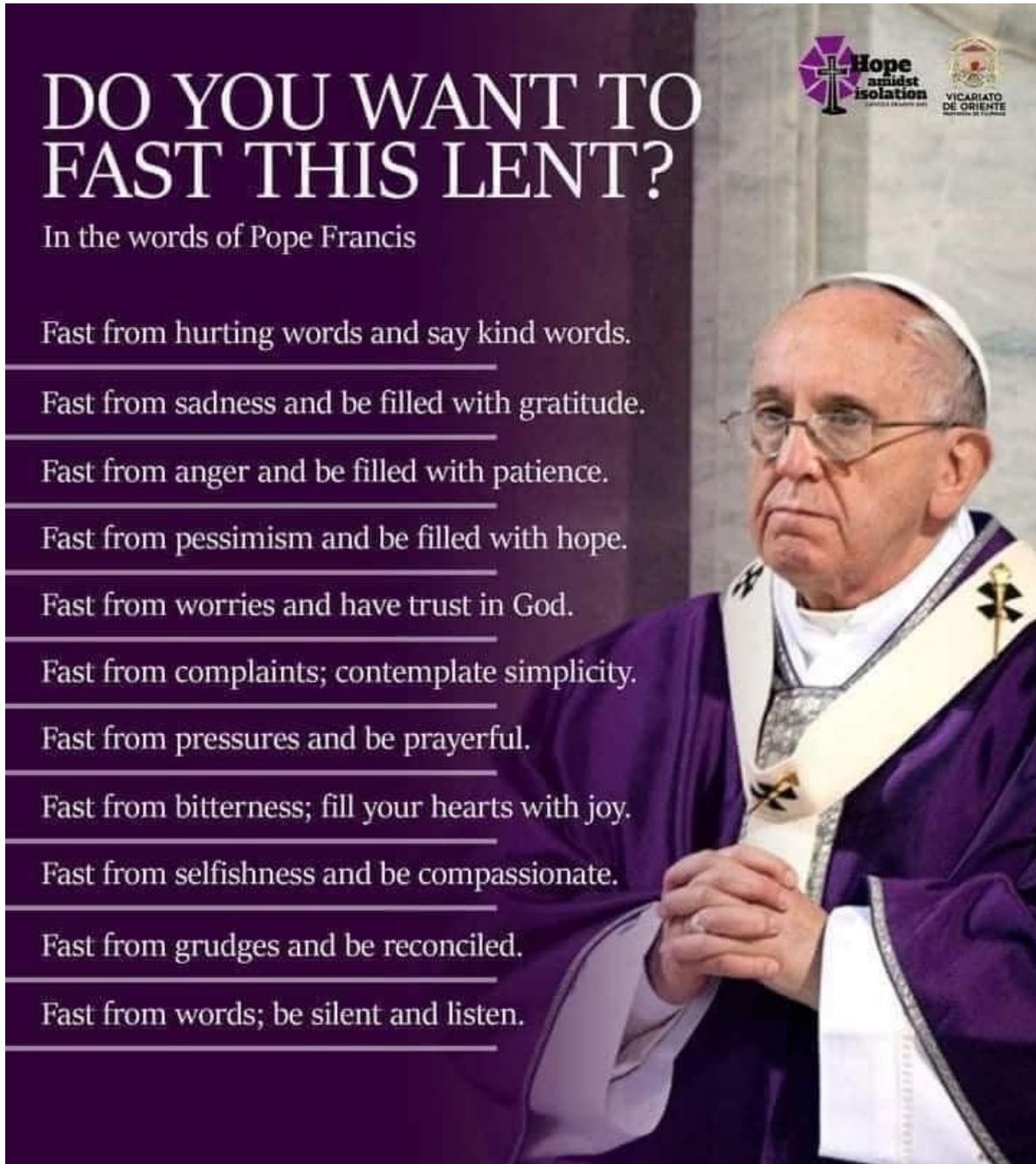
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



Bishop Stephen has made a number of clerical changes to take effect from Sunday 21st March.

Fr Michael Carrie will become parish priest of St Mungo's, Alloa. Fr Ninian Doohan will become PP of St Patrick's, in addition to St Pius X. Canon Kevin Golden [with assistance] will become PP of Our Lady of Victories [St Mary's, Forebank] Fr Andrew Marshall be Administrator of St Thomas of Canterbury, Arbroath. Mgr Ken McCaffrey, in addition to being chaplain at St Paul's Academy, will also be chaplain to St John's High School.

Fr Jim Walls will return from being Spiritual Director in the Scots College, Rome, for the last 3 years, will return to the Diocese after the summer.

In discussions with Bishop Stephen, after lockdown is over, we will look at the possibility of reducing our Sunday Morning Masses from 2 [9.30 and 11.00] to one, possibly at 10.15 so that I can help out if necessary elsewhere.

More details to follow.