



Diocese of Dunkeld
St Peter and St Paul's
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Scottish Charity No SC001810



Parish Priest: Mgr Ken McCaffrey
Associate Priest: Dr Rogi Thomas CST
Fr Andrew Marshall [studying in Rome]

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Deacon: Rev Charles Hendry [818183]

Hall: Fay Martin [07932 432577]

Ninewells Hospital Chaplain [also Royal Victoria and Roxburgh House: Father Alan Doohan
07821 624124 [Hospital Mobile] [Pager:660111]

Schools:

St Peter and St Paul's School [436448]

St John's High School [307060]

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Third Sunday in Advent
16th December 2018
Liturgical Year C - GAUDATE SUNDAY



This week:

Monday:

Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Tuesday:

Mass in St Paul's Academy at 8.25 a.m.

Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Charismatic Prayer Group at 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday:

School Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Thursday:

Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.

Mass in St John's High at 1.30 p.m.

Friday:

Funeral Mass at 9.30 a.m. [Margaret Andrews]

Saturday

Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Vigil Mass of Fourth Sunday in Advent at 6.00 p.m.

There is Mass in Lawside Convent each morning at 8.30 a.m., and there is also Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral at 1.00 p.m., from Monday to Friday and 10.00 a.m., on Saturdays.



Of your charity, please pray for:

Our recently deceased: Mgr Noel Woods [Glasgow], Betty Whitton, Ian Ramage, Annie Smith & Margaret Andrews [Funeral on Friday at 9.30 a.m.]
and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joseph Dailly, Andrew Brown, Margaret Rice, Ann Slane & Nina Hopkins

or those sick in hospital: Fr Jim McCrudden, Nuala Devlin, Brian McSweeney, Bill Lynch, Aaron Smith, Paul Kirkwood & Orryn Glancy
and all those who are sick or housebound in our parish and receive the Eucharist each Sunday..

We had some difficulty reading some of the names on our list this wee. Please print the names clearly.
If someone is sick at home, please let Fr Ken or Deacon Charles know.



Thank you for last week's Collection of £1045 [Gift Aid was 448.50]
Thank you for your generosity.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Our Liturgy of the Word for children is on Sundays at 11 o'clock Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Wednesday EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will not take place until January.



NINEWELLS HOSPITAL - ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL - ROXBURGH HOUSE

Fr Alan Doohan is Chaplain to the Hospitals. There is a new Hospital dedicated mobile for Fr Doohan [07821 624124] and the Hospital Pager is 01382 660111.



St John's High School Christmas Concert will take place in the School Hall on Tuesday at 7.00 p.m. Tickets are £3 for adults and £1 for children or OAP's



There will be an Advent service in St Joseph's Convent, Lawside led by Fr Mark Cassidy on next Tuesday, 18th December at 7pm.



If you would like to donate a CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA in memory of a loved one, to help decorate our Church and Crib for Christmas, please bring them next weekend.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve - Vigil Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Christmas Eve - Mass at 8.30 p.m.

Christmas Day - Mass at 10.00 a.m.

There will be Evening Mass on Christmas Day at 6.00p.m., in St Andrew's Cathedral, for those who work in Healthcare and Hospitality and are working on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

YOUTH FOR LOURDES CAROL CONCERT

Sunday 23rd December at 3.00 p.m. St Peter and Paul's
[Retiring Offering and refreshments in the Hall]



JOURNEY TO PERMANENT DIACONATE

Jim Leary, one of our parishioners is presently studying for the Permanent Diaconate. The first formal step on that journey is the Ministry of Lector [Reader]. Jim will be instituted as a Lector on Saturday at 10 o'clock Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral, by Bishop Stephen. Please pray for Jim and all are welcome to Mass in Cathedral.

Awakening Conscience

The Baptist's preaching shook the consciences of many. That prophet of the desert was saying loud and clear what they felt in their heart: it was necessary to change, to come back to God, to prepare themselves to welcome the Messiah. Some approached him with this question: What must we do?

The Baptist has very clear ideas. He doesn't propose that they add new religious practices to their life. He doesn't ask them to stay in the desert doing penance. He doesn't talk to them about new rules. You need to welcome the Messiah by looking attentively to those in need. He doesn't weave any sublime theories or get caught up in deep motivations. Speaking directly, in the purest prophetic style, he summarizes everything in one great formula: «Anyone who has two tunics must share with the one who has none, and anyone with something to eat must do the same». And we - what must we do to welcome Christ amidst this society in crisis?

Before all else, we must make a greater effort to know what's going on: the lack of information is the first cause of our passivity. Also, we mustn't tolerate lies or the cover-up of the truth. We need to know, in its harsh reality, the suffering that is caused by injustice in our midst. It's not enough to be generous once in a while. We need to move toward a more sober life and «becoming poor» little by little, cutting back on our current level of well-being, in order to share with the most needy so many things we now have but don't really need in order to live.

We need to especially notice those who have fallen into grave situations of social exclusion: the evicted, those deprived of needed sanitation, those without work or any social resources.... and instinctively go out in defense of those who are drowning in powerlessness and the lack of motivation to deal with their future. In our Christian communities we can develop different initiatives to be near to the most violent cases of social abandonment: by concrete knowledge of situations, mobilization of people so as to not leave anyone isolated; sharing of material resources, development of possible assistance.

For many these are difficult times. All of us can play our part in humanizing our reckless consumerism, becoming more aware of the suffering of victims, practicing solidarity, denouncing the lack of compassion as the crisis grows. It is a way of more fully welcoming Christ in our lives

ADVENT PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to you on this Third Sunday of Advent when the theme of JOY is central to the Liturgy: Gaudete!, Rejoice! Today we are encouraged to be joyful at the coming of the Lord! We are to welcome his presence and to share that closeness of the Lord with others. But who are the 'others' we are speaking about?

First of all, of course, we think of our families and the sacred duty they have to pass on their faith in Jesus Christ. Alongside our children and teenagers, we think also of our young people, our young married couples and our elderly relatives. Then further afield there are also our extended families and neighbours, and especially those who have ceased walking along the Road of Faith with us, for all sorts of reasons. Further, our diocesan family now has fellow Catholics from many different cultures. They also enrich and complement our Diocese. How do we reach out especially to them?

Our parishes and families and Catholic schools do so much to pass on the Faith; yet, we are still a very lapsed family. A good number still go to Mass regularly, but these active Catholics represent less than a fifth of our total Catholic population in the diocese. Further, though going to Mass isn't the only way of demonstrating and witnessing to our Catholic Faith, it is the minimum we can do to show our love for the Lord! So such a statistic does matter, and we need to ask ourselves very seriously what has gone wrong? Why is the Gospel no longer Good News for so many?

Perhaps the reasons for this are many and we can speculate about a few of them. But one big reason why our people lapse could be due to the fact that we, as a Catholic People, have lost, or are losing, our sense of mission. If we really believe in our Catholic Faith, and really seek to love the Lord above all things, then what is stopping us from telling others about Jesus, our Lord?

Rather than agonising for ever as to the reasons why, I am writing to invite you today, on this day dedicated to Joy in the Lord, to join me in an initiative to strengthen and confirm us all in the way we share our Faith.

As you know, I deeply value the commitment and devotion to be found everywhere in our Diocese. But since becoming your Bishop I have been thinking about more effective ways we can build on our existing strengths and respond to the challenges of our busy and confusing world. And if we are to be authentic teachers of faith we must renew and deepen our understanding of what it means for us to be disciples – and even apostles - of Jesus.

It seems to me that one effective and practical way to do this is to establish a School of Catechists where some among us can be properly trained to become persuasive and authentic 'echoes' of Our Lord who commands us to "Go Out and Make Disciples".

Our goal would be to have, in every parish of the diocese, a team of properly trained catechists who would be able to animate others to spread and live the Faith more fully. Our journey of Faith, after all, never comes to an end!

We live in challenging times and in these days our communities and parishes need kind, loving and generous witnesses to Faith. First, we need to treasure our Catholic Schools and build upon their strengths, but we also need to develop and enthuse not only our fellow active parishioners, but also reach out to the people who have lost confidence in the Church and bring them back to the full embrace of our Community. We all have friends and family members who have drifted from practice of their Faith and who may simply be in need of encouragement, welcome or healing, in order to 'Come Home' to the Church.

The Recent *Ad Limina* visit of the Scottish Bishops to Rome, to the 'threshold of the Apostles', was an opportunity to consider and converse with Pope Francis and others about how best to nurture, encourage and respond to the challenges that face our Catholic faithful in Scotland. Pope Francis is passionate about having Missionary Disciples in every parish and in fact he calls all Catholics to take seriously the promises of their baptism and confirmation.

As a beginning, after prayer and reflection, in collaboration with my brother priests and lay people I have decided to convene a Conference on Catechesis on Saturday, 12th January 2019, where we can gather to pray, discern and plan how to renew and grow in our Christian life together. I ask you to support this endeavour, for it is only by all working together - lay people, sisters, priests, deacons and Bishop - that we can grow in service of The Kingdom of God.

This Conference, held at our Diocesan Centre, will involve existing Catechists in our parishes and those who might aspire to become trained as Catechists. It is my hope that each Parish will nominate at least two attendees and that all of us will gather in openness and generosity of spirit. Further, we pray that this Conference will be a springboard to developing more consistent faith formation opportunities that will support a lived and lively approach to Christian life, an ongoing faithful support for families and young people negotiating and responding to the challenges of modern living, and also an approach to welcome and outreach to our families and friends who for a variety of reasons may have become distanced, hurt or disillusioned with an active commitment to our diocesan family. Let us begin this new work with a spirit of hope and optimism, welcome and forgiveness, trusting that God will bless our efforts and intentions.

Finally, next year will be a Year of Re-Evangelisation in our local Church. Two special events will form bookends, as it were, to the Year. In Eastertide there will be a mini three-day Eucharistic Congress centred on the Cathedral in Dundee, but with celebrations and adoration of the Blessed Eucharist around the diocese. In the Month of October we shall celebrate a special Month of Mission. This month will be marked by a visit to our Diocese of the Holy Relics of St Therese of Lisieux, the 'Little Flower' and Patroness of the Missions, over several days. We pray that the month of October next year will be a great time of renewal and Mission.

There will be much more news about all these initiatives in the months to come. In the meantime may the remainder of Advent be for you a time of anticipation and joy and may you all have a most Blessed Christmas.

Yours devotedly in Christ

Stephen Robson
Bishop of Dunkeld

Please remember to talk to God when you come into the Church, let God talk to you during Mass, then talk to one another after Mass

