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Welcome to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Gregory Murphy OP

Parish Priest

Chaplain to Dundee and Abertay Universities

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SACRAMENTAL SCHEDULE

HOLY MASS – THE EUCHARIST

In Church: Sunday at 10.00am. In winter in Chapel: on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 10.00am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT with benediction on Wednesday after 10.00am Mass.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION Mass: 10.00am and 6.00pm.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE - by appointment with Fr Greg. Parish Priest is available to visit sick parishioners who are sick at home and may administer the **SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**. Please telephone landline or mobile to request an appointment with the priest.

For more info: webpage www.stjosephsdundee.org.uk

HOMILY HELPS

John writes that the disciples locked the doors of the upper room “for fear of the Jews” (John 20:19), but it may well be that they were afraid of more than the religious authorities who had turned Jesus over to Pilate. After all, hadn't they all pretty much abandoned him at the end when he was in danger? No one was there to oppose the mob who chanted for his crucifixion. Peter had even denied him three times. An unfortunate Cyrenian had to help carry his cross. Perhaps what the disciples really feared was God's judgment. Mark admits that they were afraid after seeing the empty tomb. John says they didn't yet understand what “rising from the dead” meant. Perhaps when they began to understand, they feared that he would return disappointed in them or angry at them. But Jesus disarms them when he greets them, “Peace be with you” (20:19), repeating it as their fear turns to joy.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - TODAY

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

VICTORY IS OURS

Here is what the Readings for this week claim. By his cross, Christ conquered sin; by his resurrection, he destroyed death. At Easter, we celebrate his victory with joy.

The Second Reading affirms that Christ's victory is ours. If we have faith that Jesus is the Christ, then we are begotten by God. If we are, then we conquer the world. And if we do, then we love God, we love the children of God, and we keep God's commandments obediently. In that condition, we are victorious with Christ.

But these lines in the Second Reading look like joy-destroyers, don't they? If we don't keep God's commandments, if we don't love God's children, we don't conquer the world. And if we don't conquer the world, then we aren't begotten of God. And in that case, we don't really have faith. How do we have victory then?

And it gets worse.

In another place, the same Epistle says that anyone who says he doesn't have sin is a liar (I John 1:8). So, it seems that there is a Catch-22 here. If you sin, you aren't victorious. You are a loser. But if you try claiming that you don't sin, you are guilty of lying, which is a sin; and so, you aren't victorious in that case either.

It seems that whether you think you sin or think you don't sin, you lose. So, what happened to our victory? Where is joy?

The solution is to notice what faith is. Faith is the belief that Jesus is the Christ, the one who—the one who what? Well, the one who conquers sin and death.

So here is the message from the Readings. For our part, we are saved from sin and death by believing that we are saved from sin and death—by Christ. There is no Catch-22. Even in our sinful state, where truth forces us to confess our disobedience and our failures in love, we are victorious—over the sin and death in ourselves—as long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us.

This faith is what God requires of us, and the Second Reading is right: this requirement isn't burdensome.

So here is our joy: As long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us, the victory of Christ is ours.

Eleonore Stump

HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON - 07821 624 124

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

In what way do I notice the gift of God's mercy today?

To whom do I need to extend mercy?

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Still basking in the glory of Easter, today we celebrate God's unparalleled mercy. Out of mercy for all of us, Jesus died on the cross, atoning for our sins, past, present, and future. Out of mercy for those whose faith is weak, or doubt is strong, Jesus comes to reassure us of his eternal presence. Out of mercy for those who cannot see him, Jesus blesses them in their faith. This Easter season, let us rejoice, for the risen Lord is in our midst, forever bestowing God's divine mercy upon us.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The glory of the Resurrection permeates God's word on this joyous day that continues our Easter celebration. No longer are the disciples confused and adrift, as they were when first seeing the empty tomb. In the first reading, we hear that the entire community of believers bears witness to the Resurrection by what they do and how they live. They treat each other with mercy and love, as Jesus did when he appeared to all the disciples, even Thomas, who had doubted. Let us join in praise, for God's mercy endures forever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 4: 32-35

United, heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 117

**'Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.'**

Second Reading 1 John 5: 1-6

Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." Alleluia!

Gospel John 20: 19-31

Eight days later Jesus came.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 7 APRIL 2024

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Pat Esgate, Charlie Welsh, Gillian Donnelly, Geoff Earnshaw, Michael Fernando, Margaret Forsyth, Margaret McDonagh, Tony and Margaret Beck, Anya Bell, Fletcher Ditchburn, Andrew Fyffe, Luisa Gawlik, Lisa Gilesie and Leanne Walker. **May they feel the healing power of Christ, in body and in spirit.**

Please pray for those who have died and gone before us in faith – for the souls of Nessie Shields and Jimmy Gibson, who have died recently, and Marie Anderson, Helen MacPherson, Cathy Fraser, Bob Galloway, Helen Foy and Joanna Daniels, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

LOVE IS AN ACT OF ENDLESS FORGIVENESS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday and at 3.00pm in the church there will be Exposition, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction. Please join us if you can, for an hour. You would be most welcome. Thanks - *Divine Mercy Group*

INSTALLATION OF BISHOP MARTIN CHAMBERS

This special service will be held on Saturday 27 April at St Andrew's Cathedral. Whilst this is an occasion that we would all like to attend, regrettably parish numbers will be limited, and entry will only be by ticket. At present, it is not known how many tickets will be allocated to St Joseph's Parish, but it would be helpful to know who would want to attend. Please add your individual name to the sheet at the desk in the porch to assist with this. It is Fr Greg's intention to allocate most of the parish tickets on a draw basis.

WEEKLY CHURCH OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

HOLY SATURDAY 30/03/24

Loose Plate £144 Gift Aid Envelopes £45

EASTER SUNDAY 31/03/24

Loose Plate £170 Gift Aid Envelopes £276
Standing Orders £233 Additional Offertories £250

TOTAL £1,118

2nd COLLECTION – HOLY PLACES £133

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES

Monday 8 April THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD

The **Annunciation** by the Archangel Gabriel of the imminent arrival of the long-awaited Messiah, born to the humble Virgin of Nazareth, shows us the Faith of Our Blessed Lady – unsure of what was really involved, she nonetheless agreed to God's plan. *God's plan, unfolding through Isaiah and others, climaxes in Mary, the girl from Nazareth, as she says, "Yes!". Can we too echo the psalmist, "Here I am Lord! I come to do your will"?*

NEWS AND INFORMATION

NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES – please remember to use the new 'blue' envelopes from this Sunday. Just to remind all gift aiders that the Personal Tax Allowance remains at **£12,570** for this new tax year. Please do check that you pay sufficient tax to support your Gift Aid contribution to us. If you are interested in knowing more about donating to the church with gift aid, there are explanatory leaflets available on the desk in the porch. You can also talk to Bob Ireland or John Sinclair for further information. Thanks.

SCIAF WEE BOXES 2024 – thank you to everyone in the parish who is supporting SCIAF's Lenten Appeal. Please return your Wee Box to us as soon as possible. Can you add Gift Aid? If so, please fill in the declaration on your box.

NEW PPC MINUTES – these are displayed on the porch noticeboard. Please take the time to read and understand what parish issues the PPC are addressing at present.

HOME BAKING EVENT – will be held **TODAY**, after the 10.00am Mass. Please support us by purchasing from our stall. Many thanks - *Margaret Sinclair*.

CHURCH FOOD BANK – could you help by contributing regularly one or two items on a weekly basis? Please support if you can. The food bank is located in the entrance vestibule next to the side altar to Our Lady.

WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S – we are happy to welcome everyone, for Sunday Holy Mass, to our beautiful church of St Joseph's, here in Dundee. Stay afterwards and have tea!