

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

28 APRIL 2024



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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

HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON
07821 624 124

HOMILY HELPS

Saul was in a very difficult place after his conversion. By immediately boldly speaking in Jesus' name, he stirred up murderous feelings in the Hellenists, who were probably Greek-speaking Jews living outside Judea. But most of the disciples still feared him, for he had just been persecuting them, even presiding over Stephen's stoning. Barnabas saves the day—and Saul's skin. Convinced of Saul's sincerity, Barnabas vouched for him to the disciples. In a way, Barnabas was like a node on the vine, allowing Saul to be grafted onto it and accepted by the other branches. Not even Barnabas could have guessed then that Saul—re-named Paul—would go on to bear fruit like no other branch of the vine, adding branches of the vine all over the known world.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How will I bear fruit this week . . . at home, at work or school, and in my community?

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY

The first command God gave to human beings was “be fruitful and multiply” (Gen.1:28). In the Gospel Reading, there is a kind of reiteration of this command. At any rate, the text describes the bad things that happen to people who are not fruitful.

In Genesis, the fruitfulness has to do with reproduction. It comes from union between a man and a woman, and it multiplies God's image in the production of children.

The fruitfulness at issue in the Gospel comes from connection too, but connection with Christ. It comes when Christ is in you, and you are in him.

This reciprocal being-in is a funny state of affairs, isn't it? You can put a bowl in a box, or you can put a box in a bowl. But the box can't be in the bowl when the bowl is in the box!

Boxes and bowls can't manage reciprocal being-in. But persons can, because of love. Love unites you and your beloved without either one of you losing your identity. The union of love is not a fusing; it is a mutual indwelling.

In the Gospel Reading, Christ says that he always remains in his own. So, if you yield to Christ in love, you have what is needed for the mutual indwelling of love. You are your beloved's, and he is yours. (Song of Songs 6:3) There is joy in this love, because Christ is so much with you that he is in you. There is peace, too, because there is rest for the heart in having your beloved with you.

Your sins and the storms of life retain their power to afflict you. But you can more easily put up with things, even your own troublesome self, if your beloved is yours and you are his.

In that mutual indwelling, then, there is love, joy, peace, patience and longsuffering. But these very things are fruits of the Holy Spirit. When they grow in you, you are bearing fruit.

Finally, consider: is there a more powerful witness than a life lived in love, joy, peace, patience and long-suffering? If you have the fruits of the Holy Spirit in you, you will multiply God's image in others too.

And so, by remaining in Christ, you are doing what will make you be fruitful and multiply.

Eleonore Stump

PRAYER IS THE KEY THAT OPENS THE HEART OF GOD

WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S – PROTECTOR OF THE CHURCH

We are happy to welcome everyone, for Sunday Holy Mass, to our beautiful church of St Joseph's, here in Dundee.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

"I am the vine, you are the branches," we hear Jesus tell his disciples in today's Gospel. We are those branches now. Connected to the vine that is the Lord, we are expected to bear fruit. What fruit do we bear? Let us contemplate that question as we prepare to celebrate Mass today. May listening to God's word and sharing in the Eucharist nourish us as we strive to bear good fruit for the Lord.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, we catch a glimpse of Saint Paul (still called Saul) at a unique time. Just recently converted, he is intent on speaking boldly in Jesus' name. John tells us that believing in Jesus' name and loving one another are the ways to remain in him. Finally, we hear Jesus ask his disciples to remain in him as branches remain on a vine. In doing so, he assures them, they will bear fruit abundantly. Let us hear how we can become such disciples ourselves.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 9: 26-31

Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 21

'You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.'

Second Reading 1 John 3: 18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe in his Son and that we love one another.

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 15: 1-8

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 28 APRIL 2024

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Pat Smith, Charlie Welsh, Pat Esgate, Gillian Donnelly, Geoff Earnshaw, Michael Fernando, Margaret Forsyth, Margaret McDonagh, Tony and Margaret Beck, Anya Bell, Fletcher Ditchburn, Andrew Fyffe, Luisa Gawlik and Lisa Gillespie. **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 Fr Martin Chambers, our Bishop-Elect, John Quinn and Ronald McFarlane, who have all died recently, and Canon Michael Milton, Mgr Charles Hendry, Margaret Mair, Ella Smith, Sr Monica Coyle, Bill Newall, Stephen Black, Kenny McDonald and Ida Smith, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

NEWSLETTER – PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

If you have requested someone to be included in our current listing, could you please confirm by email that you wish them to continue to be on the list. This will also allow me to know who to contact for update information. Long-term sick will always be included in the newsletter, but every name may not be read out at every Sunday Mass but will be read out regularly. Thank you for your assistance.

John Sinclair – john.sinclair9@outlook.com

ASSISTED SUICIDE – CALLED TO CARE, NOT TO KILL

Today, at the end of the Mass, there will be a Pastoral Letter on Assisted Suicide read out from the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. Printed copies of the letter are available on leaving and these provide further detail of the action that we can all take as Catholics to stop assisted suicide becoming legal in Scotland. The bishops urge us all to take action as requested. Further information is also available if required – again this detail is provided on the handout.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 21/04/24

Loose Plate £144 Gift Aid Envelopes £203

Standing Orders £233

TOTAL £580

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Many of us are being drawn into paying income tax due to thresholds not increasing. If you start paying tax, think about giving your offertory with gift aid as it would benefit the church tremendously. Explanatory leaflets in the porch.

200 CLUB 2024 APRIL DRAW – held last Sunday

Congratulations to the winners:

1st Prize £100 Ticket Number 49 – Derek Henderson

2nd Prize £25 Ticket Number 99 – Chris Wylie

There are ticket numbers available if you wish to join or add a further number. Pro-rata rate for remainder of year. Available numbers on noticeboard - speak to Linda Gow.

HOME BAKING EVENT

This will be held next Sunday, 4 May, after the 10.00am Mass. Please support us on the day by providing baking and other goodies and also by purchasing from our stall. Many thanks – *Margaret Sinclair*.

CHURCH CLEANING

Just to remind our cleaning team that there will be cleaning this coming Thursday, 2 May, from 9.00am for a couple of hours. New volunteers would be most welcome. Thanks.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

NEXT TAIZÉ SERVICE – please join us for an hour of Taizé chant, music, Adoration and prayer in **St Joseph's Church** on Thursday 2 May at 7.00pm. All are most welcome.

FUNERAL MASS – for John Quinn, will be held here in the church on Wednesday 1 May at 10.00am.

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.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER – by email to:

Fr Greg :- stjosephdundee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

John Sinclair :- john.sinclair9@outlook.com

News, information and feedback would be great to help enliven and improve our weekly newsletter – just send it!

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT ST JOSEPHS?

We are really desperate for more help and support **now** so a list of our parish needs is displayed on the noticeboard in the porch. Please consider if you can assist in some way – **and don't just dismiss! If we are able, we should all be doing something to help one another in our parish.**