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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

It is just coincidence that we hear today's Gospel two weeks after celebrating the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, but in both Gospel passages Jesus speaks of grain that can be baked into bread. Today we hear Jesus compare the Kingdom of God to grains of wheat grown in fertile soil. Last week we heard Jesus take the fruit of those fields of wheat and declare, 'This is my body' (Mark 14:22). Neither the kingdom of God nor the Body of Christ just miraculously appear, sent down from heaven. They are fruits of the earth, of human labour. Stalks of wheat grow from the soil, the grain is harvested by farm labourers and made into bread by bakers. The kingdom of God is built up by many of us together by the work of our hands. Jesus was born of Mary, the fruit of her womb.

BISHOP-ELECT ANDREW MCKENZIE

The Mass of Installation of our new Bishop will take place on Saturday 10 August in St Andrew's Cathedral. Further details and information about the timing and tickets to attend will be provided shortly.

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus says that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. When it is sown in the ground, it is the smallest of seeds; but it can grow to become the largest of plants.

So, the kingdom of God can be very small, or it can change its size and become very big.

But why wouldn't the kingdom of God always be the same size?

To see the answer, you have to recognize that the kingdom of God isn't a peculiar kind of country. God's kingdom isn't a place at all. It's a condition, the condition of God's ruling as king.

But we might think, even so, God's kingdom can't shift sizes. God's rule is always the same size: it's everywhere.

And yet this can't be right either. What is ruled by a king is governed by the will of the king. But how much of God's will does any Christian fulfil? Everything is subject to the will of God the King, for sure, but not every Christian who counts as being in the kingdom of God fulfils God's will completely now.

So, *this* is the way in which God's kingdom can change size. When a Christian does what is against God's will, to that extent the will of God is not fulfilled in her. And so, to that same extent, the kingdom of God is small in her too. On the other hand, the more a Christian fulfils God's will in her life, the greater the kingdom of God in her is.

This is one way we can understand Christ's parable of the mustard seed, then. When a Christian first opens himself up to receive God as Lord, the Lord rules very little of him. And so, the kingdom of God is like the littlest seed in the ground of his heart. But if only he lets that seed grow in him, if only he doesn't give up on himself as fruitless and despair of himself, then that littlest seed of God's kingdom will grow and grow in him till it becomes like a great tree in him.

In the end, though, here is the most important thing to see. If you have even just a mustard seed's worth of faith and obedience, you still have the kingdom of God within you.

Eleonore Stump

**HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON
07821 624 124**

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What resources and talents do I have that I can use to build the kingdom of God like a seed that grows to a fruitful plant?

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Today's readings are especially timely at this point of the year. Two of the passages concern nature, specifically the growth of large trees and plants. As we head into summer, we can appreciate the shade from an expansive, leafy tree. On this Father's Day, a sturdy tree that provides shelter and comfort may remind us of our own father or fathers we know. Like trees and plants during the summer, like fathers who love us and care for us, the seeds we sow and nurture grow slowly and steadily, producing fruit that builds the kingdom of God in our midst.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Ezekiel sets the tone for today's selections from God's word when he relates God's promise to grow a majestic tree that will stand out among all the rest. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the well-known parable of the mustard seed, a tiny seed that produces a huge plant. The fruit of the natural world—of God's wondrous creation—continues to provide for us, even as its miraculous growth enthralls and delights us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Ezekiel 17: 22-24

O make low trees grow.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 91

'It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.'

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 4: 26-34

It is the smallest of all the seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 16 JUNE 2024

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Margaret Beck, Tony Beck, Anya Behl, Fletcher Ditchburn, Geoff Earnshaw, Michael Fernando, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie, Gerard Halliday, Margaret McDonagh, John MacPherson, Rena Samson, Pat Smith, Leanne Walker and Charlie Welsh. **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 Greta Gallacher, Cathy Staddle, Irene Cathro, Atholl Hill and Monsignor Joseph Holder, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

FATHER'S DAY BLESSINGS

THE LORD

BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

THE LORD

MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU

AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU

THE LORD

TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU

AND GIVE YOU PEACE

NUMBERS 6: 24-26

WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S – Protector of the Church

Thank you for your interest in our parish. Whether you're just visiting us for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, are returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we're happy you are here.

AN ELECTION PRAYER

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful members of our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 09/06/24

Loose Plate £104 Gift Aid Envelopes £208

Standing Orders £259 Additional Offertories £60

TOTAL £631

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2nd COLLECTION TODAY - THE DAY FOR LIFE

Apologies for not providing prior notification of this 2nd collection last Sunday. You will still be able to give next Sunday through a special collection box at the desk.

200 CLUB 2024 JUNE DRAW – held last Sunday

Congratulations to the winners:

1st Prize £100 Ticket Number 150 – Anne Welsh

2nd Prize £25 Ticket Number 2 – Graeme Prophet

MINUTE MEDITATION

Gratitude as a discipline involves a conscious choice. I can choose to be grateful even when my emotions and feelings are still steeped in hurt and resentment. It is amazing how many occasions present themselves in which I can choose gratitude instead of a complaint. *Henri Nouwen*

NEWS AND INFORMATION

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP – a copy of their letter, sent to the Prime Minister, First Minister and others, expressing concern regarding UK sales of weapons to Israel and the War in Gaza, is displayed on the porch noticeboard.

SCHOOL MASS – a reminder that 'The Leavers' P7 Mass is on Wednesday 19 June at 10.00am in the church. Please come and support our schoolchildren at this special service.

BOB AND ANNE IRELAND – will renew their vows and receive a blessing at the Mass this morning as they celebrate 40 years of marriage. They would be delighted if you join them after Mass for refreshments in the porch.