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Welcome to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

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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

The Roman Church has celebrated her twin patrons since the third century, linking Saints Peter and Paul in liturgy, art, and patristic preaching. Given their differing backgrounds, educations, and temperaments, their partnership should never have worked, and though each received a uniquely different call, apostleship made them one in Christ. They are the foundation of a worldwide communion that, nearly two-thousand years later, filled with light and darkness, adorned with sinners and saints, is still enlivened by unity in diversity, scholarship and service, worship and witness. Traditionally, Peter represents the Church's more institutional nature, Paul, its Spirit-inspired charismatic side. Both dimensions, now as then, are God-given and indispensable.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Have I read Pope Francis's hope-filled letter
Evangelii Gaudium?

How can I respond to its exhortations
to involve ourselves in service for the poor?

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

SINGLED OUT FOR SERVICE

What singled Peter out from the other disciples was his God-given insight into the identity of Jesus. It was because of his unique insight that Jesus gives Peter a unique role among his followers. He is to be the rock, the firm foundation, on which Jesus will build his church. It is an extraordinarily significant role for Jesus to give to any of his disciples. Peter's role is further spelt out by Jesus giving him the keys of the kingdom of heaven. The image of the keys suggests authority. The nature of that authority is expressed in terms of binding and loosing. This is probably a reference to a teaching authority. Peter is being entrusted with the task of authoritatively interpreting the teaching of Jesus for other members of the church. Yet, this same Peter would try to deflect Jesus from taking the way of the cross, and when Jesus did take that way, Peter would deny any association with him. Jesus is portrayed by Matthew's gospel as giving a significant role to someone who remains very flawed.

If the gospel associates teaching with Peter, the 2nd Reading associates preaching with Paul. In that reading Paul refers to the Lord who "gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be preached for all the pagans to hear." Paul was the great preacher of the gospel to the pagans throughout the Roman Empire. He preached it for the last time further west, in the city of Rome, where, like Peter, he was martyred for his faith in Christ. The extract from his second letter to Timothy that is our 2nd Reading today may well have been written from his Roman imprisonment. It is a very stirring text, "I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith." The image of the fight and the race suggest that "keeping the faith" was a struggle for Paul; it did not come easy to him, just as keeping the faith did not come easy to Peter either.

Keeping the faith does not always come easy to any of us. Paul's letters show that he was very aware that keeping the faith was not due primarily to his own efforts; it was the Lord who enabled him to keep the faith. As he says in today's 2nd Reading, "the Lord stood by me and gave me power." It is the Lord who empowers all of us to keep the faith; his faithfulness to us enables us to be faithful to him; his faithful love encourages us to keep returning to him even after failure. The faithful witness of Peter and Paul speak to us ultimately of the Lord's faithfulness to us all.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

These two apostles who have gone before us, 'marked with the sign of faith', are not remote and distant. They are the foundations of our community today as much as when they heard the call of the Lord. In the vivid words of Paul and in the very human example of Peter these great men live on, and we know they still pray for us, their brothers and sisters, in the presence of God. Let us praise God today for his great works in the saints.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Church invites us today to listen to stories about two apostles, Peter and Paul. These pillars of the Christian faith were men who, like us, fell into sin. The love of the Lord Jesus was stronger than their sinfulness and, because of their faith in him, they became, in Peter's case, the rock upon which the Church is built and, in Paul's case, the apostle to the Gentiles. As we listen to these sacred words, let us ask God to lift us up out of any weakness of faith and strengthen us as St Peter and St Paul were strengthened.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 12: 1-11

Now I know the Lord really did save me from Herod.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 33

'The angel of the Lord rescues those who revere him.'

Second Reading 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18

All there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16: 13-19

You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 30 JUNE 2024

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Deacon Charles Hendry, Lawrence Sterpaio, Margaret Beck, Tony Beck, Anya Behl, Fletcher Ditchburn, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie, Gerard Halliday, Margaret McDonagh, Rena Samson, Leanne Walker and Pat Smith. **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 Michael Fernando and John MacPherson, who have both died recently, and Bill Newall, Jim Maguire, Adrienne Amos, Tina Vettraino, David Stewart and Helen Clark, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO MAKE
A FRESH START WITH GOD

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 23/06/24

Loose Plate £120 Gift Aid Envelopes £243

Standing Orders £259 Additional Offertories £0

TOTAL £622

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2nd COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY - PETER'S PENCE

SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL - SOLEMNITY

The preface of the day is a beautiful summary of what Peter and Paul represent for us, the Church. This is not a feast about hierarchy and power but about service and the true authority which the hearers of Jesus recognised when they heard him speak. Of all the great figures of the New Testament, Peter and Paul are probably the most vivid for us, and this feast should give us a sense of how close they are to us still.

The first reading focuses on Peter. The accounts of the infant Church found in Acts, and read in Eastertide, need to be put in context. There was not continuous persecution (in Acts 9:31 it says: The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up and living in the fear of the Lord, encouraged by the Holy Spirit, they continued to grow), but the Christians could never be sure that they were safe and that it would not flare up again. Herod in this passage was the grandson of the Herod of the nativity accounts in the Gospel. Peter's escape turned out badly for the guards, whom Herod ordered to be executed, and for Herod himself who was struck down (eaten away by worms) shortly afterwards. The point of this miracle story is to show how the Lord protects his church.

AN ELECTION PRAYER

Eternal God, Lord of creation, as we look towards the coming election, we ask that your Spirit of truth be upon us. Let us, your people, be guided by Gospel values of love of neighbour, truth, justice and compassion towards all, particularly the least of our sisters and brothers. Help us to choose political parties and candidates willing to place the needs of the many before the profits of the few, to put the wellbeing of the majority above the wellbeing of the markets, and the conserving of our common home ahead of the cossetting of corporations that harm creation. Amen

NEWS AND INFORMATION

CHILDRENS LITURGY – there is **NO** children's liturgy today and for the next few weeks during the summer. Classes will re-commence on Sunday 11 August. Happy holidays!

NEXT TAIZÉ SERVICE – there is **NO** Taizé in July so our next service will be on Thursday 8th August. Please join us then for an hour of Taizé chant, music, Adoration and prayer in **St Joseph's Church** at 7.00pm. All are most welcome.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER – by email to:

Fr Greg :- stjosephdundee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

John Sinclair :- john.sinclair9@outlook.com

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP UPDATE

At the beginning of June our parish Justice and Peace Group wrote to politicians in Westminster and Holyrood urging them to use their offices to bring about a ceasefire in Gaza. Our letter pointed out the dramatic and fatal consequences for women and children. It also questioned the licencing of British made weapons for use in the Gaza war. Furthermore we urged our government to play a meaningful part in bringing about a two state solution and lasting peace in the Middle East. Please keep the Holy Land in your prayers.

Nick Marra, St Joseph's Justice & Peace Group

USE YOUR VOTE - OR OTHERS WILL DECIDE FOR YOU