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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](http://www.stjosephsdundee.org.uk)

**HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON - 07821 624 124**

### HOMILY HELP

If we leave here today and do nothing to put God's word and Jesus' presence into action this coming week, we will have failed. If we return next week realising that we have not given any thought to our faith since today, we will have failed. We sang in today's psalm that "the just will live in the presence of the Lord" (Psalm 15:1). (In some translations, the one who does justice.) Note the easily overlooked word does. Are you actively doing justice in your family, your school or workplace, your community, the world? Are you finding and taking opportunities to do justice socially, economically, environmentally? To hear the call for justice is good, to take it to heart and preach it is better, but what we are truly called to do is to do it.

### QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Where do I see injustice in my family, workplace, community, or the world?

What will I do to help bring justice to those who need it in each of those places?

# St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

### WASHING YOUR HANDS BEFORE DINNER

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus and the Pharisees have a public fight about the Jewish tradition of washing your hands before dinner. Jesus puts the Pharisees and their tradition down with a scathing denunciation. He calls the Pharisees "hypocrites," who have God on their lips but not in their hearts.

So, what does this story say about tradition?

Well, we might think, if cleaving to tradition gets the Pharisees the denunciation of the Lord, then so much the worse for tradition!

And yet where would we be without tradition? Our whole religious understanding and practice, even our creeds, are shaped by tradition.

The solution to the perplexity lies in the story. When the Pharisees ask Jesus why his disciples don't keep the tradition of handwashing, their question isn't a request for information. It is a challenge to his whole ministry. From the point of view of the Pharisees, a person couldn't be from God and not wash his hands before dinner in accordance with the tradition.

A tradition hands on something precious from one generation to another. But the tradition the Pharisees cling to does not in fact convey the God of Moses, does it? What kind of God would make his total acceptance or rejection of a person dependent on whether or not he washed his hands before dinner? Where is the righteous, merciful, loving God of Moses in this view of the Pharisees?

In the First Reading, Moses orders the people to communicate God's commands without adding or subtracting *anything* from them. The Nicene creed, which is part of the tradition that structures our faith, does not violate this order of Moses, because the Nicene creed does not change biblical teachings. It only unfolds them and gives deeper insight into them.

But when the Pharisees privilege handwashing above the true goodness of Christ, they don't transmit what Moses gave them. They wreck it, in the name of tradition. And that is why Jesus says the tradition of the Pharisees is the tradition *of men*. These defenders of religious tradition have lost their grip on the very thing they were supposed to pass on, God's goodness and love. That is why Jesus calls them 'hypocrites.'

It is a cautionary tale for all of us, isn't it?

*Eleonore Stump*

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

The greatest gift each of us has ever received was the gift of life itself. That gift was given to us most directly by our parents, whose life in turn was given to them by their parents, and so on. But ultimately the author of all life, the giver of every great gift, is God. We come together today in thanksgiving for that precious gift, which led to the gift of eternal life, promised by God's Son to all who follow him. Today is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, when we pray that together we can work to ensure that the world God made can be enjoyed by future generations for centuries to come.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

God's commands take centre stage today. Moses points out that when the Chosen People put God's commandments into practice, other nations will marvel at how just and wise they are. The psalmist assures us that those who act justly will live in God's presence. We begin hearing selections from the letter of James today; James continually emphasized the need to put one's faith into action. In the Gospel, Jesus chides the Pharisees for putting the letter of human rules above the spirit of God's commands. Let us reflect on how we follow God's commandments.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8  
Add nothing to what I command you, keep the commandments of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 14  
**'Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent?'**

**Second Reading** James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27  
You must do what the word tells you.

**Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.

## PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 1 SEPTEMBER 2024

**Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish** – Marlene Kenny, Say Ly, Peter Angus, Cathie Donnelly, Margaret Forsyth, Mary Kidd, Linda Jamieson, Gillian Donnelly, Margaret Beck, Tony Beck, Anya Behl, Fletcher Ditchburn, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie, Gerard Halliday, Margaret McDonagh, Rena Samson 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 Bridget Naughton, Milly Notarangelo, Alan McLachlan, John Patrick Coyle, Tom Macdonald (Sen) and Betty Coyle, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 25/08/24

Loose Plate £179      Gift Aid Envelopes £241  
Standing Orders £259      Mortuary Chapel Refurbish £120  
**TOTAL £799**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

**Mortuary Chapel – still looking for financial support pls.**

## HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR CHURCH?

Would you be willing and able to give a few hours of your time on **Saturday 28 September** to show visitors around our church and tell them something about our faith and history of St Joseph's?

Full support, guidance and scripts will be provided and you will enjoy it. **C'mon - Support our Doors Open Event!**  
Speak to Fr Greg or John Sinclair for more information.

## FEASTS AND MEMORIALS

**ST GREGORY THE GREAT – MEMORIAL** **Tuesday 3 Sept**  
St Gregory the Great (540-604). Of a noble Roman family, he had been Prefect of the city and then became a monk. He was sent as a papal ambassador to Constantinople for three years. In 590 he was called to be bishop of Rome and pope. His work rightly earned him the sobriquet 'Great'. He was an excellent administrator and organiser in areas of doctrine and liturgy, as well as in disciplinary matters. He is known in England as the pope who sent Augustine to Canterbury. Pope Gregory was a preacher, an author, a homilist, an exegete, a theologian, a correspondent. He is recognised as a Father of the Church, truly a great man.

**ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA – MEMORIAL** **Thursday 5 Sept**  
St Teresa (1910-1997) was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Skopje, Albania. Her father died when she was nine years old. Moved to be a missionary, Agnes entered the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland and departed for Calcutta in 1929. She taught for a number of years, and, as a result of mystical experiences, Teresa felt called by Christ to establish a religious community, Missionaries of Charity dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor. Teresa and her sisters reached out to the poor with love on the streets of Calcutta wearing the distinctive, blue-trimmed white sari. The Missionaries of Charity are active in every continent. Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She was canonised by Pope Francis in 2016.

## JUSTICE QUOTES

Cowardice asks the question, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question, 'Is it politic?' And Vanity comes along and asks the question, 'Is it popular?' But Conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must do it because Conscience says it is right.  
*Martin Luther King*

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

**HOME BAKING IS BACK AFTER THE SUMMER BREAK** – and will take place after Sunday Mass **TODAY** – don't miss!

**NEXT TAIZÉ SERVICE** – our next service will be on this coming Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September. 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.

**ST MARY'S LOCHEE** - Fr Jim and parishioners would like to thank all those who generously supported their Kiltwalking Teams. Due to your generosity, they have raised £3,462 (plus Gift Aid) for St Mary's Restoration Fund and £1,177 for Mary's Meals. May God bless your generosity.

**WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S** – we are happy to welcome everyone, for Sunday Holy Mass, to our beautiful church.