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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 HELP

We are reminded today of how God transforms our lives. Isaiah promises that the LORD will transform both us and the world. The blind will see, and the deaf will hear. Springs and streams will flow in barren lands. In the Gospel, Jesus cures a deaf man with a speech impediment. Jesus' touch enables the stream of God's word to flow into his ears and his proclamation of it to spring forward from his mouth. Note how physical Jesus' actions are. He sticks his finger into this stranger's ears. If that isn't enough, after spitting on his finger he puts it in the stranger's mouth. And just last week the religious authorities reprimanded him for eating with unclean hands! Jesus touches our lives in an intimate way and transforms them.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

When have I failed to be open to Jesus' message?
Opening myself to his challenging message, how will I
proclaim it by my words and actions?

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

BEING ABLE TO HEAR

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus does a miracle: a man who was deaf and impaired in speech becomes able to hear and to speak plainly.

But the way in which Jesus performs the miracle seems undignified or even silly. Jesus puts his fingers in the man's ears and his spit on the man's tongue. *Before* the man's ears are opened to hear, Jesus looks up to heaven, he groans, and he says, "Be opened!"

What happened to the elegant kind of miracle where Jesus just says a word and a person is healed? Why this present show, which looks embarrassing for Jesus?

The answer lies in the question. What Jesus does is literally a silent show. It has to be. Jesus is trying to communicate with someone who can't hear. In other cases, before Jesus does a miracle, Jesus talks to the person for whom the miracle will be done. In this case, he does charades.

His charade begins by letting the deaf man know that Jesus is putting a part of himself into the deaf man—his fingers into the deaf man's ears, his spit into the deaf man's mouth. By this means, Jesus invites the deaf man to accept Jesus into himself—literally.

And then Jesus looks up to heaven to show the deaf man the source of Jesus' power. It doesn't come from some magic in Jesus' fingers or spittle. It comes from God, whose power is in Jesus, who is in the deaf man, by means of this charade.

Even the groaning and the speech of Jesus to the deaf man make sense if we think of them in this way:

First, the deaf man sees Jesus open his mouth to make the inarticulate sound of groaning. This deaf man doesn't speak, but even those made mute by deafness can groan. In groaning, Jesus joins the deaf man, who can see Jesus groaning even if he can't hear him.

And then the deaf man sees Jesus speaking an articulate word *to him*, to the man who cannot hear. In doing this, Jesus is inviting the deaf man to trust in Jesus, to choose to accept the miracle—to choose to *hear* the word that Jesus speaks to him.

And so, Jesus humbles himself to share the limitations of this one deaf man. By undignified dumb show, the love of the Lord heals the deaf man's soul as well as his ears.

Let us be humble enough to hear the love of the Lord in this story.

Eleonore Stump

YOU MUST REMEMBER TO LOVE PEOPLE AND USE THINGS
RATHER THAN TO LOVE THINGS AND USE PEOPLE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Take a look around you as you make yourself at home in God's home. As you entered, did you welcome others as perhaps you yourself were welcomed? Did you see anyone you did not recognise? Did you give them the once over and make a judgment, perhaps in the back of your mind? In today's second reading, James instructs the Christian community to show no partiality in their assembly. He warns them that those they may tend to avoid or ignore may be exactly those whom God chooses for the kingdom. In that spirit, let us always warmly welcome all who join us to worship the Lord.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Today we hear the story of a miracle in which Jesus performs a healing in a very intimate way. He draws a deaf and mute man away from the crowd, puts his fingers in his ears and, having spat on them, touches his tongue as well. Jesus is here with us in an intimate way as well. He has been just as close to us since we were baptised, when the priest or deacon touched our ears and mouth as well. He is with us as we gather in his name, in his very Body and Blood in the Eucharist we consume, and in each other. Listening to today's readings, let us realise that the One who healed in such a way is intimately close with us too, wherever we are.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 35: 4-7

The ears of the deaf shall be unsealed and the tongues of the dumb shall be loosed.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145

'My soul, give praise to the Lord.'

Second Reading James 2: 1-5

God chose the poor to be the heirs to the kingdom.

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 7: 31-37

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 8 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, Leanne Walker and Guy 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 Helen Sharkey and Elizabeth Forbes, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 01/09/24

Loose Plate £123 Gift Aid Envelopes £212

Standing Orders £259 Mortuary Chapel Refurbish £300

TOTAL £894

(Mortuary Chapel Donations: £250 + £20 + £20 + £10)

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR CHURCH?

FINAL REQUEST FOR HELP

Would you be willing to give just 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? Or just support/help generally? Guidance will be provided to assist you in whatever role.

WE NEED YOU TO SUPPORT OUR DOORS OPEN EVENT!

Speak to John Sinclair today for more information or

Email: john.sinclair9@outlook.com

FEASTS AND MEMORIALS

ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM – MEMORIAL Friday 13 Sept

St John Chrysostom (347-407). The adjective 'Chrysostom' by which he was known means 'golden mouthed', i.e. eloquent. He trained as an advocate but, after six years as a monk, took holy orders – deacon, priest and, in 398, archbishop of Constantinople. He built hospitals, reformed the clergy, sent monks to be missionaries and, for criticising the vices of rulers, was deposed and banished in 403. Still in exile, he died four years later. He was buried honourably in Constantinople in 418. Recognised as an outstanding orator, he wrote homilies, commentaries on the Scriptures, letters and a number of theological treatises. St John Chrysostom is one of the four great Doctors of the Eastern Church.

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – FEAST

Saturday 14 September

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 8-15 SEPTEMBER

Every year, the Church in Scotland sets aside a week in which we are invited to reflect on our Christian vocation, which flows from the call made to us in Baptism to grow in holiness and in service of others. We are also invited to pray for those who might be considering a call to follow a particular path of service within the Christian family, in the priesthood, as a deacon or in religious life. Lastly, this week invites some to consider whether God might be calling them to follow one of these particular paths. So, we might:

- ***pray for and offer support and encouragement to our priests, the religious women and men who serve in our communities, the deacons who serve our parishes and dioceses and our seminarians and others in formation or discernment of their vocation in the Church.***

NEWS AND INFORMATION

HOME BAKING EVENT – from last Sunday raised £70. Thanks to all who contributed with baked items, other goodies and plants and to those who purchased on the day.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY - will be taken up for **The Sick and Retired Priests Fund** – please remember these former priests and give generous and kind support to them.

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL – our next meeting will be held this coming Wednesday. If you have any items for the agenda, please contact a PPC member – list on noticeboard.

ST JOSEPH'S SUNDAY FOOD BANK – please help if you can with one or two items on a regular basis for those in need of a helping hand in these difficult times. You can make a real difference to parishioner families in this church.