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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

Once again, the religious authorities put Jesus to the test by asking him a thorny question, this time about divorce. Rather than giving a simple yes or no, Jesus attempts to change their perspective. God blesses a marital union by making the husband and wife a new creation, "one flesh" (Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:8). They then go on to create new life themselves. (It's no accident that Jesus follows this lesson by welcoming children.) Marriages, Jesus is saying, are holy. Holy not because they are perfect, but because they are blessed by God. Unfortunately, some turn out to be difficult or even broken, but God's grace is always present. Let us make the effort to see that glimmer of grace even in failing marriages.

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What will I do this week to defend those who are vulnerable, or care for those who are unable to care for themselves?

# St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

### MARRIAGE

In the Gospel Reading Christ has a stern thing to say about all marriages: if a husband divorces his wife and marries again, he commits adultery, and so does his wife if she remarries.

Given that stern saying, why would anyone want to marry? Why would God want anyone to marry?

The First Reading describes the way God arranged the first marriage. When Adam is without Eve, God says that it isn't good for Adam to be alone—and that's the reason for God's creating Eve and arranging Adam's marriage to her.

But who made the man in such a way that it isn't good for him to be alone? God did, didn't he? God didn't make the angels this way. Angels don't get married. They don't have children either. No angel is in himself the union of two other angels, who merged something of themselves to form him.

As far as that goes, angels have no gender either. An angel isn't male or female. No angel can say to another angel, "You complete me." It is perfectly fine for an angel to be alone.

Human beings have what angels lack: the glorious richness of embodied, gendered human life. But there is a fragility about this rich embodied life too. Those who do get married are open to each other and dependent on each other, and so they become terribly vulnerable to each other, too.

And here it is worth noticing that both the Readings focus on men. In the First Reading, God's arrangements for Adam have the result Adam sketches: a man will leave his parents and cling to his wife. In the Gospel Reading, Christ is responding to the Pharisees' question whether it is lawful for a husband to divorce his wife. Most of the time, in the post-fall world, the risks of marriage are unequally distributed between the genders. They tend to fall more on women than on men.

When God made human beings embodied and gendered, he gave them the great gift, lacking for the angels, that they could be joined together for life in marriage, with children. For us, who live in the post-fall world that Adam bequeathed us, this gift comes beset with risks for heart-breaking suffering. The challenge for us is to preserve the promise and beauty of God's gift. The perils of marriage for women—and also for men—is hedged in by Christ's stern prohibition against divorce.

*Eleonore Stump*

DO WE TOO EASILY FORGET OUR FAITH - OR ITS CALL TO LOVE  
OUR NEIGHBOUR –  
WHEN OTHER THINGS CATCH OUR ATTENTION?

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

The Holy Spirit draws us each Sunday to this holy place. We gather together as the body of Christ to celebrate the Eucharist. We pray that we may be made worthy of the call we received in baptism to witness to God's saving power in what we say and what we do. As we hear from the author of Hebrews today, we have been consecrated in the Lord, and in fact have been made the Lord's brothers and sisters. Let us raise our voices in song and prayer as sisters and brothers of our Saviour.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Today's first reading and Gospel may be difficult for many, especially divorced and LGBTQIA+ Catholics. The specifics and details speak of the traditional ideal of marriage. But the underlying theme is one of God's infinite love for us and desire that we live in happiness, of which companionship and ultimately partnership are foundational. But whether we are married, single, divorced, or widowed, we each have companionship with Jesus. The reading from Hebrews emphasizes the solidarity we have with him, who became fully human so that by the grace of God he could suffer and die like us. No matter our situation, as we sing in the responsorial psalm, may the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** Genesis 2: 18-24

They become one body.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 127

**'May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.'**

**Second Reading** Hebrews 2: 9-11

The one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock.

**Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 10: 2-16

What God has united, man must not divide.

## PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 6 OCTOBER 2024

**Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish** – Marlene Kenny, Saul Sangster, Kath MacPherson, 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 and Rena Samson. **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 Marion MacPherson, Jack Callard, Fr Tony McCarthy, Winnie Golden, Fr George Leitchman and Charlie Sharkey, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

**SAFEGUARDING** – The Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency have instructed the diocese that our volunteer safeguarding training must be updated by completing the new Safeguarding Induction Training. Dates for this training are now available for October and November – full information on the porch noticeboard.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 29/09/24

Loose Plate £117 Gift Aid Envelopes £182

Standing Orders £259 Mortuary Chapel Refurbish £300

**TOTAL £858**

**Mortuary Chapel Donations £50, £40, £10 & £200 = £300**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

## DOORS OPEN EVENT – SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

May I take this opportunity to thank all those who assisted in preparing the church, house and garden for this event last Saturday, and to those who volunteered to come along and help on the day. We had nearly 70 visitors altogether over the open five hours and the feedback was both positive and complimentary from them all. The music recitals, the guided tours, the History Presentation in the mortuary chapel, the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration leaflet, the Memorial Tablet, crypt chapel and church house (where some old registers were on display) along with the tea and coffee refreshments, made the day very special. I would also like to thank all those who have decorated, cleaned, refurbished, gardened over the past many months to enable our church and grounds to look so presentable. My further thanks to those whose donations have allowed us to make the mortuary chapel usable again, which has been so uplifting. Your support has been amazing. *John Sinclair*

## FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES

**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY – MEMORIAL Mon 7 October**

The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was instituted in thanksgiving for the naval victory of the 'Holy League' (of Christian nations led by Don John of Austria) over the ships of the Ottoman Empire in 1571 at Lepanto (off the coast of Greece). Nowadays, the feast is a special day of the month of the Holy Rosary, the prayer that allows us to meditate on the 'mysteries' of Jesus, whose life was so closely associated with Mary.

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

**HOME BAKING EVENT** – will be held today Sunday 6 October. Please support by visiting our stall and buying some of our delicious goodies.

**CHILDRENS LITURGY** – there will be no childrens liturgy class on Sunday 6 and 13 October during school holidays. Re-commences on Sunday 20 October.

**PPC MINUTES** – latest displayed on porch noticeboard. Please take a few moments to read and support this group.

**THIS SUNDAY** – Fr Greg is away and the Mass celebrant will be Fr Tigi Abraham, who is currently with Fr Johney at St Ninian's Church. Let us give him a very warm welcome.

**NEXT SUNDAY** – Fr Greg is away again and Mgr Aldo will be our Mass celebrant. He will update us on the Synod of Synodality – the 2<sup>nd</sup> session commenced on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**DIOCESAN MISSION DAY** – on Saturday 19 October at St Mary's Forebank. See fuller details on porch noticeboard.

## DEACON RON WYLIE – CONGRATULATIONS

We all wish Deacon Ron a very Happy Birthday for next Tuesday (an extra special year in 2024). Best wishes and our love and congratulations Deacon Ron. We hope that you and Helen have a special time on your holiday to New York!