

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)



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1 DECEMBER 2024

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

Welcome to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Gregory Murphy OP
Parish Priest

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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

ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2025 – It's time for annual subscription renewal. Each number is £25 per annum and can be paid (instalments if you wish) in cash or by cheque payable to 'TRUSTEES RC DIOCESE DUNKELD 1'. £2 per number monthly Jan-Nov and £3 Dec available. Monthly draw with prizes of £100 and £25, with 3 prizes - £200, £100 and £50 in December. Numbers available, so see me if you wish to join or have a new number. Thanks - *Linda Gow*.

*Receive their souls, receive their souls
And present them to God the Most High*

MARY TRAYNOR RIP – Requiem Mass here at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 3 December. Reception of Remains on Monday 2 December at 4.30pm. Sincere condolences to all family members and friends of Mary, and may she Rest in Peace.

MRS MARJORY ROBSON RIP

A Memorial Mass for the late Mrs Marjory Robson, (Bishop Stephen Robson's mother) to be celebrated in St Andrew's Cathedral on Wednesday 4 December 2024 at 1.00 p.m. Bishop Stephen would be very grateful and appreciative if any of us could be present at the Mass, as his and his mother's family are mostly resident in the Carlisle area.

GETTING READY AND BEING BLAMELESS

The First Reading and the Gospel both talk about a time when the Lord comes—for justice, as the First Reading says; and for judgment, as the Gospel implies. In the Gospel, Jesus warns people not to be overcome with the pleasures and anxieties of the world but to be ready for his coming. Those who are not ready will practically die of fright when they see him.

Well, then, what do we need to do to get ready?

The Second Reading in effect answers that question. At Christ's coming again, we are to be blameless in holiness.

And what is *that*?

If you are blameless *under law*, then no one can blame you for any violation of the law of the land. You weren't speeding, for example, or cheating on your income tax, or violating any other law of the city or country in which you are.

If you are *morally* blameless, then no one can blame you for any violation of the moral law. You weren't lying, for example, or cheating on your spouse, or violating any other command of the universal moral law that applies to all people no matter where they are.

But what is it to be blameless *in holiness*? The answer is in the Second Reading: in order to be ready for Christ at his coming, Christians need to increase in love and abound in it.

So here's the thing to see.

You can keep all the laws of your land and still be a real jerk. And the same truth holds for the moral law. You can be a priggishly righteous jerk too. Something more than having a great record for keeping the laws is necessary to be ready for the Lord.

That more is love.

If you want what is bad for your neighbour, if you curse him in public or even in your heart, if you wish he would just go away, if you tell him in your thoughts or to his face to go to hell—you do *not* love him. And you are blameworthy with regard to holiness if you don't. It doesn't matter how moral or legal your conduct is otherwise.

To be blameless in holiness, then, takes being loving. And being loving is what makes us ready for the return of the Lord.

Eleonore Stump

HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON – 07821 624 124

NEXT TAIZÉ SERVICE – please join us for an hour of Taizé chant, music, Adoration and prayer in **St Joseph's Crypt Chapel** on Thursday 5 December at 7.00pm. All welcome.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

On this first day of December, this first day of the season of Advent, and this first day of a new liturgical year, we are reminded that our relationship with the Lord can always begin anew. Even as we prepare for the coming of Jesus as an infant on Christmas night, we can also make this season an opportunity to receive him more deeply into our hearts and make him more central to the way we live our lives. Let us resolve to give Jesus a new birth in our hearts as we prepare for the celebration of his birth into the world.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The readings on this first Sunday of Advent cover Christ's three comings. Jeremiah prophecies that God will send a Messiah, who will bring righteousness and justice to the world. Paul prays that Christ may permeate the hearts of the Thessalonians, increasing their love for each other and for all. Finally, Jesus tells his disciples that one day he will come again in glory to redeem all those who stand virtuously before him. May we be reminded that Christ came into this world two thousand years ago, will do so again at the end of time, but also continually comes into our world through our hearts.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Jeremiah 33: 14-16

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 24

'To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.'

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3: 12 4: 2

May the Lord confirm your hearts in holiness when Christ comes.

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 21: 25-28; 34-36

Your liberation is near at hand.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 24 NOVEMBER 2024

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Marlene Kenny, Margaret Mackie, Saul Sangster, Peter Angus, Rena Samson, Gillian Donnelly, Margaret Beck, Tony Beck, Anya Behl, Fletcher Ditchburn, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie, Gerard Halliday and Margaret McDonagh. **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 Mary Traynor and Ann Gunning, who have died recently, and Mary Welsh, Bill Forsyth, Margaret Kane, Francis Coyle, Jean Millar, Maureen Curtis, Isabella McBride and Lisbeth Pennycook, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

WINTER WARMERS CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024

Appeal by the charity Eagles Wings, who support male and female rough sleepers and other homeless persons in Dundee. Please support this year's appeal for hats, gloves, thick socks and scarves. If you have any unused items that you can spare, or items that you could buy and then donate, please bring them along to the church. There is a collection box for them in the porch. Our grateful thanks - *J & P Group.*

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Enjoy an evening of Carols, old and new, in St Joseph's Church, Wilkies Lane, Dundee.

Monday 16 December at 7.00pm.

Performance by the Cecilian Choir and Dundee Harp Group.

Light refreshments after will be provided.

There will be a retiral collection for St Joseph's organ fund. Please join us for this special music event – all welcome.

CHURCH CLEANING - Just to advise our cleaning team that there will be cleaning this coming Thursday, 5 December, from 9.00am for a couple of hours. New volunteers would be most welcome. Thanks.

CHRISTMAS GREENERY - we will be decorating our church and altars with greenery on Monday 16 December. If you can help with providing some of this greenery, please bring it to the church on Sunday 15. We will be starting at 10.30am and would welcome your help (and your company) on the day. *Many thanks - Monica Veal.*

INSTEAD OF A CHRISTMAS CARD... why not send greetings to your parishioner friends in this newsletter? For a small contribution to SCIAF you can put your unique Christmas seasonal message to all and support our Scottish Catholic charity work – so vital across the world today. The cost will be a donation amount of your choice. Just write out your greeting, put it in an envelope with your donation and drop it into the offertory collection basket, or give to a member of the SCIAF group. You can also email your message direct to john.sinclair9@outlook.com Messages will go in the newsletter on Sunday 15 December and Sunday 22 December. Many thanks.

Example: *Holly and Jack Frost and family wish you all the Peace and Joy of Christmas*

ADVENT CALENDAR – CHURCH SERVICES

15/12/24	Sunday	3.00pm	J&P Advent Service
18/12/24	Wednesday	10.00am	School Mass in Church
22/12/24	Sunday	10.00am	Mass in Church
24/12/24	Tuesday	7.00pm	Carols in Church
24/12/24	Tuesday	7.30pm	Christmas Vigil Mass
25/12/24	Wednesday	10.00am	Christmas Day Mass
29/12/24	Sunday	10.00am	Mass in Church
01/01/25	Wednesday	10.00am	Mass in Church

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 24/11/24

Loose Plate £201	Gift Aid Envelopes £252
Standing Orders £259	Additional Offertories £215
TOTAL £927	

2nd Collection TODAY – POOR MISSION FUND

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

NEW LECTIONARY – can you assist us with this cost?

A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in Scotland on the First Sunday of Advent 2024 - today. If you can assist us with the parish cost of £1,365 for these new books, envelopes are available on the porch desk, and you can also give with Gift Aid. Please try to help if you can.