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

### HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON 07821 624 124

### HOMILY HELP

Today we celebrate a final manifestation of Jesus during his infancy. He was revealed to the shepherds on the night he was born, then to the magi many days later after they made their lengthy journey from the east. Today we celebrate that he was made manifest to Simeon and Anna when he was presented in the temple according to the Law. Of course, we know Jesus revealed himself in many ways during his earthly life—to his disciples, to those whom he healed, on the cross, at table in Emmaus. The truth is that he continues to reveal himself in the world. We pray that we may recognize him in this holy place, much as the Holy Spirit guided the devout Simeon and Anna to do so in the temple. We yearn to recognize him as well in our neighbour, for we know now of his promise that what we do for the least of them we do for him.

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I see myself as Simeon or Anna, encountering Christ in my place of worship?

# St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

### FREEDOM

The Second Reading says that Christ freed those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their lives. But what is that slavery? And how does fear of death produce it? For that matter, what is it to be free?

Well, if I lock you in the basement, you aren't free to go where you want to go. Freedom is a matter of doing what *you yourself* want to do.

But then there has to be just *one* of you if you are to be free. If you want desperately to stop smoking and you also really want to smoke, then whether you smoke or don't smoke, you aren't doing what *you* want to do. There are *two* of you, we might say, when you are divided against yourself in this way.

Fear can make a person divide against himself in this way. When Franz Stangl was first assigned to oversee a euthanasia clinic for the Nazis, he didn't want to be involved in the killing. But he was afraid of what he would lose if he didn't do as he was told. So, he took the job and tried to hide from himself what he was doing. Out of fear, he willed to do what he himself didn't want to do.

Fear of death can get a person to do even worse things than putting the ill and disabled to death. Stangl wound up as the commandant of the notorious death camp Treblinka, where he oversaw the killing of many thousands of men, women, and children, because he was afraid that the Nazis would kill him if he didn't.

The horrors of that job left Stangl severely alienated from himself. At Treblinka, Stangl had to suppress a large part of his true self. If we ask ourselves whether, at Treblinka, Stangl was doing what he himself wanted to do, there seems to be no answer to the question. He did and he did not want to do what he was doing then. And so at Treblinka Stangl lost his freedom totally. He was enslaved to himself and his own fear of death.

This is the slavery that Christ saves us from. To be united to Christ is to become your own true self. That is why, if we come to Christ, we will know the Truth, and he will set us free. (John 8:32).

*Eleonore Stump*

### HOMILY HELP

The letter to the Hebrews explains how this baby boy whom Simeon held could become the salvation of the world. He is God made flesh so that he could take our sins upon himself, suffer and die for them, and atone for them. When we receive him in the Eucharist, we receive his Body and Blood, which he sacrificed to gain our salvation.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

When forty days had passed since Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph brought him to the temple to consecrate him to the Lord, as was required by the Law. While they were there, the Holy Spirit guided the elderly Simeon and Anna to the baby, whom they recognized as Messiah and Saviour. Exultantly they testified to his destiny. Gathered here today by the Holy Spirit, may we too encounter Christ in this place of worship, recognizing him in the breaking of the bread.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

It's not every day that we get to hear from three different prophets, let alone three who see the Lord physically present in the temple. For Malachi, it's anticipatory: he foresees the day when the LORD will come to the temple to purify the people of the covenant. In the case of Simeon and Anna, they recognize the Messiah in the temple though he is not even six weeks old. Moved by the Spirit, Simeon testifies that in the baby he sees salvation. Like the prophets, we hope that one day we too will see our Saviour.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** Malachi 3: 1-4  
The Lord whom you seek will come to his Temple.  
**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 24  
**'The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!'**  
**Second Reading** Hebrews 2: 14-18  
Christ became like his brothers and sisters in all things but sin.  
**Alleluia, alleluia! A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for the glory to your people Israel. Alleluia!**  
**Gospel** Luke 2: 22-40  
Mary and Joseph present the Lord Jesus in the temple.

## PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 2 FEBRUARY 2025

**Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish** – Irene McKay, Margaret Forsyth, 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 Marlene Kenny, who has died recently, and Margaret Gethins, Ledice da Cruz Welsh, Guiseppina Carena, Anthony Smith, May Oakley, Anna Berry, Anne Downie, Tessa Clark and Alison Dunn, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

## THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

is today – February 2. Celebration of this day of prayer will allow parishes to highlight the gift of religious life and pray for those discerning a religious vocation.

## BISHOP ANDREW MCKENZIE

With great joy, we are pleased to announce that our new Bishop will preside at our Sunday Mass next week at 10.00am – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February. I know that we will all want to give him a very special welcome on his first official visit since his installation as 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Dunkeld in August.

## MARLENE KENNY - may she rest in peace

We were shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the death of one of our most beloved parishioners, Marlene Kenny, on Friday 24 January, after a short illness. Our love, thoughts, prayers and condolences to Brian, her husband, Brian and Richard, her children, and to her two grandchildren and to all other family members and friends.

*Saints of God, come to her aid!  
Come to meet her, angels of the Lord!  
Receive her soul, receive her soul,  
and present her to God the most High.*

Reception of Remains on Tuesday 18 February at 5.00pm and Requiem Mass on Wednesday 19 February at 10.00am.

## SAINTLY THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

Pain and suffering have come into your life, but remember pain, sorrow, suffering are but the kiss of Jesus — a sign that you have come so close to Him that He can kiss you.  
*St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

## ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB – 2024 REVENUE

A very BIG thank you to all those who subscribe to St Joseph's 200 Club. For 2024 we are able to declare funds of £1,874 towards the ever-increasing running costs of our church. Your continued generous support is truly appreciated. Many thanks - **Linda Gow**.

*Spooky that the amount of £1,874 raised was the same number date of the Church opening in 1874!  
On behalf of the Finance Group may I take this opportunity to thank Linda for her continuing work in running the 200 Club – the amount raised is so vital to St Joseph's.*

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 26/01/25

**Loose Plate £194      Gift Aid Envelopes £251  
Standing Orders £259      TOTAL £704**

Thank you once again to everyone who contributes to the Offertory Collection and to all those who make standing order payments direct to the Parish Bank Account.

## NEW LECTIONARY – can you help us with this cost?

A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, came into use in Scotland on the First Sunday of Advent 2024. If you can assist us with the parish cost of **£1,365** for these new books, envelopes are available on the porch desk. You can also give with Gift Aid, put **GA** and your **name** on the envelope front. **You have donated £654 so far – can we raise a little more?**

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

**TAIZÉ SERVICE** – join us for an hour on Thursday 6 February at 7.00pm in the church crypt – 42 Wilkies Lane.

**BISHOPS' MEMORIAL IN BALGAY** – the memorial plaque for Bishop Vincent Paul Logan has now been added.

**HOME BAKING EVENT** – next event is on Sunday 2 March and then Sunday 4 May. None in February nor in April.

**BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE** – regrettably we are having to make a change to our account information. Cheques need to be payable to: **TRUSTEES RC ST JOSEPHS 1** There will be some changes required for a number of standing orders – anyone affected will be contacted directly by letter. Thanks.