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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

HOSPITAL PRIEST CONTACT ON 07821 624 124

HOMILY HELP

The two tragic events that Jesus addresses in the Gospel are quite disturbing. It appears that they were well known, as Jesus seems to be familiar with the first and refers to the second without initially describing it. These mass deaths presumably left a lasting impression, as Luke seems to assume his audience may recall them as well. Jesus uses these horrible tragedies to teach the people who have come to him that it was not the sinfulness of those at Siloam or in Galilee that brought about their deaths. "By no means!" (Luke 13:3, 5). No, it is that because they died suddenly and unexpectedly, they had no chance to repent of their sins. Those who hear Jesus' words (including us today) are given that chance. We have the wonderful opportunity to repent of our sins and return to God with clean hearts.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Looking at this Jubilee Year of Hope from God's perspective, what can I do during the week ahead to justify God's hope in me?

St Joseph's Weekly Parish Newsletter

HOW ABOUT BREAD?

In the First Reading, God promises Moses and the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey. We are so used to the description of the land in God's promise to Moses that it doesn't mean anything to us anymore. We just hear "landflowingwithmilkandhoney."

But if we stop to think about it, the land promised is funny. Milk and honey are no doubt very good things, but the first thing to see about them is that neither one of them is a product of agriculture. You don't grow milk or honey.

Milk comes from animals who eat grass, which doesn't grow as fast as they eat it. So if you are getting milk, you are on the move constantly, getting fresh pasture for the animals. And that means that the honey doesn't come from bee farms. You can't both move with the cattle and stay put with the bee hives. The honey of the promised land must then come from wild bee hives. When you find one, you get honey. When you don't, you don't.

So the good things of this promised land are not things you get for yourself by farming. You are dependent on the animals for the milk, which they produce for their offspring when the offspring can't feed themselves. And the honey comes to you by chance, when you happen to find it. The milk and honey of the promised land, then, are things that bring home to people their dependence and vulnerability.

And here's the other thing to notice - you can't live on milk and honey. Honey is more nearly dessert than dinner. And milk may be the perfect food, in some nutritionist sense; but only babies can live just on milk. Adults need more than milk.

What kind of promised land is this then? You get the good things of it by dependence and chance; and even when you are lucky, you are still missing the main part of what you need to live. What is missing in this promised land is *bread*. And so here's the point. The promised land is worth yearning for. But what we most need to live God reserves to himself to provide. Ultimately, our bread comes from him. In Christ, God himself is our bread. **Eleonore Stump**

HOMILY HELP

Are we the fig tree, needing a final chance from a merciful God? Let us heed the warning implicit in the first part of the Gospel, as well as the warning from Saint Paul, that even those who were baptized and shared in the spiritual food and drink in the desert (akin to the Eucharist) could be struck down by God.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

The readings we will hear today remind us that we are fortunate to be alive for this blessed season of Lent. Why? Because it means we still have the opportunity to repent of our sins and to turn back to God with our whole hearts. We all sin; it is the human condition. But with hearts in the right place, we feel remorse for our sins and we promise God, others, and ourselves to do better. How lucky we are that we can! As we continue through this holy season, let us make the most of this opportunity.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

"I am who I am," God proclaims to Moses from the burning bush. In saying this, God claims to be existence itself - as the one who simply is. Jesus further reveals his Father in the parable we hear in the Gospel: God is prepared to cut down the unfruitful fig tree but is also willing to give it another chance to bear fruit. We sing of this aspect of God in the responsorial psalm: "The Lord is compassion and love." Let this refrain comfort us as we hear of those who were unexpectedly and tragically struck down.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15

I Am has sent me to you.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 102

'The Lord is compassion and love.'

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12

The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us.

Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Gospel Luke 13: 1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS 23 MARCH 2025

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – His Holiness Pope Francis, Albert Soave, Peter Angus, Bethany Williamson, Irene McKay, Margaret Forsyth, Saul Sangster, 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 Arthur Clark, John Stansfield, Christopher Melia, Bette Donnelly, Canon John Malloy, Nessie Shields, Maureen Traynor, and James and Bridget Reilly, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

St Clement's / St Ninian's Parishes are planning a pilgrimage to Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina from Sunday 24th to Thursday 28th August 2025. 4 nights/ 5 days from Edinburgh to Croatia. Cost based on two sharing - £690pp. Single supplement £225. Contact Fr Johney on 07831 580361 or Bernadette Dailly on 07919 106129. An information evening will be held in St Clement's Hall on Monday 24th March at 7.00pm. Please come along.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK 2025

Palm Sunday 13th April

10:00am Sunday Mass (start in car park, weather permitting)

Holy Thursday 17th April

10:00am Morning Prayer

7:00pm Mass of the Last Supper

Altar of Repose after Mass

Night Prayer at 9.15pm

Good Friday 18th April

10:00am Morning Prayer

3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday 19th April

10:00am Morning Prayer

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday 20th April

10:00am Easter Day Mass

Easter Monday 21st April

10.00am Mass

SOLEMNITY

THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD Tuesday 25 March

The Annunciation by the Archangel Gabriel of the imminent arrival of the long-awaited Messiah, born to the humble Virgin of Nazareth, show us the Faith of Our Blessed Lady – unsure of what was really involved, she nonetheless agreed to God's plan.

God works through human history ... right into Nazareth, amidst the one hundred billion galaxies of creation! God's plan, unfolding gradually through Isaiah and others, climaxes in Mary, the girl from Nazareth, as she says, "Yes!" Can we too echo the psalmist, "Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will."

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS LAST SUNDAY 16/03/25

Loose Plate £182 Gift Aid Envelopes £128

Standing Orders £259 Additional Offertories £70

Lectionary Donations £10

TOTAL £649

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2nd COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY 30 MARCH

PAPAL & EPISCOPAL CHARITIES (including SCIAF)

SUPPORT SCIAF THIS LENT

In Colombia, many people are impacted by ongoing violence and conflict. With your help, we can give shelter, food and water for those caught up in violence, provide safe havens for children affected by conflict, and help communities rebuild their lives, long into the future.

For more information on how you can support communities in Columbia, please visit SCIAF's website sciaf.org.uk

NEWS AND INFORMATION

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – today, and every Sunday during Lent, in the church at 3.00pm. This week led by Fr Greg.

SCIAF SUNDAY NEXT WEEK 30 MARCH – Stations of the Cross and Prayer Service led by the Justice and Peace Group at 3.00pm. Please find time to come, you will be made most welcome. Thanks – Jack Smith.