

Sunday Newsletter

St Ninian RC Church & St Joseph RC Church

23 AUGUST 2026

ORDINARY TIME

THE GROWTH OF DISCIPLESHIP

Ordinary Time is the longest season of the liturgical year. It is a time to deepen our faith, grow in holiness, and live out our baptismal call through everyday life.



The Keys of the Kingdom: Called to Serve

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples a simple but profound question: **"Who do you say that I am?"** Peter answers with faith: **"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."** Jesus then entrusts him with the keys of the Kingdom.

The first reading gives us the image of Eliakim receiving

authority and the key of David. This points us towards Christ, who gives authority not for personal glory, but for service.

St Paul reminds us in the second reading that God's wisdom and ways are beyond our understanding. Everything comes from Him and exists for Him.

Today, Jesus also asks each of us: **Who is Jesus for me?** It is not enough to know about Him; we are called to trust Him, follow Him and serve His people. Like Peter, may our faith in Christ become the foundation of our lives, and may every responsibility entrusted to us be used faithfully for the glory of God and the good of others.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW WEEK

Heavenly Father, as I begin this new week, I place myself and my entire family into Your loving hands. Thank You for the gift of life, Your unfailing mercy, and Your constant protection. Go before us in every step we take and fill our hearts with Your peace. Bless our work, studies, ministry, and daily responsibilities with success and purpose. Keep us safe from every danger, sickness, accident, temptation, and evil. Strengthen our faith when we face challenges, and help us to trust You in every circumstance. Fill our home with love, unity, forgiveness, and joy. Grant us wisdom to make good decisions and generous hearts to serve others. May Your Holy Spirit guide our words and actions so that we may glorify You in all we do. We entrust this new week to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Our Sunday Masses:

Vigil Mass: 5.00pm in St Ninian's RC Church

Sunday Mass:

9.30am in St. Ninian's RC Church
11.00am in St. Joseph's RC Church

Daily Masses

St Ninian's RC Church:

Tuesday; 10am
Wednesday; 10am
Friday; 10am.

St Joseph's RC Church:

Wednesday; 11am
Thursday; 10am
Saturday; 10am

Holy Days of Obligation:

Vigil Mass: 5.00pm in St Ninian's RC Church

Day Masses:

Morning: As announced.

EXPOSITION;

Saturday; 10.30am to 11am in St Joseph's Church
Friday; 10.30am to 11am in St. Ninian's Church
Birthday Celebrations; 3rd Sunday of the month

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession

St. Ninian; Saturday 4.15pm—4.45pm
St. Joseph; Saturday 10.30am

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO HAVE A CUPPA WITH US AFTER THE SUNDAY MASSES.

Rev. Michael Ngobili +441382669966

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PARISH EMAILS

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Parishes Web Addresses

<https://stniniansparish.co.uk>

<https://stjosephsdundee.org.uk>

Sunday 23 August 2026

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time ■

Liturgical Colour: Green. Year: A(II).

Readings at Mass

First reading

Isaiah 22:15, 19-23

‘I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David.’

Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, ‘Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him: “I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honour to his father’s house.”’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 138(137):1-2a, 3, 6, 8bc. R8bc

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;

discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, LORD, with all my heart;
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I praise you.
I bow down towards your holy Temple.

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;

discard not the work of your hands.

I give thanks to your name
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.
On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased the strength of my soul.

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;

discard not the work of your hands.

The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly,
and the haughty he knows from afar.
O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;
discard not the work of your hands.

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;

discard not the work of your hands.

Second reading

Romans 11:33-36

‘From him and through him and to him are all things.’

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! ‘For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?’ ‘Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?’ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church,
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

‘You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.’

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.’ Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

BIDDING PRAYERS

Celebrant:

Putting our faith in Christ, who has entrusted His Church with the keys of the Kingdom, let us bring our prayers before God.

1. For the Church:

That the Pope, bishops, priests and all who serve the Church may exercise their authority with humility, wisdom and love, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

2. For our world:

That those entrusted with leadership may seek justice, peace and the dignity of every human person rather than personal power, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

3. For the care of creation:

That, recognising that all things come from God and exist for Him, we may responsibly care for the earth, protect its resources and leave a healthy world for future generations, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

4. For our parish community:

That our faith in Jesus as the Christ may deepen, and that we may show that faith through loving service to one another, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

5. For those who are struggling:

That those who feel forgotten, burdened or without hope may discover through the kindness of others that Christ has not abandoned them, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

6. For our departed brothers and sisters:

That those who have died trusting in Christ may share fully in the glory of God's Kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant:

Heavenly Father, You are the source of all wisdom and goodness. Hear the prayers we offer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital especially those of our Parish – Cecilia McCartney, Pam Heron, Jim Ashwood, Moira Stewart, Tony and Margaret Beck, Anya Behl, Cathie and Albert Soave, Bill Martin, Baby Hayden, Alan Newell, May Cosgrove, Margaret McDonagh, Gillian Donnelly, Maureen and Stan Clementsmith, Fletcher Ditchburn, Margaret Forsyth, Gordon Sangster, Mary Clark, Bella Shaw, Angela Keith, Cecilia McCarten, Bethany Williamson, Irene McKay, Saul Sangster, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie and Gerard Halliday. **May they feel the healing power of Christ, in body and in spirit.**

PRAYER FOR THE DEAD

Please pray for those who have died and gone before us in faith - for the souls of Francis Forbes, Irene Blaney, who has died recently, and Margaret MacPherson, David Clifford, Ian Cowan, Jack Stephen, Ina Williamson, Fr Hugh Campbell, Stewart Robertson, Fr Charles Adamson and Agnes Soave, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

Even When Heaven is Silent, God is still Writing Your Story
There are moments in life when the greatest test of faith is not the storm, but the silence that follows your prayers. We cry out to God, we seek his direction, we ask for answers, yet heaven seems quiet. But remember this profound truth: silence is not rejection, and delay is not denial. The farmer does not abandon the seed because it is buried in darkness; he understands that something is happening beneath the soil. In the same way, God often works in hidden places before he reveals his glorious plans in visible ways. The season of waiting is not a season of wasting; it is a sacred workshop where God strengthens your character, deepens your faith, purifies your motives, and prepares you for the blessings you are not yet ready to carry. What feels like a closed door may actually be God protecting from entering a room that cannot sustain your destiny. Trust the silence, because even when you cannot hear his voice, his hands are still moving.

The greatest mistake we make in difficult seasons is measuring God's presence by our emotions. We presume that because we do not see immediate results, God has forgotten us. But God is not limited by our timetable, our understanding, or our expectations. The Same God who seemed silent when Lazarus was sick was the God who revealed his glory through his resurrection. The same God who allowed Joseph to pass through betrayal, slavery and imprisonment was preparing him for a position of influence. Sometime God does not remove the waiting because the waiting is also part of the miracle. In those quiet moments, he teaches us patience instead of panic, faith instead of fear, and surrender instead of control. Do not allow unanswered questions to destroy your confidence in a God who already knows the end from the beginning. Your tears are not wasted, your prayers are not forgotten and your struggles are not meaningless. Heaven keeps records of every sacrifice, every moment you choose to trust when you had every reason to give up.

Therefore, when Heaven feels quiet, stand firm and remember that God is preparing something greater than your present understanding. Do not abandon your faith because the process is slow. Do not quit because the journey is difficult. A masterpiece is created through patience, pressure and careful attention. The caterpillar must endure transformation before it becomes a butterfly; the seed must break before it becomes a tree; and the night must pass before morning appears. Keep walking, keep praying, keep believing, and keep surrendering your plans to God's perfect wisdom. One day, you will look back and realize that the delays were not obstacles but Gods divine arrangements, that closed doors were acts of mercy, and that the silent season was filled with Gods invisible presence. God has not stopped working; he is simply working at a depth our eyes cannot yet see. His timing is perfect, his promises are faithful, and his plans for you will always lead to a greater purpose. Pope Leo X1V



PARISH PRIEST DESK

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

This announcement is for the two parishes: Please block these dates for us;

Combined Parish Harvest day : Sunday 27th of September at 10am at St Ninian RC Church

Parishes Together Harvest Festival

St Ninian's and St Joseph's Parishes look forward to Bishop Andrew celebrating our Harvest Festival Mass together on 27th September at 10.30am in St Ninian's. We welcome altar servers from both parishes so, to ensure we have enough seats, would you please write your name/your child's name on the list in the sacristy if they intend to serve at the Mass. Thank you.

ST JOSEPH ST JOSEPH'S – IRENE BLANEY R.I.P.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS are as follows

Tuesday 25th August: Reception of Body at St Joseph at 5pm

Wednesday 26th August: Funeral Mass at St Joseph at 10am. Please come lets pray for the eternal repose of Irene. May she rest in Peace Amen.

ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION – SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

Loose Plate £169 Gift Aid Envelopes £158 Standing Orders £356 Additional Offertories £10 Restoration Fund (New) £15 **TOTAL OFFERTORIES £708**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

There is a 2nd Collection next Sunday, 30th August, in aid of **BISHOPS' MENSAL FUND**. Please give your generous support.

Please try to give a little more each week to help St Jo's.

ST JOSEPH'S – KILTWALK ON SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

Congratulations to Linda Gow, Nicky Marra, Marlene (from the Cathedral) and others who took part in the fundraising walk last Sunday to raise funds for a sensory garden for the Fiveways Club (Dundee Age Concern). To date, they have raised over £1,800 which is fantastic. Linda would like to give a BIG thank to all those who donated at the Saturday St Joseph's Retreat, including Canon Kevin, all of which was very much appreciated by the group.

ST NINIAN

200 club winner: M Flynn NO 137

CC Juniors

The next CC Juniors will be 3rd September when Jek from Ninewells Community Garden will be coming to chat to us. Please let me know who can make it. Thank you

Parish Pastoral Council

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will take place in the church hall on Wednesday 21 September at 7pm. Our Pastoral Council is 'synodal', which means it is there to listen to and learn from the voices of all parishioners, to serve the whole community with care and compassion and to foster opportunities to deepen all of our spiritual lives.

To help us do this, you are invited to place any issues you would like to bring to the attention of the council in the locked box at the back of the church. Thank you.

Afternoon Tea

Our delicious Afternoon Tea will be served this coming Thursday 17 August in CC's. All are welcome! As our lovely CC's helpers like to have tables beautifully set and be ready to serve, we kindly and respectfully ask that our guests arrive no earlier than 12.30pm. If you have not already reserved a place please do so at the back of the church or text Maureen on 07766886080. Cost £6

Cake and Candy Stall

Everyone is welcome to contribute home baking for our popular Cake and Candy stall next weekend: 29/30 August. Please remember to label and price each item.

A gentle reminder for parishioners to please visit the stall next weekend and show support and appreciation for the loyalty of our bakers in producing these tasty goods at their own expense in service to our parish. Thank you.

August Ethical Buying Suggestion

Holiday Responsibly

When travelling, support local businesses, avoid single-use plastics and respect the places you visit.

ST NINIAN OFFERTORY 16/08/2026

OFF 332.60

GA 197.00

CANDLES 53.05

TOTAL £582.65

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS Do you have what it takes to be a Diocesan Priest?

To comfort people in their sorrow, to bring God's love to the suffering or deprived, to be a light in the darkness, to welcome the children, to speak eloquently about God and His Mercy.

Are you humble enough to handle the Body and Blood of Jesus, and to speak God's word of forgiveness?

If so, come along to the Vocations Evening in St Andrew's Cathedral Hall on Sun 30th August at 7 to 8pm?"