

Parishes of St Andrew's Cathedral and Our Lady of Good Counsel

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Sunday 5 July 2020 - 14th in Ordinary Time Year A
Next Sunday: 15th in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

As you will most likely receive this before Friday, may I just let you know that the Funeral Mass for Margaret Morgan RIP will take place in Our Lady of Good Counsel this **Friday 3 July at 10am.**

The Funeral is limited to invited family & friends only so it will not be public.

There will therefore be no adoration in Our Lady of Good Counsel this Friday 3 July.

The committal service at the Crematorium will be livestreamed. Here are the details:

www.obitus.com

username: Subi8131 password: 746095.

You can view the live webcast from approx five minutes before the start time of 11.30am.

Next week's opening times for our two churches – for private prayer and adoration only - will be as follows:

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry

Sunday 5 July: 10am until 11am
Monday 6 July: **Church closed** (Funeral)
Tuesday 7 July: 10am until 11am
Wednesday 8 July: **Church closed today**
Thursday 9 July: 10am until 11am
and 5pm -6pm
Friday 10 July: 10am until 11am
Saturday 11 July: **Church closed today**
Sunday 12 July: 10am until 11am

St Andrew's Cathedral:

Please note modified times

Sunday 5 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
and 5pm until 6pm
Monday 6 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
Tuesday 7 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
Wednesday 8 July: **5pm – 6pm only**
Thursday 9 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
Friday 10 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
Saturday 11 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm
Sunday 12 July: 12.30pm until 1.30pm & 5pm - 6pm

Any changes to these times will be communicated as swiftly as possible via the website:

(www.standrewscathedraldundee.com),

and the facebook page:

(<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsRCDundee/>);

the times will also be advertised on the church notice boards. During the times the Churches are open there will be silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament but no formal devotions.

I would like to thank most sincerely those who have volunteered and helped in any way to facilitate the opening of our Churches for private prayer. I am most grateful to you all.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession

We are not yet able to have scheduled periods for Confession and certainly not allowed to use the Confessional box, but if you would like to celebrate the Sacrament, please see me during one of the times when the Church is open and we can arrange a *socially distanced* Confession.

Visits to the sick and housebound

I am aware that the Care and Nursing homes are still (rightly) operating strictly with regard to visiting. When those who are housebound and their families and carers deem it appropriate for me to visit with Holy Communion I will happily do so, taking the sensible precautions of wearing a mask and sanitising. Please be in touch. I look forward to seeing those I regularly visit as soon as possible.

I still have some copies of the July edition of the **Sacred Heart Messenger**. If you would like one please let me know - 01382 225228.

Follow the reflections and music on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsRCDundee/>

A Liturgy for Children is on the Facebook page for this Sunday. Grateful thanks to the Liturgy Team.

Live stream Mass: www.dunkelldiocese.co.uk

Thankfully it seemed to work better on Sunday past. Bishop Stephen will celebrate this Sunday.

I will celebrate the **Evening Prayer of the Church** for this 14th Sunday of the year at 4pm in the Cathedral today. I'm attaching/enclosing a Word document with the text of the Evening Prayer if you'd like to share in it at home.

Our Prayers for those who have died recently: Moira Wilkie, Margaret Morgan, James Young, Arthur Lynch; **those whose anniversaries fall at this time:** John Haggerty, Lizzie Haggerty, Ann Simpson, Fr Joseph Cairns, John Gorman, Gloria Callaghan, Richard Miller Senior.

all those who are sick and in need of our intercession:

Thinley Chodron, Margaret McHattie, Margaret Parke, Monsignor Basil O'Sullivan, Sharon McNally, Natalia Lucka, Benedict Stephens, Gillian Steedman, Steven Kennedy, Sharon Davison, Aubrey McMullan, Sonya Rostan, Lily Jane Douglas, Alexander McNeil, Bridie Mossey, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga, Estelle Fox, Allison Matthew.

Keeping this Sunday holy with a Home Liturgy



A prayer to begin

God our Father,
through the selfless love of your Son,
supremely shown for us in his sufferings on Calvary
you have raised up a fallen world.
Fill your faithful people with a holy joy,
for on those you rescue from slavery to sin
you bestow an eternal gladness.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Penitential Litany

*We take time to celebrate the power of God's
mercy at work in our lives.*

Lord Jesus, you are tenderness and compassion.
For the harshness that sometimes fills our hearts,
forgive us Lord.

Lord, you are gentle and humble of heart.
For the pride that sometimes fills our lives,
forgive us Lord.

Lord you are truth, in all your works.
For the lies that sometimes undermine our integrity,
forgive us Lord.

Read the Scriptures of the day

The Prophet Zechariah 9:9-10

See now, your king comes humbly to you.

Psalm 144:

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

St Paul to the Romans 8:9. 11-13

*Unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you
would not belong to him.*

The Gospel of Matthew 11: 25-30

Gentle and humble of heart

A reflection on this Sunday's First Reading

Today we hear from the rarely read Prophet Zechariah, known (perhaps somewhat lamentably) as one of the "minor" Old Testament Prophets. Zechariah's prophetic activity takes place in the period after the exiles were allowed to return from Babylon to Jerusalem, in the reign of King Cyrus.

Cyrus the Persian had seized Jerusalem in 539 BC and subsequently permitted the Jews to return to their homeland in 538 BC. The second Prophet Isaiah had anticipated such a return ("*Comfort my people*"). But when they returned from captivity things did not go as smoothly as they had hoped.

Rebuilding the holy city and the temple took years; the people were depressed, they were the taunt of their neighbours.

The Samaritans, living to the north of Jerusalem, were a people created through old Israelite bloodlines mingled with people imported by the Assyrians after the 722BC exile. These people did worship Yahweh, the God of Israel, but their style of worship and piety was quite different from that of the returning Jews, and tensions arose: we see this in the time and ministry of Jesus also.

The most important and sacred work after the exile is the rebuilding of the temple by Zerubbabel. Zechariah and Haggai the prophets called for this rebuilding to take place, during the years 520-518 BC. The temple was dedicated in 515BC. Zerubbabel the governor of Judah, because of his completion of the new temple, was seen by the prophets as being a kind of *messiah* figure, but Zechariah saw beyond Zerubbabel's governorship, to the end of the Persian dominance, its collapse, and its replacement with the Kingdom/Reign of God.

Zechariah doesn't so much call the people to action but encourages them to wait expectantly for God to act. The signs of the new Kingdom will be wonderful! There will be a new King and he will come "humbly... on a donkey" and will banish the bow of war. Such is the importance of the contribution of even a "minor" prophet, that John the evangelist quotes him and sees Jesus perfectly fulfilling the prophecy as he, the True Messiah, rides into the Holy City on Palm Sunday Morning.

The Church chooses this piece from Zechariah to compliment the Gospel this Sunday. (*The first reading on Sundays is always chosen to shed light on/prepare us for the Gospel text.*) The humble king spoken of by Zechariah is seen in the flesh in Jesus of Nazareth, who, while having this unique relationship with God the Father, and blessing the Father in such personal language, is nevertheless himself "gentle and humble in heart". We are invited to draw close to that heart, that Sacred Heart as we –each in our own way – keep this Sunday holy.

Intercessions:

Take a few moments to bring before the Lord your intentions and conclude with the *Our Father*.

A Prayer to conclude

Dear Lord, please teach us to be generous,
to serve you as you deserve:
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and to ask for no reward,
save that of knowing we do your will,
through Christ our Lord Amen.