

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

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Sunday 2 August 2020 -
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Next Sunday: 19th in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Friends and Parishioners,



Our Liturgy this Sunday brings us to the point in the ministry of Jesus where the hungry people – a crowd of five thousand plus - are fed by him, with the resources of only five loaves and two fish.

A poignant Gospel passage - and one told in the accounts of all four evangelists – is made even more meaningful as we recall the spiritual hunger that has been felt as we have been unable to share the Eucharistic food of the Lord's body and blood for so many weeks. We are now of course able to gather once again for Mass, even although it is bereft of singing, and shorter than we are used to.



Bringing the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Anointing to the sick and housebound is a important part of the priestly ministry, and

much of that has been restricted during the lockdown. I'm aware that many still feel the need to stay at home and keep safe. For those parishioners who are housebound and who feel - with the consent of their families and carers too - that I can now visit with Holy Communion, I shall be glad to do so. Please don't hesitate to be in touch regarding this.

Logistics regarding coming to Mass:

A reminder that it is necessary to book a place for Sunday Mass in our Churches (and recommended on weekdays too in the Cathedral). Seats for our Masses are now available to book up to and including Sunday 23 August 2020. After 14 August it will **not** be necessary to book for **weekdays** at the Cathedral.

Important request

If you book a place for Sunday Mass and then find you **cannot** attend, can I please ask you – no matter how late it is - to text the dedicated phone number **07561 699557** to let us know you won't be there, (leaving your name); This means we can allocate your place to someone else. Thank you for your co-operation.

For Mass at **St Andrew's Cathedral** visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-mass-at-st-andrews-cathedral-dundee-tickets-112091962076>

Alternatively, use your search engine to search for **'Eventbrite, St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee'**.

For **Our Lady of Good Counsel** visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-mass-at-our-lady-of-good-counsel-rc-church-broughty-ferry-tickets-112956403644>

Alternatively, use your search engine to search for **'Eventbrite, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry'**.

If you don't have internet access, 'phone the dedicated Mass booking number on **07561 699557**. **Leave a message** (the phone won't be answered) with your **name, number, the Masses** you require seats for and whether you would prefer **upstairs** or **downstairs**.

Sunday Mass times at the Cathedral:

Saturday Vigil at 4pm; Sunday at 11am and 6pm.

Sunday Mass times in Our Lady of Good

Counsel: Saturday Vigil at 5.30pm; Sunday 9.45am.



You may remember our **Cathedral parish Mission Meeting**, not long before lockdown, where we displayed a number of

fairtrade and locally sourced items.

Many of these items were donated to the Dundee Foodbank, from whom we have received a sincere letter of thanks. Dundee Foodbank is committed to providing emergency food relief to people experiencing hardship throughout Dundee. In 2019 it assisted over 14,000 people and is currently feeding 270 people each week.



**There will be Mass each day in our Churches
this week as follows:**

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry

Sunday 2 August:

**Vigil Mass on Saturday 1 August at 5.30pm;
Morning Mass at 9.45am.**

Monday 3 August: **Mass at 11.45am**

Please note change in time due to funeral.

Tuesday 4 August: Mass at 10am

Wednesday 5 August: Mass at 10am

Thursday 6 August: Mass at 10am

Friday 7 August: Mass at 10am

Saturday 8 August: **No Morning Mass**

Sunday 9 August:

**Vigil Mass on Saturday 8 August at 5.30pm;
Morning Mass at 9.45am.**

St Andrew's Cathedral:

Sunday 2 August:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 4pm;

Sunday Mass at 11am and 6pm.

Monday 3 August: Mass at 1pm

Tuesday 4 August: Mass at 1pm

Wednesday 5 August: Mass at 1pm

Thursday 6 August: Mass at 1pm

Friday 7 August: Mass at 1pm

Saturday 8 August: Novena and Mass at 10am

Sunday 9 August:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 4pm;

Sunday Mass at 11am and 6pm.

This coming Tuesday 4 August is the Memorial of St John Vianney, Thursday 6 August is the Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord, and Saturday 8 August is the memorial of St Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans).

Our Prayers for those who have died recently:

Sheila Lynch;

those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Baby Eve Clarke, Renee Savage, Kathleen Ferry, Monica Gorman, Doris Storer, Bob and Rose Simpson, Frank Boyle, Elizabeth Duncan, Ann Brown, Elizabeth Mauchland, Christina Malliff;

all those who are sick and in need of our

intercession: Baby Ben Welsh, Bill Boland, Thinley Chodron, Margaret McHattie, 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.

Cathedral 200 Club

If you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. You can pay directly into the Cathedral bank account, but note "200 Club" on your pay-in details. The bank is Bank of Scotland Fairmuir Branch.

Account name : "ADM BISH ST ANDREWS CATH 1"
Sort Code is: 80 - 73 - 31. Account Number is:
00700231. Please let Kenny know on 07443 494719.

Finance Matters

Because a greater number of our parishioners now make their church contribution by standing order, it will be more accurate to record the income in the newsletter monthly (i.e. once I have received the monthly bank statements) so that I can add the relevant standing order amount for each week of the month to the plate collection of each Sunday. Thanks once again for your ongoing generosity.

Gift aid envelopes can be collected this Sunday.

If you are staying at home and would like your envelopes delivered please let me know.

If you would like a **standing order form** for your church contribution, please ask (or email me - I'm less likely to forget that way!)

Parish Newsletter



I learned very early on in ministry that the weekly parish newsletter is an important means and symbol of communication within the community.

For many weeks now, since the beginning of lockdown, I have been emailing the weekly parish newsletter to everyone whose email address I have, as well as having it posted on the Facebook page and the website.

I have also been sending out many newsletters by post each week and will happily continue to do so for the next while. However, can I ask you: if you receive the newsletter by post and **do** have internet access, can you please let me have your email address so I can email it to you - this will mean a considerable saving on postage. Or, if you have a relative or friend who has internet access and who would be willing to print out the newsletter for you each week, please let me know and I will email it to them. Any other suggestions in the area of communication would be very helpful. Many thanks. Kevin

Follow the reflections and music on Facebook:

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

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

I will celebrate the **Evening Prayer of the Church** for this 18th 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.

Keeping this Sunday holy with a Home Liturgy

*Wisdom has built herself a house!
She has prepared her table
and brought forth her wine;
and she calls her children:
Come and eat of my bread,
and drink of my wine;
Come to the feast I prepare for you.*

A prayer to begin

This opening Prayer prepares us for the Gospel of the feeding of the five thousand.

How vast the crowds were O God,
and how deep their hunger!
How late the hour and their resources, how few!
Just like ourselves!
Let us then, entrust generously,
what little we have, to you, knowing
that whenever come before you in faith,
you will give us your divine wisdom
and the promise of the bread of abundant life
and cup of eternal joy.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Penitential Litany

Let us prepare ourselves for the banquet of God's Word.

God of tenderness and mercy,
have mercy on us.
God, just in all your ways,
have mercy on us.
God, near to those who call upon you,
have mercy on us.

Read the Scriptures of the day

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah 55: 1-3

Come and eat

Psalm 144:

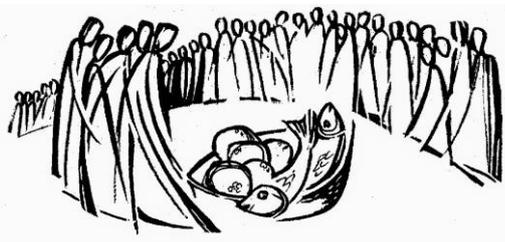
*You open wide your hand O Lord,
and grant our desires.*

St Paul to the Romans 8: 35. 37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ.

The Gospel of Matthew 14: 13-21

They all ate as much as they wanted.



A reflection

With twenty loaves of bread Elisha fed the one hundred till they were satisfied, and Scripture tells us there was bread left over. Jesus did more: with five small barley loaves and two dried fish he fed five thousand men, together with their wives and children, all neatly arranged upon the cushioned grass. The awed disciples, when the crowd had eaten, gathered up what was left: twelve baskets full.

Who then received these fragments? Hopefully, the least (though not less favored) and the poor. I think of those who always seem to get the leavings from the banqueting of others, the scraps of bread, of life, that goodness saves. I pray that they come proudly when invited, make merry at their meal and have their fill, and rise up thankfully, remembering the fragments, too were miracles of love.

[Jessica Powers]

Intercessions:

Take time to voice your own prayers, and conclude with the *Our Father*.

A Prayer to conclude

Father, all powerful and ever living God we seek to give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ your Son.

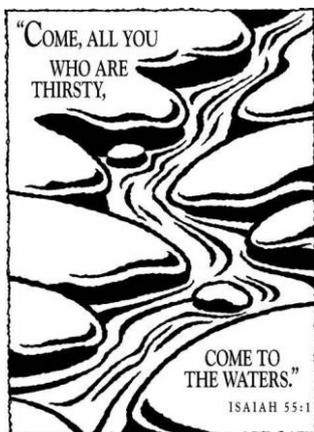
At the hillside near the Sea of Galilee he drew the crowds to himself, imparting to them your wisdom and showing his divine power as he alleviated their hunger. With five loaves and two fish, he fed that multitude, giving a symbol of the glorious plenty to which you call us in the Eucharist, the lasting legacy of Christ's living passion.

In the great sacrament of the Eucharist you feed your people, gathering us as one, breaking the bread, pouring the wine, and in so doing, nourishing us on the precious body and sacred blood of the One who gave his life on Calvary.

Lifted high on the cross, he poured out his life for us, so much did he love us. From his wounded side flowed blood and water, the fountain of sacramental life in the church. To his open heart the Saviour invites us all, to draw water in joy from that spring of salvation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



When will we be able to sing again at Mass?

Numerous people have asked me this recently. *Hopefully, soon*, is my somewhat vague reply. The absence of singing in our liturgies at present will hopefully help us see how vital it is for the *lifting up our hearts* in praise when we gather together.

This Sunday, the biblical texts may bring to mind many much loved Eucharistic hymns. One of my favourites is *Come to the feast*.

It opens with these words:

Let everyone who thirsts come to the waters;

Here is an end to hunger: come to the feast!

It continues in the same vein, with a long series of invitations, and an imperative refrain, *Come to the waters! Come to the feast!* But what is the authority behind such an open invitation?

Towards the end of the Exile in Babylonia (middle of the 6th century BC) an anonymous biblical prophet emerged as a *singer of the new song of the Lord* as the Psalmist puts it. It was perhaps for fear of the Babylonian captors that this prophet wrote anonymously, but his words and vision are so profound that they found their way into the Book we know as that of the Prophet Isaiah, and the form chapters 40-55 of this book.

What we will proclaim at Mass this Sunday in the First Reading is a short extract from what is a glorious finale to the work of this prophet, who is known usually as “Second” Isaiah. The Church chooses it for this Sunday’s Liturgy in order to *whet our appetites* to listen to [and be part of] the scene on the Galilean hillside of the feeding of the five thousand, one of the principal signs given in the ministry of Jesus, with its undoubtedly Eucharistic overtones.

Second Isaiah began his *Book of Hope* with a message of consolation and promise: the time of exile will soon be over. There was no need at this point to proclaim a message of judgment; people needed to hear words of forgiveness and new beginnings: the exiles would soon depart on a triumphal procession back to their homeland. The prophet uses powerful images [familiar to us] of a way being prepared for them through the desert, valleys being filled in, mountains and hills being laid low. Bringing his work to an end in Chapter 55, the prophet calls the poor to a New Banquet in

the New Jerusalem. And what do we find? It is all free! Corn, wine and milk: the promise made to David is to be renewed with an everlasting covenant. Mary would sing of it later: *he has filled the hungry with good things, he has put down the proud and lifted up the humble*.

The scriptures often use the image of a banquet to symbolise God’s care for his people. Second Isaiah is the prophet whose poetry describes a special figure, the *Servant of the Lord*, his vocational call, his faithfulness and his suffering, texts we cherish each Holy Week as we see them fulfilled in the person of Jesus. At the great Easter Vigil too, we read the full version of this Sunday’s short extract from Isaiah, and also the verses immediately preceding it, describing the New Jerusalem with its *foundations set on sapphires*, where God’s people, *remote from oppression, will have nothing to fear*.

In the Gospel this Sunday, we find Jesus definitively inaugurating this New Jerusalem himself, by providing a banquet on a hillside, which is free and abundant, even though it starts out with a [seemingly] meagre five loaves and two fish. Here revealed is the *Servant of the Lord* indeed, as he makes Isaiah’s prophecy a living experience for the crowds.

Fulfilling the famous Psalm 23 as well, he has the people sit down on the grass as he spreads a table before them. This miraculous feeding shows that God indeed *opens wide his hand*, as this Sunday’s Psalm 144 sings.

But Jesus also points to the deepest and final fulfillment of the prophecies and promises of old in his gestures with the loaves and fish. He does the same things he will do at the Last Supper - he *takes* the loaves, *blesses* them, *breaks* them and *gives* them to the people.

Just like the text of Isaiah 55, the hymn *Come to the feast* concludes with an invitation for all to life in the new kingdom:

And all who are oppressed: come to the waters!

This is the feast of justice: come to the feast!

And you, the lost and broken, come to the waters!

This is the feast of healing, come to the feast!

For this is life: to die and rise in Jesus!

For this is life: to share the life of Christ.

For this is life: the bread and wine of justice.

O come to the feast! O come to the feast!

Even though we can’t actually sing the words of the hymn this Sunday, hopefully the Liturgy will confirm in us the truth of its words.