

For the faith the size of a mustard seed.....

Acclaimed Scottish Scripture scholar, Denis McBride recounts the story of the Jewish writer, Elie Wiesel, who survived the Auschwitz concentration camp as a boy, attending a service in a synagogue in 1965. Elie's eyes are fixed on the old rabbi who is praying and sighing, as though in a trance. An ancient, bewildering sadness seems to have enveloped the old man: he appears to be living elsewhere, apparently resigned to all that has happened. Wiesel then has a mad thought that the rabbi will shake himself, pound his pulpit and cry out his pain, his rage, his truth. In his heart he addresses the Rabbi:

“Do something; say something, free yourself tonightlet the hushed reality buried within you explode: speak out, say what oppresses you—one cry, just one cry, just one would be enough to bring down the walls that encircle and crush you.”

But nothing happened. Wiesel was hoping that the old rabbi would find a voice to express his suffering, that he would name the anguish that fidelity to God can bring. But there was silence.

Hearing the words of the prophet Amos resound in the Liturgy with such power [and indeed with such relevance to the situation of life in our society today] over the past two Sundays, might make us reflect, even if not yet cry out, on just how our Eucharistic gathering/experience enables us (if at all) to come to share eagerly or announce the justice of God for the world. It struck me that Amos's bold message, addressed to the powerful (and we surely all hold power in some form) is as relevant today as it was eight centuries before Jesus. It encourages us to ask ourselves how we at least begin to address the injustice we see and Experience. Often, as a first response, we are happy to give and share from our resources for the needy; beyond that it is more challenging to speak out and act for the systemic injustice we see around us. Eucharist surely propels us outwards from our pews and our sacristies to the pain of the world, to face the effects of the systemic sin which was placed on the shoulders of the Lamb of God.

This Sunday, the Liturgy is again relentless in the call for justice as we are given the words of the sixth century prophet, Habakkuk, screaming on behalf of God's battered and bruised people. Yet the prophet's scream is not a cry of despair, but a faith rooted plea; he knows God will do something: even his anger strengthens his communion with his God and marks his faithfulness to his prophetic vocation.



And what of you and I, so often unable to articulate what we really feel, so often frightened to express a radical Gospel viewpoint in case it may offend? The older I get, I bemoan and regret most not having spoken too much, but having said so little, despite using many words. The One who has planted the Gospel in our hearts expects great things of us. From the seeds of faith great things can grow and happen. You may feel content and satisfied on your journey of faith, and if so I salute you and wish you peace. On the other hand, like me you may have that niggle about “what more?”, you may have that *thorn in the side* that St Paul spoke of, or that longing of Wiesel, not that the rabbi would cry out, but that you yourself might find a voice or a word or even a gesture by which your Eucharistic life might impact on the world, or at least on a little corner of it.

On the feastday this past week, celebrating an assurance of the providential love and care of God for us, the Church honoured Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels: Michael the warrior on behalf of God's people; Gabriel, the messenger of the justice of God which would be made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; and Raphael, the guide sent to the young Tobias in the Old Testament. Alongside these three, the liturgy that day gave us the story of Nathaniel, whom Jesus sees coming along and speaks of him as “the Israelite without guile”, the one “incapable of deceit”. It always makes me ponder, that passage: *what does he say when he sees Kevin coming along?* In Nathaniel, he sees radiance of faith, the beauty of a sincere heart. *What does he see in me?* You may ask yourself the same question, not to humiliate yourself, but to energise yourself into a fresh and bold faith, with an echo of the fire of the prophets. Every encounter with Jesus in the Gospel is an invitation to people to grasp the new life he brings and make it real in the world. We know he neither stayed in the pew nor the sacristy, but walked on the road. He surely sends us all, whatever our calling, into our little corner of the world to witness. He said himself, *I have come to bring fire to the earth; I wish it were blazing already!* He desired the fullness of life to happen in those who met and healed, taught, forgave, included and cherished, not least those affected by the injustice of others, or the poverty in which they found themselves. He surely knew in his depths what St Irenaeus would articulate centuries later: the glory of God is the human person fully alive!

Caritas Christi
urget nos —
The love of Christ
spurs us on
(Episcopal Motto of Cardinal Thomas Winning)

Go in peace to love and serve the lord: the Latin out it even more boldly; *Ite, missa est!* To love and to serve and to go: they are all linked up. Habakkuk the prophet would invite us to join in his cries for an end to oppression and violence, and Paul today encourages us today: don't be content to muse over what you omitted to do in the past. You can only go in peace and love and serve the Lord **today**, after Mass **now**. Paul would have us reflect on the immensity of the gift of faith and the Holy Spirit we have been given and use the liturgy this Sunday as the starting point to *fan it all into a flame*, and cast aside our timidity and allow the boldness of the Holy Spirit to be at work in us. It is a tall order but it is entrusted to us nevertheless.

**Welcome to St Andrew's Cathedral,
St Mary, Our Lady of Victories, Forebank
and Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry,**



St Andrew's Cathedral (1836)

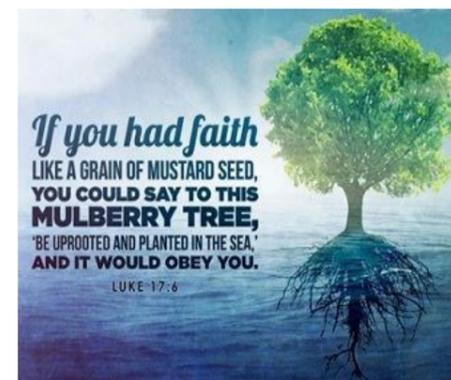


St Mary, Our Lady of Victories (1851)



Our Lady of Good Counsel (1904)

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 October 2022 - Year of Luke - C
Next Sunday: 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time



A warm welcome to our Masses across the parishes this Sunday! We want you to know you are a welcome part of our parish family, whether you are a visitor, a new parishioner, a student one of the Universities or Colleges or a regular worshipper with us. All are welcome in this place.

Vigil Mass: 5.30pm in Our Lady of Good Counsel
Day Masses: 9.45am in Our Lady of Good Counsel
11am & 6pm in St Andrew's Cathedral
11.15am in St Mary's, Forebank

Mass Schedule

Monday 3 October: 10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel 11.30am in St Mary's, Forebank
Rosary at 12.30pm & Mass at 1pm in the Cathedral

Tuesday 4 October: *Memorial of St Francis of Assisi*
10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel 11.30am in St Mary's, Forebank 1pm in the Cathedral

Wednesday 5 October: **11am in Our Lady of Good Counsel 12.15pm in St Mary's, Forebank** 1pm in the Cathedral

Thursday 6 October:
9am in Our Lady of Good Counsel 12.15pm in St Mary's, Forebank 1pm in the Cathedral
[The Funeral Mass for James and Elizabeth Drummond takes place in the Cathedral at 10.30am]

Friday 7 October: *Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary*
10am in Our Lady of Good Counsel 11.30am in St Mary's, Forebank 1pm in the Cathedral

Saturday 8 October: Novena and Mass at 10am in the Cathedral

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Nightfever returns!!!

We are looking to restart the evenings of Eucharistic adoration in a candle-lit Cathedral, accompanied by beautiful, prayerful, live music, and would like to invite YOU to support us by joining us: to be present, to pray, to invite those passing by the Cathedral to come in to light a candle and experience the peace of Christ, on a Saturday evening probably from 7pm until 9pm.

If you would like to welcome those we invite into the Cathedral with a smile and kind word, or be someone who would go out with others to gently and encouragingly invite those passing by to spend a few minutes with peace and quiet to light a candle, **then please let us know.**

If you play an instrument and would like to contribute to the beautiful, reflective atmosphere we aim to create; or if you would like to serve warm drinks and food to our volunteers **then please let us know.**

I have already spoken with past volunteers, who are so keen for Nightfever to begin again, having commented how peaceful and beautiful the event is. **Come and experience it for yourself!**

Our Nightfever events have in the past been well supported by our young people and students. Fr Kevin and I will be at the Catsoc evening this Monday and will speak for a few minutes about Nightfever.

For more information or to offer your help please email me— njgibsomunro@icloud.com



Sunday evening dinner for young people aged 18-30

The first of hopefully a monthly Sunday evening meal and fellowship for young people and students (18-30 years) as mentioned in a previous newsletter, will take place in the Cathedral Hall after the 6pm Mass on Sunday 16 October, hosted by Father Jean Gové and supported by Fr Greg Murphy - an opportunity for reflection, prayer and the sharing of food and fellowship.

You can use the QR code on the poster to sign up. Access to the hall when you come out of the Cathedral is to turn right and right again down the stairs.



Our Prayers for the sick: Helen Brannagan, Patrick Ruddy, Agnes Whyte, Jean Drummond, Norman Hadden, Ray Conchie, Ross Murray, Janet Isherwood, Theresa Kay, Dawn Wood, Heather Moffit, Steven Hackney, Karen Dammer, Margaret McMenemy, Isobel Blackmore, Jackey Forrest-Moore, Thinley Chodron, Catherine Gallacher, Steven Kennedy, Sonya Rostan, Aubrey McMullan, Alexander McNeil, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga; **for those who have died recently:** Gerard McCrorie, Agnes McCafferty, James Drummond, Betty Drummond, Billy Costello, Leigh-Anne Donnelly, Mary McQuillam, Thomas Caul McGuinness, Seaneen McCloskey, Anne Kelly (St Mary's, Lochee);

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bill McBride, Jean Money, Rachel Smith, David Hunter, Ann Danaher, Abraham Joseph, Daute Barbieri, Margaret Roncone, Margaret Pullen, Malcolm Gray, Eileen Ramsay, Sarah Johnston, James McAtamney, Ella Reilly, Patricia Brogan, Grace Logan, Charles McLaren Junior, Canon John Page, Elizabeth Berry, Peter Brown, Margaret Brown, William Milne, Paul Bailey, Joe McMahan, Arthur McGuire, Frank Haughey, Thomas Ravey, Winnie Smith, Bill Smith, Thomas McBride, Syd Connor, Maud Duncan, Catherine Walker, James Matthew, Peter Grimes Junior, Arthur Greene, Bill Barry, Ellen Matthew, Kenneth Graham, Tom McCrorie.

There will be refreshments in the Cathedral Hall after the 11am Solemn Mass this Sunday—please come and join us.

Thank you for your generosity over the last two Sundays: Sunday 18 September: £853 in the Cathedral, £340 in St Mary's, Forebank and £502 in Our Lady of Good Counsel. Sunday 25 September: £883 in the Cathedral, £353 in St Mary's, Forebank and £422 in Our Lady of Good Counsel.

The Special collection for the **Sick & Retired Priests' Fund** came to £371 in the Cathedral, £244 in St Mary's, Forebank and £320 in Our Lady of Good Counsel.

The new **Gift Aid envelopes** for St Mary's are ready for collection today at the back of the Church. If you are a tax payer you can *gift aid* your church contribution at no extra cost or inconvenience to yourself, either by using the envelope system or by standing order from your bank. Please consider supporting the finances of the Church by gift aiding your contribution.

October Devotions of the Rosary, Litany and Prayer to St Joseph

this Sunday 2 October at 4pm in Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry. Do come and join us in honouring the Blessed Mother if you can. Next Sunday at 4pm

in St Mary's, Forebank.

October Devotions will also be held on two days each week of the month at 12.30pm in the Cathedral beginning this **Monday 3 October and Thursday 6 October.**

The latest winners of the **Cathedral 200 Club** are: Maureen Strachan - £50; Avril McQueen - £30; Cath McNally - £20. Congratulations to this month's winners. If you'd like to take a 200 club number please let me know, or speak to Sandra Scott at the back of the Church.

The return of the



After such a long absence, we welcome back to the Cathedral from **Wednesday 12 October** after the 1pm Mass an open invitation for sandwiches, tea, coffee and fellowship in the hall. All are welcome from across the parishes and beyond; do come and join us.

The MacMillan fundraiser at **Our Lady's Primary School** was an amazing success with a final total of £775.17 being raised. The School would like to thank everyone who came along and/or contributed to the event in some way. All support was greatly appreciated by our Primary 6 class who ran the event and they are now very excited to send that money off to the charity, knowing that it will make a difference to peoples' lives.



Many of you will remember the former Chaplain to Wellburn Home, Father Jean-Pierre, who, along with two other priests was kidnapped from his parish house ten years ago, and the whereabouts of these three men is still unknown.

The Friends of Wellburn pray continually for them. There will be an Anniversary Mass to pray for them on Wednesday 19 October at 7pm in St Peter and St Paul's Church, Byron Street. Everyone is welcome to attend.



The great event of **World Youth Day** is open to young people between the ages of 16 and 30, and it takes place in Lisbon from Saturday 29 July until Monday 7 August. Would you be interested in going with other young pilgrims from the Diocese of Dunkeld? Although the cost is steep—around £1500, our parishes would be able to provide some sponsorship. Don't be shy about coming forward and asking more about it. It might just be the spur to deeper faith and commitment that you need!



Dundee and Abertay University Catholic Society invites all students this Monday to St Joseph's, Wilkies Lane, for Mass at 7pm followed by refreshments. All students are welcome to attend.

The **Annual Diocesan Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life** will take place in St Andrew's Cathedral on Thursday 20 October at 7pm. In years gone by this event attracted a huge crowd from across the Diocese, filling the cathedral with song and praise. In recent years, the numbers attending have dwindled to a much smaller congregation, almost embarrassingly small.

While the focus of this annual Mass is vocations to the priesthood and religious life it is surely also a celebration of all our vocations and life journeys in the service of the Lord.

Could I ask that the parishioners from across our three parishes make a really special effort to come to the Cathedral for this Mass on 20 September, to affirm one another in prayer and celebration in each one of our chosen life paths, as well as praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

