

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

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**Sunday 18 October 2020 -
29th Sunday of Ordinary time
Year of Matthew [A]
Next Sunday: 30th in Ordinary Time**

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

As you can see, today we add the parishioners of St Thomas of Canterbury Parish in Arbroath to our newsletter distribution. With the return of Father Joseph to India, it is an honour to have been asked by the Bishop to act as Administrator of St Thomas' Parish for the time being, and to have the chance to reconnect with friends and parishioners in that lovely parish. The newsletter will be emailed each week to everyone whom I can reach. Can I ask the Arbroath parishioners to please to send me a quick email so I can save your address? Thanks:

kevinjamesgolden@hotmail.com

Father Andrew Marshall is now living in the Presbytery in Arbroath and I thank you for making him so welcome. Andrew will celebrate most of the Masses in St. Thomas', though I look forward to being there next weekend for the Vigil and Sunday morning Masses while Andrew will celebrate in the Cathedral and Broughty Ferry.

As you know, Father Andrew is in the process of completing his studies in Biblical Theology online. He will complete these in February in Rome. He is happy to take on parish duties as his studies permit and will visit the parish primary school when it reopens after the October break.

I am aware that a number of the housebound or shielding parishioners in Arbroath may not have had Holy Communion for some time. I have already begun to make some visits and am very happy to do so, with the agreement of those concerned.

Sanitising precautions are taken when I visit and I won't turn up unannounced. It is still difficult, if not impossible for me to visit care and nursing homes.

If you would like a visit please don't hesitate to be in touch.

In the Masses next weekend in Arbroath we shall thank God for Father Joseph's ministry among you. In normal circumstances at this time we would be meeting as a parish to talk about hopes and priorities for the future, but as we cannot do that in person yet, I urge the parishioners of Arbroath to be in touch with me via email or a just a note with any pressing concerns.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES

St Thomas of Canterbury, Arbroath

Sunday 18 October:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5pm; Sunday at 10.45am.

Monday 19 October: Mass at 10am

Tuesday 20 October: **Mass at 7pm**

Wednesday 21 October: Mass at 10am

Thursday 22 October: Mass at 10am

Friday 23 October: Mass at 10am

Saturday 24 October: Mass at 10am

Sunday 25 October:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5pm; Sunday at 10.45am.

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Sunday 18 October:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5.30pm; Sunday at 9.45am.

Monday 19 October: Mass at 10am

Tuesday 20 October: **Mass at 1pm – please note.**

Wednesday 21 October: Mass at 10am

Thursday 22 October: Mass at 10am

Friday 23 October: Mass at 10am

Saturday 24 October: **No Morning Mass**

Sunday 25 October:

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5.30pm; Sunday at 9.45am

St Andrew's Cathedral:

Sunday 18 October:

Vigil on Saturday at 4pm; Sunday 11am & 6pm.

Monday 19 October: Mass at 1pm

Tuesday 20 October: Mass at 1pm

Wednesday 21 October: Mass at 1pm

Thursday 22 October: Mass at 1pm

Friday 23 October: Mass at 1pm

Saturday 24 October: Novena and Mass at 10am

Sunday 25 October:

Vigil on Saturday at 4pm; Sunday 11am & 6pm.

Important: Change of Mass time at Cathedral

Please note that on **Monday 26 October** the 1pm Mass will be a Memorial Mass for Michael Branney RIP and attendance will be by family invitation only. The **Cathedral Parish Mass** on Monday 26th October will be at **11am**.

The **Cathedral Mass** on **Tuesday 27 October** will also be at **11am** due to a Memorial Mass in Arbroath for the late Joan Paterson RIP who was organist in St Thomas' for many years.

Booking a place for Sunday Mass

Important note: In the **Cathedral** and **Our Lady of Good Counsel**, online and phone bookings for Vigil and Sunday Masses (subject to the availability of seats) can be made up to and including the weekend of **21/22 November**.

The following weekend is the start of Advent; in order that I can plan for Advent and the Christmas season, I have therefore asked my volunteers to pause the booking ahead window until arrangements for Masses during these seasons are in place. Also, the phone booking system is for those **without** internet access only. I shall say a word about the phone booking system for the Cathedral at the Masses this weekend.

For Mass at **St Andrew's Cathedral** search for **'Eventbrite, St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee'**.

For **Our Lady of Good Counsel** 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**.

I am not fully aware of how the booking system in **Arbroath** works but will hopefully be able to include the details in next week's newsletter.

Our Prayers.....

for those who have died recently: Claire Robertson, Bill Delaney, Dod McLaren,

those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

David Duncan, Amadeo Ferrario, Winifred Golden, Bishop William Andrew Hart, Veronica van der Kuyl, John Flynn, David Walker, May McCormack, Joe Esposito, Gerald Reynolds, Ricky Miller;

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

Maria Robertson, Joyce McMahon, Tom Clark, Mary Welsh, Frances Young, Joe Jackson, Tony Beck, Mel Caullay, Jackey-Forrest-Moore, May Forbes, Catherine Gallacher, Baby Ben Welsh, Bill Boland, Thinley Chodron, Sharon McInally, Natalia Lucka, Benedict Stephens, Gillian Steedman, Steven Kennedy, Aubrey McMullan, Sonya Rostan, Lily Jane Douglas, Alexander McNeil, Bridie Mossey, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga, Allison Matthew.

November Masses for the Dead

Masses will be offered each day during the month of November for the deceased priests and people of our parishes and for all those whose names are returned in the November lists. You can collect a November list from the back of the Church this Sunday. As with the newsletter, please take the November list away with you once you have handled it, and return it next Sunday or whenever you are next at Mass. If you need a November list sent out to you, please let me know.

Mission Sunday

As you know, because of the pandemic, all special collections have been suspended until 2021. However, if you would like to give a mission Sunday donation please put it in an envelope and there will be a basket at the back of the Churches at next Sunday's Masses.

Carer needed....for a lady in Broughty Ferry: one hour in the morning 7am – 8am, and one hour in the evening 9pm - 10pm at weekends. If interested, please call 07990 575091.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

Anniversary Witness of the passing of the Abortion Act Dundee City Square, on Thursday 22nd October, 6.30pm – 7.30pm. Please note time. This is the 17th consecutive silent candle-light vigil. Please do check the event is still going ahead before you leave the house by phoning or texting Clare on 07752527696.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession:

Please approach the priest before weekday Mass if you wish to have Confession.

I will celebrate the **Evening Prayer of the Church** for the 29th Sunday of the Year at 4pm in the Cathedral this Sunday. Vespers attached/enclosed if you'd like to share in this Evening Prayer.

Follow the reflections and music on Facebook:

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

I am trying to post a little reflection most days on the Facebook page.

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

Rosary Whirlwind October 2020

for Faith, Life & Peace

On Saturday 31 October, the Eve of All Saints' Day, there will be a *National Rosary Rally* in Britain. In our Diocese of Dunkeld, Bishop Robson will lead a Rosary, live streamed from the convent Chapel at Lawside (via the diocesan website) at 12noon, for one hour.

Caring for God's Creation



The phrase **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** is often used when we talk about how to be more environmentally friendly, how to be greener, more ecologically sound, and how to live more sustainably.

These '**Three Rs**' are the ways that science has shown, will help sustain the planet, its resources, and all life in it. Our lack of awareness, however, is adversely affecting the world's poorest people. Pope Francis' latest Encyclical, '**Fratelli Tutti**' (All brothers and sisters) in conjunction with **Laudato Si** ('Praise be to you') - **On the Care for Our Common Home**, published in 2020 and 2015, respectively, form the Church's most profound and comprehensive statements yet on caring for creation and the world's poorest. (sciaf.org.uk)

"A true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor." **Pope Francis, Laudato Si**

The Pope calls for us to examine our hearts, transform our social values and take action for global solidarity. Perhaps, then, now is a good time for a reflection on how we make use of the Earth's resources- as the world faces an ecological, humanitarian and moral crisis, approaching the point of no return from irreversible global warming and climate chaos where highly-polluting fossil fuels are a major driving force behind this.

So, why the Three Rs?

Extreme weather patterns, natural hazards and food and water shortages are all threatening the lives of people living in poverty. The poorer people are, the harder it is to recover from failed harvests, destroyed homes, and health crises. It has been estimated that, by 2030, **climate change could push more than 120 million more people into poverty** (actionaid.org.uk)

Climate change affects us all. But it hits the poorest hardest, multiplying hunger, migration and conflict. If you already live on the edge, extreme weather events can push you over into ruin. With no financial or social safety net, a flood that destroys your home can leave you completely destitute. 26 of the 30 countries most vulnerable to natural disasters and a changing climate are also Least Developed Countries (LDCs). It is deeply unfair since these countries have done the least to cause climate change. (cafod.org.uk)

The **Three Rs** refer to ways that we can minimise the amount of materials that we use, the amount of the Earth's resources that we use and consume, the energy that we use and the amount of waste which we produce in our everyday life. The order they are written in is also their order of importance! Next week, we will begin with some tips on how we can **Reduce** what we use!

Keeping this Sunday holy with a Home Liturgy



A prayer to begin

You alone O God, are Lord, and there is no other.
Formed in your image,
your Name is engraved on our hearts.
In a world so often loyal to other powers,
let our lifestyle be governed
by the standards of the Gospel,
and the currency of your kingdom.
Help us to use rightly the freedom
you have given us,
that we may fulfil Jesus' teaching,
by rendering to others what is rightfully theirs,
and to you, God our Father,
the deepest loyalty of our hearts. Amen.

Read the Scriptures of the day

Book of the Prophet Isaiah 45: 1. 4-6:

Cyrus, an anointed one called by the Lord.

Psalms 95:

Give the Lord glory and power.

1st Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 1: 1-5.

*The Good News is not only words
but it is power and the Holy Spirit.*

The Gospel of Matthew 22: 1- 14

Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar....

A reflection: Take time to read the reflection on the back page of the newsletter..

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

Thanksgiving

Because you call us all by name, ***We thank you, O Lord.***

Because your glory and your wonders fill all the earth, and also fill our hearts, ***We thank you, O Lord.***

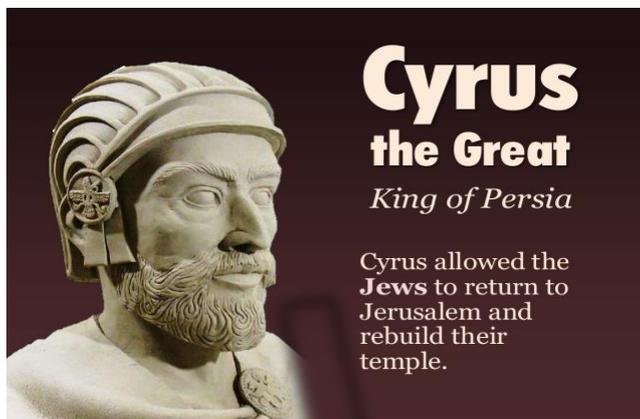
Because you help us to know you, to serve you and to love you, the only true God, ***We thank you, O Lord.***

Conclusion

May the grace and peace of Jesus accompany us all during this week.

May we be messengers of the Gospel in the service of our brothers and sisters, telling them of the wonders of the Lord.

May we walk each day in the peace of Christ. Amen.



We hear the significant name of **Cyrus** in the Isaiah reading this Sunday. The Church gives great reverence to the Old Testament, for it contains the Jewish roots of our Christian faith.

Two distinct events shaped the identity of Israel – the first being the Exodus from Egypt – under the leadership of Moses. Remember how we read the great story of the crossing of the Red Sea - *from slavery to freedom* - at the Easter Vigil each year? The second reality which shapes Israel's self-understanding is the Exile to Babylon (slavery again) and later on, the prospect of being allowed to return home. These events are the key to understanding the whole of the Old Testament and especially the Psalms; they provide a backdrop to the Hebrew understanding of who God is and what God does. This is the understanding which Jesus had: when he speaks, he speaks out of the Hebrew Jewish exodus/exile tradition. It is his culture, his religion, it is *where he comes from*. The Old Testament reveals how God *shows his hand*. It is a fascinating world to enter into!

This Sunday's Isaiah reading takes us to the period when Israel's people have been in exile for forty years in Babylon, the result of the invasion of the King Nebuchadnezzar. The time scale is 587-547BC. The plundering armies destroyed the temple and the lifestyle of the people and took those who were fit to work, away to slavery in Babylon. In the midst of this exile, God raises up **prophets** to teach the people, to help them know that their exile is the result not just of the political situation but of their spiritual self sufficiency – that is, they had forgotten the covenant God made with their ancestors, forgotten that they were called to be his special people, and were living rather according to their own whims.

Whenever the words “*I am*” appear on the lips of God in the Old Testament God is reasserting his authority over his people. “*I am*” was the divine name revealed to Moses – the holy word often used for this is the blessed name, *Yahweh*.

Isaiah affirms this “*I am*” as the power-for-life. Yet this *Yahweh* shares that power with human persons. The sending of Cyrus permits the homecoming of the exiles from Babylon. Cyrus is a pagan King, yet God uses him as his instrument, he has *anointed* him – like a kind of messiah figure, and he will allow the exiles to return to their homeland, and - very importantly - to rebuild their temple. For God's people's first duty is to worship him, and him alone. They are made in his image and likeness.

Why do we read this particular reading this Sunday?

As always on Sundays, the Old Testament piece of scripture is chosen because it can shed light on the Gospel and prepare us to encounter the living Christ therein, who this Sunday deals with the first priority of worshipping God, of giving him alone the truest, deepest adoration of our hearts.

We can imagine the followers of Jesus retelling what happened on the day the Pharisees tried to catch him out, by asking the trick question we hear in this Sunday's Gospel: “*Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?*” If Jesus had simply said “*Yes*” he would be going against people's feelings, putting himself on the side of those who collaborated with the Roman colonisers. If he had said “*No*” he could be seen as encouraging a revolt against the Romans.

Caesar—the civil authority—whose head is stamped on the coin, does have a claim on us. But let us ask another question: “*Whose head, whose image is stamped on every human being, whose name?*” Every human being is created in the image of God, each possesses the dignity of a person, made by God and made for God. Because all human beings have the same Creator, they have a common origin; so the human race forms a unity. There is a rich diversity of races, colours, customs, but the solidarity which binds all humans is greater. God is the creator of all, the author of all life. More than that, God is the destiny of his people, our future is to live in the community which is God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

