

*Welcome to the Parishes of
St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Arbroath
& Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry*



St Thomas', Arbroath



St Andrew's Cathedral



Our Lady of Good Counsel

**Second Sunday
in Ordinary
Time**

17 January 2021

Next Sunday:

Third Sunday in Ordinary
Time - Year of Mark (B)



Our Prayers

for those who are sick: John McCarry, Margaret McMenemy, Isobel Blackmore, Robert Marshall, Peter McLaren, Karen Dammer, Katie Shephard, Monsignor John Harty, Maria Robertson, Frances Young, Tony Beck, Mel Caullay, Jackey Forrest-Moore, 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;

for those who have died recently: Bishop Vincent Logan, Emeritus of Dunkeld, Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow, Ken Hart, Adelina Black;

those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Madeleine Scott, William Waddell, Drew Clark, David McSweeney, Jessie McMahan, Rodger Flavahan, Gail Lyon, Jo Nicol, Veronica Barker, Anthony van der Kuyl, Roy Walker, Thomas McNally, Charles Milne, Marlene Campbell, Maryellen Pennycook, William Savage, Ellen Robertson, Mary Knight, Gillian Burn, Norah Black, Father John Connolly, Patrick McGovern, Emilio Zaccarini.

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

The postal edition of the newsletter was prepared and sent out before the sad death of our Bishop Emeritus Vincent Paul Logan had occurred. In the Mass this Sunday, offered as always for the people of our parishes, I shall remember, on behalf of us all, Bishop Vincent especially, recalling his very lengthy tenure as Bishop of Dunkeld and all he that achieved among us. Many tributes have been paid to him, and when we are able to do so there will be a Solemn Sung Requiem Mass for him in the Cathedral to which everyone will be invited. Because of the strict limits on numbers at this time, his Reception of Remains, Funeral Mass and Burial ceremony will be by invitation only.

As many of you will recall, when Vincent came to us from the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh and was ordained Bishop in the Cathedral on the afternoon of 26 February 1981, he was among the youngest of the world's Bishops. I remember well being present in the Cathedral with my parents that day, while still a student at Blairs, in the third year there.

You might like to make these verses a prayer for the Bishop in your home this Sunday. They are taken from a hymn, the words of which were penned by the famous Scottish Jesuit, the late Father James Quinn. Vincent was a great promoter of Father Quinn's hymns, and he particularly liked this one and chose it himself to be sung at the Funeral Mass of his predecessor Bishop Hart. It fits to the melody of the Passiontide Hymn, *My song is love unknown*.



**Out of the depths of love, my song to thee I sing:
I long for bliss above with thee, my Lord and King!
Yet lovingly I wait until it is thy will to gaze on me.**

**With flame of love on fire, yet is my soul at rest:
Thou art my heart's desire, what Thou dost will is best!
However long my exile be, I trust in Thee, who art my song!**

**Deeply I feel love's pain, yet is love's burden light:
Thou dost my soul sustain who art my whole delight!
Thou art my peace; through darkest days
my song of praise shall never cease!**

**With wounds of love so sweet, Thou dost prepare my heart
to love Thee as is meet, to know Thee as Thou art!
So will I sing my song of love,
in heaven above to Thee, my King!**

May he rest in peace and rise in glory

Some reflections for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

The Mass texts for this coming Sunday bring to my mind that rousing Gospel acclamation by the St Louis Jesuits, *Speak Lord, I'm listening*, with its refrain lifted straight from the encounter between Samuel and the Divine One which is the Lectionary choice for the first piece of scripture this Second Sunday of Ordinary Time. The locus of the vision is the sanctuary of God at Shiloh, the dwelling place of the Ark of the Covenant, a setting echoed in the call of Isaiah which would take place later in Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem, the divine word being placed abundantly on Isaiah's unworthy lips just as it was graciously communicated to the inexperienced young Samuel. Indeed, Samuel thinks the voice is that of Eli the priest, but Eli understands that it was the Lord calling the boy and instructs him to answer the voice with the words, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening".

Samuel's response to the call finds an echo in our response in this Sunday's Psalm 39:

Here I am Lord, I come to do your will. Samuel at first does not recognise that it is the Lord who is calling him, because he has not yet had a personal experience of God, despite being an "altar boy" in the sanctuary. He needs Eli's advice on how to respond. Our Psalm 39 repeats the idea that God wants from us an open ear, a willingness to respond to the promptings of the Spirit rather than making great sacrifices. Our presence to God is what is desired. Some of the hymns we would normally sing this Sunday take up that very theme: *Here I am, Lord, O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end, Oh, the word of my Lord, deep within my being,* to name a few.

I've found myself pondering the priesthood in these days of lockdown, when the usual active life of pastoral ministry is suspended or at least is much limited and consequently there is more time to think and take stock. I find myself reflecting that the diocesan priesthood is not the ploughing of a lone furrow or a vocation primarily for self fulfilment; it is a rather – as I see it anyway – a *Sacrament of Encounter*, of friendship with the Lord and his people. To borrow from the conversation of this Sunday's Gospel [John 1:35 - 41], we say, "Rabbi, *Where do you live*" and He responds "*Come and see*". The ministry of the priest is wide and varied; it is both rooted and sustained in the transforming power of the Liturgy, but it takes us beyond the Liturgy, into the world.



Most of all, it takes us to the parish; and the parishes have, I am sure, been my greatest blessing over my thirty years in ministry. Parishes are eclectic, diverse, as people are. But the parish is where the Church really *lives*. In the parish, the priest is called to connect, engage, serve, befriend and so to help the parish itself become that *sacrament of encounter* with the Lord. The parish is to be – as Pope Francis has said - mission orientated, not self absorbing.

In recent days, while looking back in reflection, I've said to myself, "*Where have the years gone?*" I find myself – to paraphrase the Prophet Jeremiah as I've done before - "*standing at the crossroads, looking back to see what stood me in good stead long ago*". Way back I must have experienced that *Come and See* moment. I probably didn't fully know it at the time, but I guess I was saying "*Rabbi, where do you live?*" He said, *Come and see*. And to continue that gospel turn of phrase, I *spent the day with him*.

That's how it is, not only for priests, but for all of us who welcome Him into our lives as the *Divine Companion* on our journey. That *day* for all of us who draw close to Him, whatever our vocation, opens out to months and years and eventually we find - to use the words of the great Isaiah - that he has given us, priests and people, something of a *disciple's tongue*. "Each morning", that Prophet says, "he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple". And so, we can sing of his love, *for ever, for ever, for ever*, as a wonderful setting of Psalm 88 puts it.

Only we can't sing together at present! Gathered round the altar, we usually experience the deepest expression of our *joyful song* at being caught up in divine love. Only we can't gather together at present! Of course we have no singing and no gathering for sound reasons of public safety. But we can still "remember" – a key expression in the Liturgy always, and we can "anticipate" – just as the Liturgy ever "looks forward in joyful hope"; and we can celebrate and keep the Lord's day joyous and holy as best as possible at home. We can solemnly and happily recall on these lockdown Sundays that in the bread broken and wine poured out in that wellspring of hope, the triumph of grace over sin is manifested, and the pledge of happiness without end is promised.

And of course, we so look forward to day when we can reconvene in greater numbers, to again touch, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, in the Liturgy and in each other, when we can again raise our voices in the hymns and songs we love and which bind us together in faith and hope. For now though, we treasure the truth that in the Mass we meet the Risen Lord in a unique and abiding way. We remember that it is there, in the Eucharist that we place our trust in Him, against the constant fear of nothingness and unworthiness. That is the place where we find shelter and build that house on rock which he urged us to do. It is there that we find something to hold on to when all we love is dying; it is there where those who have gone beyond, meet with us who are left behind. There in the Mass, our past and present meet and there, most delightfully, we taste our everlasting future.



Finance Matters!

Very grateful thanks for your contributions in the offertory buckets and in your standing orders and other donations. These enable the work of the parish to continue and the upkeep of the buildings to be maintained. Here is a break down of the offertory income:

[Income prior to these dates belows was recorded in the Newsletter of Sunday 15 November 2020.]

Our Lady of Good Counsel:

the week up to Sunday 18 October: £958;
the week up to Sunday 25 October: £1023;
the week to Sunday 1 November: £1421;
the week to Sunday 8 November: £460;
the week to Sunday 15 November: £516;
the week to Sunday 22 November: £1118;
the week to Sunday 29 November: £901;
the week to Sunday 6 December: £679;
the week to Sunday 13 December: £799.

St Andrew's Cathedral:

the week to Sunday 25 October: £972;
the week to Sunday 1 November: £1688;
the week to Sunday 18 November: £1030;
the week to Sunday 22 November: £849.
the week to Sunday 29 November: £1311.
the week to Sunday 6 December: £1444
the week to Sunday 13 December: £706
the week to Sunday 20 December: £969



KEEPING THIS SUNDAY HOLY WITH A HOME LITURGY

A prayer to begin

God of mystery, your voice calls our name!
God, among us now,
your Son still walks among us,
so often unknown, unrecognised,
unloved, unwanted.
And yet, he longs to reveal the face of your love, to
the people of every generation.
Speak now O Lord, to all who listen
for your word.
Help us respond with generosity and faith,
that the world may come to know
more deeply your saving plan,
and respond more readily to your life giving word,
Jesus, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Read the Scriptures of the day

The First Book of Samuel 33-10. 19

The call of Samuel to be God's servant.

Our response to hearing the call of Samuel Psalm 39

Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.

Paul to the Corinthians: 1 Cor 13-20

Your bodies together make up the body of Christ.

A Gospel Song

**Speak Lord, I'm listening,
plant your word down deep in me.
Speak Lord, I'm listening,
please show me the way!**

Sometimes my heart is slow to follow you, teach
me to hear and understand.
And I'm told the things you promise,
and I hope they all come true,
and I know what waits for those who wait and put
their trust in you.

The Gospel of John 1:35-42

Where do you live? Come and see!



A Poem on today's Gospel

The Sound Crashed in the heavens
look, the Lamb of God
demanding the response that came
the response
to follow
to tell
your sisters and brothers
of this one
who had come to change the world;
behold
rang the voice of John
as Andrew followed
to that somewhere unknown
where he would find
all that was life
and death
in this one
unknown
Lamb of God
God's voice rang
with Andrew's response
as he simply told his brother
to come
follow
this Lamb of God
that takes away the sins of the world
come
Follow.

Final Prayer

O God, you reveal the signs
of your presence among us -
in the Church, in the Liturgy,
and in our brothers and sisters.
Let no word of yours
ever fall by the wayside,
or be rendered ineffective through our
indifference or neglect;
Rather, make us quick to recognise
your saving plan
whenever we encounter it,
and keep us ready always to serve
as prophets and apostles
of your Kingdom.
This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.