

**Welcome to St Andrew's Cathedral
St Mary's, Forebank & Our Lady of Good Counsel**

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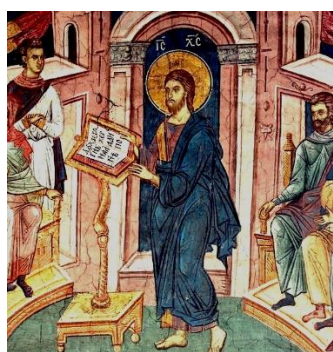
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**Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
23 January 2022**

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time -
Year of Luke (C)

Dear Friends and Parishioners,



This Sunday at Mass we experience the joy of hearing the opening sermon of Jesus' ministry, which he gives in the synagogue at Nazareth: he takes the hope-filled text of the prophet Isaiah and makes it his own. Jesus

has come to bring *good news to the poor*, and to *proclaim the Lord's year of favour*.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis, in the synodal journey he proposes, is proclaiming a similar hope-filled experience to us, as he invites us to become a more "listening Church" and to enjoy "reciprocal listening", founded on "horizontal [i.e. fraternal, equal] relationships", reflecting the grace of our shared baptismal priesthood and dignity....*more on all this soon!* The underlying principle is that each one of us has something to share which contributes to the upbuilding and completion of the other and of the Church. This is quite challenging stuff - *for me at least!* - but of course, so is the homily of Jesus in the Nazareth synagogue! Our own Bishop's Synod Task Group will be inviting us in the near future to participate in the listening phase of the synodal journey.

Father Sebastian invites us to a concert of **Polish Carols and Music** this Sunday 23 January at 2.30pm in St Mary's, Forebank. All welcome.

Mary's Meals & other donations: I have sent the crib offerings from St Mary's, Forebank to Mary's Meals, totalling £365. and a further cheque to Mary's Meals for £537. Also, a cheque for £110 has gone to SCIAF and cheques for £220 & £138 to the Foodbank. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Sunday Masses:

Vigil Masses: 4pm in the Cathedral
5.30pm in Our Lady of Good Counsel

Day Masses:

9.45am in Our Lady of Good Counsel
11am [Solemn Mass] & 6pm in Cathedral
11.15am [Solemn Mass] in St Mary's, Forebank
1.15pm: Mass in Polish in St Mary's.

This week's Daily Masses

St Andrew's Cathedral: Monday – Friday at 1pm
Saturday Mass at 10am (with Novena)

St Mary's, Forebank: Monday – Friday at 11.30am

Our Lady of Good Counsel: Monday - Friday at 10am

Our Prayers for the sick: Ross Murray, Ian Davidson, Janet Isherwood, Theresa Kay, Dawn Wood, Heather Moffit, Steven Hackney, Jane Budge, Alan McKenzie, Joyce Scott, John McCarry, Margaret McMenemy, Tony Beck, Isobel Blackmore, Karen Dammer, Allison Matthew, Jackey Forrest-Moore, Catherine Gallacher, Thinley Chodron, Natalia Lucka, Benedict Stephens, Steven Kennedy, Aubrey McMullan, Sonya Rostan, Lily Jane Douglas, Alexander McNeil, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga;

for those who have died recently: Orla Hartnett, Fred Cassidy, Teresa Clifford, Sister Maria, Liam Glen, Canon Benedict O'Keefe, Jack Ireland, Kathleen Whyte, Margaret McKay;

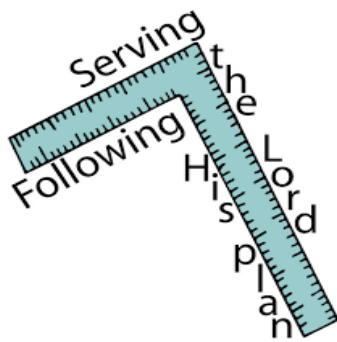
those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Anthony van der Kuyl, Elizabeth Haney, Roy Walker, Thomas McNally, Charles Milne, Bill Savage, Marlene Campbell, Maryellen Pennycook, Gerry Farquharson, Thomas McNally, William Shields, Ella Dobbie, Renzo Cavallini, Josephine Byrne, Michael Welsh, Ellen Robertson, Margaret Gethins, Thomas Clark, Thomas Brown, Helen Haney, James Haughey, Jessie McMahon, Andrew Ferrie, Maggie Doherty.

An Afternoon for Life

Bishop Stephen Robson invites you to an **Afternoon For Life** at the Pastoral Centre, at St Mary's Church Hall in Forebank Road on **Saturday 12th February at 1pm**. There will be informative talks from expert pro-life speakers. With on-going moves to legalise assisted suicide, it is imperative to be up to date with the latest debates. Tea and coffee will be provided during the afternoon and there may be crèche places available. The afternoon finishes around 4.30pm.

For further information and to book a place please email mcgraw.clare@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity last Sunday of £695 in the Cathedral, £390 in Broughty Ferry, £416 in St Mary's, Forebank and £205 at the Polish Mass.



We're generally *good* at appealing for volunteers in the Church! But, looking at the bible, it seems that when God wanted to get a job done, he did not so often do that, but rather he approached individuals

directly or through his messengers! He **chose** people. Mary was chosen, Peter, Andrew and the rest were all chosen by Jesus. In the Old Testament too, God chose leaders: Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, David, and Ezra and Nehemiah.

I mention the last two because they feature in the reading we hear this Sunday. The literature attributed to this pair grew out of a time when the Israelites were without an earthly king and were learning, once again, to rely solely on God for guidance and inspiration. During those years of Persian domination, after Cyrus conquered Babylon, Ezra the priest-scribe and Nehemiah the governor of Judah engineered a faith-forming enterprise to reconstruct not only the physical and political infrastructure of their homeland but also its wounded faith and struggling spirituality. The task which faced them, and to which they brought leadership, inspiration and wisdom was mighty indeed. Ezra and Nehemiah were God's gift to his people for that time.

In the second reading this Sunday we hear that God has designated or appointed gifts to his Church and the Scriptures outline the people who are given to the Church. These (and all leaders whom God gives) have a mighty vocation—to convey, interpret and inspire with a wisdom that comes from above. It is surely significant that our society is sometimes referred to as 'post-modern', that is, we are not very sure what we are or where we are, we just know we have passed beyond what we had and where we were. **So we do need leaders.** The role of the leader will include the tasks of defining reality and interpreting truth and wisdom to a new generation. Think of what our Holy Father Pope Francis is doing for and proposing to the Church at this time, inviting us all to a renewed shared responsibility for the Church we have inherited, and bringing to fruition the great dreams of the Second Vatican Council.

God in scripture often calls the **young**, and he copes with their youth! How did God manage

with David (who was the youngest son), and Mary, with the immature Peter and the rest? Our Scriptures and tradition tell the story of a God who chose people who could hold the word and the vision before the eyes, ears and hands of the people, until they were able, gradually and with confidence to take it in their own hands and lives. The prophet Joel sings of *old men dreaming dreams and young men having visions.*

As Nehemiah relates in this Sunday's reading, the people had assembled at the Water Gate; present to hear Ezra proclaim God's word in their hearing were men, women and children old enough to understand. God's word that day consisted of the Torah of the Old Testament [literally translated this means teachings or instructions]. Accepting the word as set before them that day, with all its blessings and challenges, the people responded with one voice: *Amen! Amen!*

In our second reading, Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth presupposes a gathering of believers: men, women and children old enough to understand. This letter brings the wisdom and insights, teaching and preaching of the leader who had introduced them to Christ. Again, in the Gospel, the same kind of gathering listens to Jesus, the leader whom God has given.

And last, but not least, **we gather** in our churches here: men, women and children old enough to understand. We too are blessed and challenged by God's word. Shall we, like Ezra and the Israelites, find in the word of God a cause that will rouse our faith and a plan that will inspire us? Shall we, like Paul's congregation, hear the word and know that we are uniquely blessed, capable of being salt, light, guidance and inspiration to our times?

Student News

On Monday 24 January the Dundee CatSoc will be hosting a **Burns Supper** after the 7pm Mass at St Joseph's. All students welcome. The Chaplain for Abertay and Dundee Universities is Father Greg Murphy OP. His number is 01382 229099.

The **St Vincent de Paul Shop** at 71 Hilltown, is in need of volunteers. If you can help, please contact Pat McGoldrick on 01382 225207.

Hospitality: One of the sad realities of the past couple of years is that we have not often been able to offer hospitality after our liturgies. It will be great to have tea and coffee reinstated after Sunday morning Mass when we are able. If you would be willing to help with this once we are allowed to do so, please let me know.