



## Our Lady's Primary School 50th Anniversary

An amalgamation of the parish school of Our Lady of Victories, "St Mary's Primary", in Forebank Road and St Patrick's Primary School in Lilybank — opened on 14 August 1974; it was a radically new style of building, open plan classrooms surrounding a central core area consisting of the school hall/gymnasium, a drama and music area, and changing rooms and showers.

The roll of the old St Mary's Primary had dropped from a thousand in 1939 to five hundred and twenty in 1959, with a drop in each successive year thereafter.

The same was happening St Patrick's Primary School, where the changing demographics of the city of Dundee were keenly felt (in the parish there too). The population of that area were moving out to the newer housing schemes to the north of the Kingsway. The Ann Street/Alexander street Multis and the *maisonettes* kept the roll of St Mary's at a reasonable level.

In 1971, the government made a special allocation of funds for school buildings, and the Education Committee of the city of Dundee decided to use the money to replace St Mary's Forebank and St Patrick's schools with a new school to be built on the south side of Ann Street beside Nelson Street and William Street and to be called Our Lady's Primary.

We shall celebrate fifty years of Our Lady's Primary School with a Mass in St Mary's Forebank Church on the Feast of the Annunciation to Our Lady — that is, Tuesday 25 March, at 9.45am. Bishop Andrew will preside. Please make a note of the date and join us if you can, as we celebrate with the whole school community of the Our Lady's Primary of 2025.

Do you have any photographic memorabilia you could lend us to mount an exhibition of memories from the Nelson Street site over the past fifty years? Please write on the back of any photos to whom they belong and we shall take care to return them to you.

### Afternoon for Life

As both Holyrood and Westminster prepare to vote on legalising assisted suicide, the **Annual Pro-life Afternoon in Dunkeld Diocese** couldn't have come at a more crucial time.

If you want up-to-date information about the proposed legislation and what you can do about it, then please join us at Our Lady of Victories Hall on Saturday 8 March from 1pm until 4.30pm for the Afternoon for Life. There are also talks about the current abortion situation in Scotland and the plans to make abortion more readily available. Please contact [mcgraw.clare@gmail.com](mailto:mcgraw.clare@gmail.com) or 07752527696 for further information. Booking is not required.

In our three parishes we shall have a pro-life retreat collection on Sunday at all Masses on Sunday 2 March.

Thank you for your generosity in last Sunday's Collection — £724 in the Cathedral, £570 in St Mary's, Forebank, and £789 in Our Lady of Good Counsel.

There will be a special collection next Sunday at all Masses for the Ecclesiastical Students' Fund.

**Our Prayers for the sick:** Russell Walker, Doctor Frank Zwolinski, Cathy Quinn, Tommie Feeney, Anneke Anderson, Cole Farningham, Ivy Denis, Ray Ritchie, John Charkow, Maureen McKay, Jim Simpson, Heather Moffit, Susan McKay, Ray Conchie, Marie Manunga, Karen Dammer, Jackey Forrest-Moore, Catherine Gallacher, Marian Jackson;

**for those who have died recently:** Daniel Mobeck, Bernard Colvin, Mary Entwistle, Angela McConnell, Susan Forbes.  
**and for those whose anniversaries fall at this time:**  
 Eutiquia Serrano Dimaiwat, Kazimierz Rak, Dennis Addly, John Beeching, Patricia Fairweather, Letitia Lebonnois, Oonagh McCaughey, Filo Arias, Faustina Villares, Brian Smith Michael Llewellyn, Cathie Zanre, Michael Drumm, Kate Drumm, Mary Young, Thomas Matthew Cairns, Father Alexander Johnston, James Brough, John Wilkie Isabella Cord, Rachael Henderson, Willie Pallas, Frank Chaplain.

### SCIAF Lenten Meeting 2025

Michael Hamilton, a SCIAF Community Engagement Officer, will be coming to St Joseph's Parish, Dundee to give a talk on this Jubilee Year's Project, **Pilgrims of Hope**.

The meeting will start at **11am on Tuesday 25 February** and should last for about an hour. These meetings are very informative, so please try to find the time to come along. You will be made most welcome. Tea and Coffee will be provided.

### Another date for your diary

During our Carol Service in Broughty Ferry we heard a moving testimony from Alex Holmes - a long-term volunteer at Maria Skobtsova safe house in Calais.

Alex will return to host a Lenten evening of reflection, sharing and discussion with us at Our Lady of Good Counsel on **Monday 10 March**. All are welcome to join us,

*On Thursday past the priests of the Diocese, gathered by Bishop Andrew, met at Kinnoull for a day of reflection with Father Roger Dawson SJ and Catriona Fletcher. After input on the spirituality of St Ignatius, we proceeded to have "conversations in the Spirit", inspired by the Synodal Way of Pope Francis: the format of these conversations begins with scripture, an extended silence and then three "rounds" of sharing — not discussion. A truly spiritual experience, and for us priests a new way of interacting with each other. All of us came away feeling that the fruits of the Holy Spirit had been present in our midst.*