

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

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**Second Sunday of Advent
5 December 2021**

Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent -
Year of Luke (C)

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 & 6pm in Cathedral
11.15am in St Mary's, Forebank

Weekday Mass this week

Our Lady of Good Counsel:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 10am.
Wednesday at 9.30am.

St Mary's, Forebank

Monday and Tuesday at 11.30am.
Wednesday at 12.20pm.
Thursday and Friday at 11am.

St Andrew's Cathedral

Monday - Thursday at 1pm;
Friday at 12.45pm -
Funeral Mass for Roberston (Bert) Harrop RIP
Saturday 10am (with Novena)

CONFESSIONS on request before any Mass

**Afternoon Service and Benediction
for the Second Sunday of Advent**

This Sunday afternoon at **4pm** in Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry there will be – in honour of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception on Wednesday 8 December – a liturgy of reflection and prayer in her honour. Please join us this afternoon for a half hour of prayer and song.

STEWARDSHIP AT THE CATHEDRAL

*Could you help us on Wednesdays or Thursdays at the 1pm Mass, or clean the seats afterwards?
Please let us know if so.*

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make our celebration of the 170th Anniversary of the opening of St Mary's, Forebank last Sunday such a poignant and joyous event.

Next Sunday we take the annual collection for the **Diocese of Dunkeld Poor Mission Fund**. This fund helps the parishes in our diocesan that are unable to support themselves financially. There will be buckets at the back of the church as you leave next Sunday.

The Republic of Dundee

If you are stuck for a Christmas present why not think about buying a copy of the Republic of Dundee for £10 with **every penny** going to the fabulous charity Mary's Meals which can feed and educate a child for a whole year for only £15.90?

The Republic of Dundee is written in Dundee dialect and tells the true (?) story of how Lord Provost Tam Scobie brought independence to the city!

Books will be on sale at the back of Our Lady of Victories or via this online link:

<http://www.therepublicofdundee.godaddysites.com>

HUGE thanks to all who have supported already - over 200 children have benefited from book sales to date.

Our Prayers for the sick: Eric McCullough, Theresa Kay, Dawn Wood, Heather Moffit, Hilda McGinness, 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, Baby Ben Welsh, 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: Father Colin Golden, Robertson (Bert) Harrop, Alistair Ogilvie, John O'Reilly, Albert Forbes, Bernard McGinley, Roseann Swinburne;

those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Welsh, Sheila Jones, Jean and Jack Cashley, Helen Wilkie, Mary Callaghan Ann Danaher, Edward Kelly, Keith Whitehead, Bill Barnett, Mary Smith, Sandy Watson, Roy McHardy, Benta Apondi Ayimba, Alan Rodger, Theresa Ogilvie, Tess Walker, Patricia Cavin, Terry O'Hare, Ella Adams, John Tomlin, Eileen Hannigan Elizabeth Henderson, Jack Fisher, Mary McLinkey, Mary Connor, Anthony Reynolds, Filomena (Phyllis) Bruce, Mary Devine, Peter Cosgrove, Henry Chivers, Rose Anne McKay.

Please note: The Funeral Service for Alistair Ogilvie RIP is a private service at the family's request.

Don't miss the chance to participate in one of our Communal Liturgies of Reconciliation with a *General Absolution of sins*

These will take place:
in St Mary's, Forebank next Sunday 12 December at 4pm; in St Andrew's Cathedral on Monday 13 December at 7pm and in Our Lady of Good Counsel on Tuesday 14 December at 7pm.
Please invite your friends, and especially those who find it difficult to come to confession individually to come and share in this experience of healing and inner peace.

Our Christmas Masses

St Mary's Forebank

Vigil Mass on 24 December at 5pm
Christmas Day at 11.15am

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Vigil Mass on 24 December at 7.30pm
Christmas Day at 9.45am.

St Andrew's Cathedral

Midnight Mass of Christmas;
Christmas Day at 11am.

There will be **no 4pm Mass** in the Cathedral on Saturday 25 December, Christmas Day. There will however be the Vigil Mass of Sunday 26th in Our Lady of Good Counsel on Christmas Day at 5.30pm as usual. This will be a 'said' Mass, i.e. without singing.

Sunday Masses on 26 December will be at the usual times: 9.45am in Broughty Ferry, 11am and 6pm in the Cathedral and 11.15am in Forebank.

The Scottish Laity Network invite you to join in "An Advent Journey 2021" entitled

Mary of Nazareth: Companion in our Journey

Evenings of Conversation – Reflection – Prayer

I am late in advertising the first two events in this series but you may be interested in the final two sessions:

Thursday 9th December - Mary of the Magnificat (with Companion - Jessie Rogers)

Jessie is a Scripture scholar specialising in the Old Testament and her academic work focuses on the biblical wisdom literature.

Thursday 16 December: Advent - Hope and Promise With Alison Phipps.

To register for these sessions please complete the Registration Form at:

<https://forms.gle/tTu3w2NqmjPaMHUV7>

or Email slaitynetwork@gmail.com for the link

Pope Francis' Homily to begin the Synod Journey...conclusion

DISCERN

Finally, *discern*. Encounter and listening are not ends in themselves, leaving everything just as it was before. On the contrary, whenever we enter into dialogue, we allow ourselves to be challenged, to advance on a journey. And in the end, we are no longer the same; we are changed. We see this in today's Gospel. Jesus senses that the person before him is a good and religious man, obedient to the commandments, but he wants to lead him beyond the mere observance of precepts. Through dialogue, he helps him to discern. Jesus encourages that man to look within, in the light of the love that the Lord himself had shown by his gaze (cf. v. 21), and to discern in that light what his heart truly treasures. And in this way to discover that he cannot attain happiness by filling his life with more religious observances, but by emptying himself, selling whatever takes up space in his heart, in order to make room for God.

Here is a valuable lesson also for us. The Synod is a process of spiritual discernment, of ecclesial discernment, that unfolds in adoration, in prayer and in dialogue with the word of God. Today's second reading tells us that God's word is "living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart". That word summons us to discernment and it brings light to that process. It guides the Synod, preventing it from becoming a Church convention, a study group or a political gathering, a parliament, but rather a grace-filled event, a process of healing guided by the Spirit. In these days, Jesus calls us, as he did the rich man in the Gospel, to empty ourselves, to free ourselves from all that is worldly, including our inward-looking and outworn pastoral models; and to ask ourselves what it is that God wants to say to us in this time and the direction in which he wants to lead us.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us have a good journey together! May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit. Let us not miss out on the grace-filled opportunities born of encounter, listening and discernment. In the joyful conviction that, even as we seek the Lord, he always comes with his love to meet us first.

