

Welcome to St Mary. Our Lady of Victories, Forebank Our Lady of Good Counsel, Broughty Ferry and St Andrew's Cathedral



Fourth Sunday in
Eastertide
8 May 2022



Dear Friends and Parishioners,

The Paschal season moves on so swiftly! We are already midway through the Easter season. In our Church liturgy and life, Easter is not one day, but fifty days, a week of weeks. The joys and riches of Easter are not fully experienced in an instant, but they gradually unfold and deepen as the season's scripture and liturgy reveal the mystery. This Sunday, the fourth in the *week of weeks*, is often called *Good Shepherd Sunday*, as the Gospel this day always comes from that part of the fourth gospel where Jesus the Shepherd addresses his flock: *The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice. I know my own and my own know me.* He calls us by name,

he knows who we are. Without a name, we can't even know ourselves. The name is the person! It's almost the first thing God gave man, the first thing a parent gives a child, a child gives a pet. Without a name, a deity is not a person, just a mere force, a commodity, a blank power. Our God, supremely a "person", told Moses his name; the creator who made the world called the stars by name; he is the Shepherd who loves you and knows his sheep by name.

We discovered on the Sunday after Easter, with the scene of Thomas in the room with the closed doors, that the key to resurrection faith is not so often seeing, but hearing; hearing the voice of the One who calls us by name, hearing the Word of the Risen One. When God came to earth to rescue us, he came as the Word! He spoke; he talked; he called; he made himself known through language, and he saves through the power of his Word.

The intimacy of the Gospel on this feast of the Good Shepherd reminds us that if we believe in a God who is remote, distant, unconnected to this world and to our lives, then whoever or whatever we ever believe in, it is not the God who revealed himself to Moses, or the God of Jesus. This God of ours is alive, present, engaged with us. The Eucharist is a Sacrament of that intimacy, a sacrifice and meal, given to us gathered together with the Lord, who graces us here and touches us with love and makes our hearts *burn within us* as he calls our name and draws us into his life.

Though it is often sorrow and perplexity we feel in our lives, Gethsemane, Calvary and the Triduum journey we made with the biblical characters, moving from darkness to light is an affirmation that we are on the right road. We remember that when Jesus died, his little church fell to bits in fear, through betrayal, denial, woundedness and cowardice. And yet from all that, the Spirit brought life, reconciliation, resurrection, and unity. Let us then continually lift our eyes to the wounded and risen Jesus so that he can truly be our Shepherd!

Make hospitality your special care wrote St Paul. With parish life returning to something more like normal we need to think about reviving hospitality in our parishes. With the two ordinations coming up in the Cathedral we really need to re-establish a hospitality team of people who will be willing to set up and oversee refreshments for events like these. We had many willing helpers in the past. Would you be willing to participate in this? Please let me know if so.

As a start in St Mary's and Our Lady of Good Counsel, would it be good to put on tea and coffee after a weekday Mass one day a week so that those who come would have the opportunity to have some social time afterwards?

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Cessation of the 4pm Cathedral Vigil Mass

From after Saturday 21 May 2022

My thanks for your understanding as regards the possible changes of Mass times, so that if necessary I would be able to cover them all.

We do not need to change the Sunday Mass times at present, **with the exception of the Saturday 4pm Vigil Mass at the Cathedral**, which was only introduced to accommodate the severely limited numbers allowed to attend during the pandemic. This Mass **will be celebrated** on Saturday 7, 14, and 21 May and after that, this Mass will **cease**.

Thank you for your generosity last Sunday of £585 in St Mary's Forebank, £ in Our Lady of Good Counsel and £655 in the Cathedral and the previous Sunday of £418 in St Mary's Forebank, £ in Our Lady of Good Counsel and £633 in the Cathedral.

The Collection for the upkeep of the **Holy Places in Jerusalem** came to £69 in St Mary's Forebank, £194 in Our Lady of Good Counsel and £133 in the Cathedral.

The **SCIAC boxes** came to £410 in St Mary's Forebank, £743 in Our Lady of Good Counsel and £645 in the Cathedral.

Our Prayers for the sick: Ray Conchie, Sheena Barnett Ross Murray, Janet Isherwood, Theresa Kay, Dawn Wood, Heather Moffit, Steven Hackney, 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, Alexander McNeil, Sheila McCallum, Marie Manunga;

for those who have died recently:

Agnes Campbell, Mae McMullan, Maureen Brown, James Couper, Niall McCluskey, Lottie Gavin;

those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Veronica Sreenan, John Gethins, Frank Holligan, Patrick O'Brien, Joe McMahon, Norah Zanre, Agnes Breen, Jean Baxter, Elizabeth Knight, Gordon Hermiston, Cathie Gourlay, William Walker, James Cunningham, May Cunningham, Annette Clark Kelly, Frances McGregor, Ken Barnett, Pauline McGowan, Alice Moorhead McCarry, Margaret McCabe.

Next Sunday 15 May in St Mary's, Forebank Hall, the Catholic youth ministry **Net Ministries** will lead a

retreat for young people of secondary school age from 10.30am - 6 pm.



I look forward to hosting this in St Mary's Hall, which is now also our Diocesan Pastoral Centre, along with Canon Tom Shields. If you, or a young person you know, would like to attend, please let me know. I'm sure it will be a great experience for those who take part. For more information on Net Ministries, please see <https://netscotland.org/>

Our Sunday Masses:

Vigil Masses: Saturday at 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

This week's Daily Masses

St Andrew's Cathedral: Monday—Friday at 1pm
Friday also at 11.15am: Funeral Mass for James Couper RIP

Saturday Mass at 10am (with Novena)

St Mary's, Forebank:

Monday at 12.15pm—please note.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 11.30am
Friday at 10am—please note

Our Lady of Good Counsel:

Monday at 10am—Funeral Mass for Louise Jones RIP.
[Louise's Reception will take place at 4pm on Sunday]
Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday at 10am
Friday at 9am—please note.

Forthcoming events

The boys and girls from Our Lady's Primary School who are to make their First Holy Communion next Sunday 15 May at the 11.15am Mass in St. Mary's will celebrate First Reconciliation (Confession) this Wednesday at 1.45pm in the Church.

The boys and girls from the Polish Community will make their First Reconciliation (Confession) on Tuesday 24 May at 6pm and then their First Holy Communion on Saturday 28 May at 10am.

Thursday 26 May is the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** and it is a holy day of Obligation..

Bishop Stephen Robson will ordain Chris McCrosson to the Permanent Diaconate on Saturday 28 May at 12noon in St Andrew's Cathedral.

The Bishop will ordain Malcolm Hutchison, well known to many to foyer, to the priesthood on Wednesday 6 July at 7pm in St Andrew's Cathedral. This is a diocesan event. Please make a note of the date to come and join us.

Sacrament of Confirmation: The Bishop will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in St Mary's Forebank on Sunday 22 May at the 11.15am Mass. He will celebrate Confirmation in the Cathedral on Pentecost Day, 5 June at the 11am Mass. He will celebrate Confirmation in Our Lady of Good Counsel on Sunday 3 July.

Thank you! "The writer of 'Skail Daze', who is at this moment sheltering in a safe house, would like to thank everyone who came to the Little Theatre on April 22nd. You raise £804 for church funds for Our Lady of Victories. Thank you all." [It was a great night at the Little Theatre, thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended! KG]

Cathedral 200 Club winners for May are: £50: Joanna Johnston, £30: Sandra Scott, £20: Rena Quinn.

Hopefully, the new Cathedral **Gift Aid envelopes** will be available for you this Saturday/Sunday.