



Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth

Parish Newsletter 12th July 2026

15th Week in Ordinary Time Year A

The Seed of God's Word

This Sunday, **Jesus speaks** to us through the familiar parable of the sower. The seed is scattered generously, but it produces different results depending on the ground upon which it falls. Some seed is lost, some begins to grow but does not endure, while some falls on good soil and bears a rich harvest.

The seed is **the Word of God**. It carries within itself the power to give life, renew hope and transform the human heart. As the prophet Isaiah reminds us, God's word never returns to Him without accomplishing the purpose for which it was sent. The question, therefore, is not whether **God's Word** is powerful, but whether we are ready to receive it.

At times, our hearts may **become** like a hardened path. We hear the Gospel, but distraction, habit or indifference prevent it from entering deeply. At other times, we receive it with enthusiasm, but when difficulties arise, our commitment **quickly** fades. The worries of life, the pursuit of success or attachment to material things can also grow like thorns and gradually silence **God's voice within us**.

Jesus invites us today to become good soil. This does not mean that we must be perfect. Good soil must be prepared, broken open, cleared and **patiently** cared for. In the same way, our hearts are prepared **through** prayer, repentance, regular participation in **the Eucharist** and a sincere willingness to **put the Gospel into practice**.



God's Word
The Seed of
His Blessing

God continues to sow His Word generously. He does not become discouraged by our weakness or failure.

He patiently offers us new opportunities to listen, to begin again and to grow.

May we receive His Word with open hearts, allow it to take root in our lives and bear fruit through faith, kindness, forgiveness and loving service to others.

PRAYER AFTER THE HOMILY: Lord Jesus, You continue to sow Your Word generously into our hearts. Remove from us everything that makes us closed, distracted or afraid. Give us hearts that listen, receive and remain faithful. May Your Word take deep root within us, strengthen us in times of difficulty and bear fruit in kindness, forgiveness, courage and love. Make our lives good soil for Your grace, so that through us others may come to know Your presence. **Amen.**

HOSPITAL VISITS BY A PRIEST

If you know someone in hospital who would like a visit from a priest for prayer, spiritual support, Holy Communion (*Viaticum: communion for dying*), Confession, or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Priest on call, at 07842 538056 ASAP.

WELCOME BISHOP ANDREW MCKENZIE

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Andrew and deacon Jim to our parish. During his visit, he will institute Raffaele Storino in the ministry of Reader.

This is an important and fitting stage in Raffaele's formation as he continues his journey towards ordination as the permanent diaconate.

Let us keep Raffaele in our prayers, asking God to grant him faithfulness, wisdom and zeal as he continues to discern his vocation.

ON THE WEEKEND OF 25–26 JULY 2026

as we celebrate the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the Church will also observe the **Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**.

May our grandparents and elderly parishioners always know that they are valued, loved and never forgotten by God or by the Church.

As a sign of our care and appreciation, we warmly invite everyone, especially elderly parishioners to join us on Tuesday 28th July for Holy Mass at 10.00am, followed by tea, coffee and some sweet treats.

POOR MAN OF ASSISI - Saint Francis



Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a special Jubilee Year of Saint Francis, marking the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi. Celebrated from 10 January 2026 until 10 January 2027, this year invites the whole Church to rediscover the witness of the "Poor Man of Assisi."

Saint Francis teaches us to follow Christ with simplicity, humility and joy; to become instruments of peace; to care for the poor and vulnerable; and to recognise God's goodness throughout creation.

During this Jubilee Year, may his example encourage us to live the Gospel more faithfully and to become signs of reconciliation, fraternity and hope in our families, parish and wider community.

Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us and help us to become instruments of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY *Please Note*



There will be no Children's Liturgy this or the following two Sundays due to holidays – we will recommence on Sunday 2nd August.

Wishing you all happy holidays.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DIOCESE OF DUNKELD**

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Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency
www.scssa.org.uk

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DUNKELD NEWS

The latest issue of Dunkeld News has now been sent to the printers. We thank everyone who contributed and hope that copies will be available in the parish shortly.

*Further details about distribution
will be shared in due course.*



Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11 September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your

MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11 September.

Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide:
<https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>



Fr Leszek has been approached by his Provincial in Poland asking if he is able to provide one of the seminarians with an opportunity to practice and improve his English language skills.

Filip Sieradzki will be with us in Perth for the month of August. If you are able to offer some time to meet and chat with **Filip** during his stay, please contact Fr Leszek directly or email the parish secretary at ololadmin@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

**ON THE LOOK-OUT
IF YOU HAVE A BABY'S HIGH-CHAIR**

that you no longer need and can donate for use at parish functions in the hall,
please speak to Fr Leszek or parish secretary at ololadmin@dunkelddiocese.org.uk



**EXPERIENCING CHRIST IN THE
EUCHARIST**

*Parish Eucharistic
Revival Project*

In August, our parish will begin a new programme of prayer, formation and spiritual renewal focused on the Eucharist.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Isaiah 55:10-11*
“The rain makes the earth bring forth and sprout.”

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 65(64): R Luke 8:8*
“Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.”

Second Reading *Romans 8:18-23*
“The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.”

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. The seed is the word of God, Christ the Sower; all who find him will live for ever. **Alleluia**

Gospel *Matthew 13:1-23*
“A Sower went out to sow.”

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Tuesdays: Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass at 10.00am followed by coffee/tea in the hall.

Thursdays: Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass at 10.00am.

ALPHA IS FOR ANYONE WHO WISHES TO EXPLORE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

We continue the ALPHA Course on Wednesday 15th July at 6.30pm in Our Lady of Lourdes, in the church hall. *You are warmly invited to come along, to bring a family member, friend or anyone who is curious, to share some food and to get to know each other.*

Come along and see what you think

DEANERY MISSION APPEAL - SUNDAY 18th-19th JULY

We welcome Fr Mark Connolly from St Joseph's Missionary Society of Mill Hill (Glasgow) who will talk to us about the work of the Society, about the priest and brothers who leave their own country and culture and take the Gospel message to the most abandoned, poor and oppressed in every nation.

ST MARY MAGDALENE

The landline telephone connection has been repaired and restored to St Mary Magdalene and is now able to receive and make calls. Relief all round and apologies for the inconvenience it has caused.

The number: 01738 336 141

THANK YOU

Richard and Margaret Jackson would like to extend their sincere thanks to all those who assisted when Richard took unwell at Sunday Mass on the 28th June.

Richard was adjusting to new medication and is now much better. He very much appreciates your care and concern. God bless.



**Apostleship
of the Sea**
Supporting Seafarers Worldwide

There will be a second collection at all Masses this weekend for **Stella Maris – the Apostleship of the Sea.**