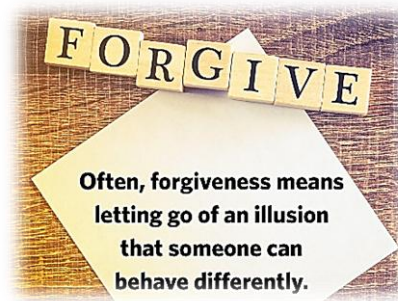


Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth

Parish Newsletter 13th September 2026

24th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME A

How often must I forgive



Today's Gospel presents Peter's question: "How often must I forgive?" He hopes that seven times will be enough, but Jesus answers: "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times." Forgiveness is not something that can be measured or carefully counted. Jesus does not pretend that forgiveness is easy. Some wounds remain painful for a long time, and healing may require patience, prayer and wise support. Forgiving someone does not mean approving the harm that was done or allowing it to continue. It means refusing to let resentment control our hearts. The parable also reminds us that we can forgive because we have first been forgiven by God. Each time we approach the Lord with sincere repentance, we receive a mercy far greater

than anything we could earn.

This week, let us ask Christ to loosen the burden of anger within us. May His mercy give us the freedom to forgive, the courage to seek reconciliation and the humility to ask forgiveness when we have hurt another person.

GOSPEL PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You know the wounds we carry and how difficult it can be to forgive. Pour Your mercy into our hearts. Free us from anger, resentment and the desire to repay hurt with hurt. Give us the courage to take the first step towards reconciliation, the humility to ask forgiveness when we have done wrong, and the grace to forgive others as You have forgiven us. Heal what is broken within us and make our families and parish places of compassion, peace and new beginnings. Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make our hearts like Yours. Amen.



2026
**SEASON OF
CREATION**

Immerse in Living Water
Ezekiel 17:9,12

The Season of Creation began on 1 September with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and continues until 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi.

During this Season of Creation, we are reminded that our responsibility extends not only to one another but also to the world God has entrusted to our care.

This week, let us remember that creation is God's gift, entrusted to our care. Small acts—avoiding waste, using resources responsibly and respecting the natural world—can become expressions of gratitude to God and love for our neighbours, especially those most affected by environmental harm.

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.**

The annual **Mass for Vocations** takes place on 17th September at 6.00pm in St Andrew's Cathedral in Dundee.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026: For the Care of Water.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYER

Fr Abraham would like to express his sincere thanks to everyone who remembered his late father, Joseph Poonoly, in their prayers on the occasion of his anniversary. Your kindness, prayers and support are greatly appreciated. May he rest in peace.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF DUNKELD

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading Sirach 27:30-28:7
'Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103(102): R8
The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Second reading Romans 14:7-9
'Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.'

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34
Alleluia, alleluia. A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. **Alleluia.**

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35
'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'



FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

Today's Gospel calls us to seek **reconciliation rather than division**. St Francis of Assisi understood that peace begins with the way we treat the person beside us. During this **Franciscan Jubilee Year**, let us ask for the grace to become instruments of Christ's peace: **to listen before judging, to forgive rather than hold resentment, and to**

build bridges where relationships have been broken.

May our homes and our parish communities be places where Christ's words become a reality: **"Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them."**

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Tuesdays: 9.30am Holy Rosary; 10.00am Holy Mass. Tea and coffee in the hall. Thursdays: 9.30am Holy Rosary; 10.00am Holy Mass – led by the school pupils. Please come and join us in supporting our school community

The Friday Drop-in Group resumes in the church hall in Our Lady of Lourdes, from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. Light refreshments will be provided.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend an information evening about Parish Pastoral Councils, which will be led by Paul Allaker,



Communications & Evangelisation for the Diocese of Dunkeld. The evening will take place in Our Lady of Lourdes' church hall on Tue 29 Sep at 6.30pm in Our Lady's hall. Bishop Andrew has asked all parishes to engage in the process of forming pastoral councils and this presentation will provide information for parishioners about the rationale, purpose and vision, as well as practicalities around how the process could work in Our Lady's and St Mary Magdalene's. **All are welcome to attend, and we look forward to seeing you there**

PREPARING FOR OUR PARISH EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL
As we prepare for our Parish Eucharistic Revival, let us rediscover the connection between the Mass, Adoration and daily Christian life. Time spent with Jesus in the Eucharist should gradually shape the way we speak, forgive, serve and care for one another. The Eucharistic Revival begins not only in church, but also in hearts that allow Christ to transform them.

100 CLUB For those members who pay their subscription annually, your payment is now due. Please leave your dues with the welcomers or with Gordon McGregor, or speak to Gordon if you need more information.

FUNDRAISING GROUP
There will be a meeting of the Fundraising Group on Thursday 16th September at 7.00pm in the church hall. Please come and join – new members and new ideas are very welcome.