PARISH NEWSLETTER

November 15, 2026

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

What are we doing with the gifts God has entrusted to us?



Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the Parable of the Talents. A master entrusts his possessions to three servants before leaving on a journey.

Two of them use what they have received and make it grow, while the third, overcome by fear, buries his talent in the ground.

The message is not simply about money or personal success. It is about trust, responsibility and the courage to respond to God's generosity. **Each of us has received something precious: faith, time, abilities, opportunities and the capacity to love.** These gifts are not intended to remain hidden or unused. They are given so that we may enrich the lives of others and contribute to building God's Kingdom.

There is a particular message here for our parish community. The life of Our Lady of Lourdes depends not only on what happens at the altar on Sunday, but also on the quiet generosity of those who serve throughout the week. Some care for our church and its surroundings, others prepare the liturgy, welcome parishioners, visit the sick, support charitable activities or offer their time in ways that often go unnoticed.

Every act of service matters.
Every gift, however small, has a place in God's plan.

Yet the Gospel also challenges us to look beyond what we already do. Perhaps there are talents we have not yet discovered, responsibilities we hesitate to accept, or opportunities to serve that we have overlooked. God does not ask everyone to do the same things, but He invites each of us to offer something of ourselves.

As we continue strengthening our parish life, particularly through our efforts towards Eucharistic renewal and greater participation in the mission of the Church, let us remember that a living parish is built by people who are willing to share their gifts.

The servant who buried his talent allowed fear to prevent him from acting. **We, however, are called to live with confidence in God's grace, knowing that even our smallest efforts can bear fruit when offered with love.**

May Our Lady of Lourdes continue to be a parish where faith grows, talents are welcomed, and everyone feels encouraged to participate in the life and mission of the Church.

And when the Lord asks us what we have done with the gifts He entrusted to us, may we hear His words:

"Well done, good and faithful servant...
come and join in your master's happiness."

With my prayers and gratitude for all you do for our parish,

Fr Leszek

LITURGICAL 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. Please come and join us in celebrating Mass together with our young people.

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*.

NOVEMBER MASSES

The names submitted on the November List of the Dead will be remembered at every Mass.

Thank you for your offerings and for lovingly remembering your deceased family and friends.

Lord Heavenly Father, as we celebrate Catholic Education Week, we thank You for the gift of Our Lady's Primary School and its close connection with our parish family of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Bless all our children. Help them to grow in faith, wisdom, kindness and love. Bless our teachers and school staff. Give them patience, dedication and joy as they guide and inspire the young lives entrusted to their care. Bless all parents and families, that their homes may be places where faith is nurtured and love is shared.

May our parish and school continue to work together, helping every child to discover and develop the gifts You have given them. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, may we always remain united in faith, hope and love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today, there will be a second collection in support of Catholic Education Services. Thank you for your generosity and continued support of Catholic education.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
DIOCESE OF DUNKELD

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*
She works with willing hands

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 128* **R.***1a*
Blessed are all who fear the Lord.

Second Reading *1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*
Do not let the day of the Lord surprise you like a thief.

Gospel Acclamation *John 15:4a, 5b*
Alleluia, alleluia. *Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord. Whoever abides in me bears much fruit.* **Alleluia**

Gospel *Matthew 25:14-30*
You have been faithful over a little, enter into the joy of your master.

This CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK, we celebrate the purpose at the heart of Religious Education in Scotland's Roman Catholic schools (RERC): helping children and young people to know God, love God and serve God.



These three Big Ideas guide the ongoing review of the curriculum and remind us what Catholic education seeks to nurture in every child.

Here at Our Lady of Lourdes, we give thanks for our partnership with **Our Lady's RC Primary School.** Please pray for the children as they grow in faith, for the teachers who help them discover the Gospel, and for the parents and carers who show them what it means to live it at home.

RED WEDNESDAY - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED:

On Red Wednesday, 18th November, our Scottish cathedrals will join Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) in celebrating Mass to remember Christians across the world who suffer just for believing in Jesus. 80% of all religious persecution in the world is directed against Christians, and our brothers and sisters in Christ desperately need our prayers and support. Will you help us 'break the silence on Christian persecution'? Come along to Mass this Wednesday November 18th at St Andrew's Cathedral Dundee at 1pm. For more details, contact scotland@acnuk.org or call the office at 01698 337 470.

PACT - ADVENT PARADE: Perth Action of Churches Together (PACT) will be holding its annual Advent Lantern Parade on Sunday 22nd November 2026. The Parade leaves St Ninian's Cathedral at 4.30pm and will arrive at St John's Kirk at around 5pm for a carol service. There will be a lantern making workshop for children between 3pm and 4pm at the Cathedral. Please come along and enjoy.

Tombola and Craft Table Sale after Mass on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd November. Try your luck at the Tombola – "in it to win it".

Browse our craft stall and maybe find that perfect Christmas gift.

All proceeds will go towards the lighting maintenance costs in the church.

Donations of craft and tombola prizes very welcome – thank you

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE:

800 Years since the Death of St Francis of Assisi (1226–2026)



Jesus reminds us that God entrusts each of us with gifts and talents, not to be hidden, but to be used generously in His service. St Francis of Assisi understood that everything we possess is a gift from God. He chose to use his life not for personal gain, but to bring peace, compassion and hope to others.

As we celebrate the Franciscan Jubilee, may his example inspire us to recognise our gifts, share them with joy, and become faithful servants of God's love in our everyday lives.