

### Pre-Easter Family Get Together

I, and the members of Our Lady's Friday Warm Spaces Group, have met together recently with Karina George who works locally with Letham 4 All. The group will be organizing a fun couple of hours for a family drop in at Our Lady's church hall on **Monday 3rd April from 11.00a.m. to 2.00p.m.** approximately. There will be a cold buffet, activities for young ones, and an Easter Egg Hunt, amongst other things. The event will be open to all members of the local community and not just parishioners - so please encourage friends and neighbours to come along and spend some time together in good company. Closer to the time donations of biscuits would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

**We're looking for more volunteers to help with flower-arranging in Our Lady's, maybe even so we can have a rota of helpers. If you are interested in helping please speak to Fr. Martin.**

### A Lenten 'fasting' Lunch

In solidarity with those who are struggling in these times, and embracing the spirit of the Lenten season, we will organize a 'fasting' lunch in both church halls. This will entail having a simple meal (bread, cheese, vegetable soup) and then asking those attending to make a donation in lieu of what they might have spent on food or going out for a meal. The idea is that this is a parish event, parishioners getting together to raise a wee bit of money through this 'fasting' lunch which would then be donated to help the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in both parishes. We would need volunteers to help set up for, and clear up after, the lunch and to heat up the soup. We would keep things as simple as possible—buying in the soup, etc. to make it less of a burden on the organisers. If you would like to help with this please let me know.

**St. James', Kinross: Wednesday 29th March - 11.00a.m. to 1.00p.m.**

**Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth: Friday 31st March - 1.00p.m. to 3.00p.m.**

**(in conjunction with Warm Spaces)**

### Children's Liturgy

Encouraging the participation of young people in the life of the Church is such an important task for us all, recognising that they represent the future of our faith communities. We are always looking for volunteers to help support in particular with Children's Liturgy on Sunday in both parishes. After my appeal last week in St. James' we have four people who have said they will help, but we could always do with a couple more. Hopefully we will be able to begin to do something in St. James' shortly after Easter and help to get the children more involved in what is happening. Thanks to all in Our Lady's who already do such sterling work with the Children's Liturgy. Children are also most welcome and encouraged to read, to help with the Offertory Procession/Collection, to serve Mass, to join the choir/musicians, and more... Please encourage your young ones to muck in!

### The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul exists to work in conjunction with the Parish Priest in being pro-active in offering practical and material help to those in need. The Society does not discriminate when it comes to helping, but seeks the face of Christ in all who are struggling. The money you put in the box/bucket each week is used to alleviate the needs of those struggling in our locality, to help support the poor, the bereaved, the lonely, the sick and housebound. Being a member of the Society is one good way of putting our faith into action supporting others and visiting them or bringing relief. Please consider becoming a member. If you know of anyone in need, or are in need yourself, please do not hesitate to contact a member or Fr. Martin. All enquiries for help will be treated with the strictest confidence. Again, if you want to know when the meetings will be held please speak to one of the members. Mr. Sid Grant, parishioner of St. James', Kinross, is currently Diocesan President of the SVDP and has been working very hard to help establish new conferences and to encourage those already existing. Thank you to all current members for their hard work and dedication, too, in serving the needy and putting the Gospel into action.



# Parish Newsletter for Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth & St. James', Kinross



Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810



**Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Pletts**

**Mobile Number: 07540534480**



**Landline (Perth): 01738 626979 & E-Mail (Perth): [ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk](mailto:ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk)**

**Landline (Kinross): 01577 863329 & E-Mail (Kinross): [stjames@dunkelldioocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@dunkelldioocese.org.uk)**

**Postal Address (Perth): Our Lady of Lourdes' Catholic Church, 42 Struan Rd., Perth PH1 2JP**

**Postal Address (Kinross): St. James' Catholic Church, 5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW**

**Parish Websites: [www.ourladyoflourdesperth.church](http://www.ourladyoflourdesperth.church) & [www.catholickinross.com](http://www.catholickinross.com)**

**For the weekend of March 26th, 2023**

**5th Sunday of Lent - Year A**

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to the girls and boys in Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth, who this Sunday receive through the Sacrament of Confirmation the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is a wonderful step forward in their relationship with God and a strengthening of their discipleship. Please keep them in your prayers... and to you, boys and girls, "well done!", we are all very proud of you. Please pray for us too! (A special thank you, also, to teachers and staff in Our Lady's Primary School for all their hard work in preparing the children for today's celebration). We are very blessed to have such an excellent school and to have such strong ties between the school and parish communities.

**Tuesday in Our Lady's, after 10.00a.m. Mass - tea and coffee in the church hall**

**Wednesday in St. James', after 10.00a.m. Mass - tea and coffee in the church hall**

### Your Parish Needs You!

Each person here (I'm speaking to you too :-)) has something valuable to offer to the life of this parish. Please pray to know how God is asking you to share the gifts He has given you with your sisters and brothers in this community, to enrich our experience of Church... and if you know of someone else, who is shy and retiring and who doesn't recognise their own abilities please offer them encouragement, help them to see the good things that they can contribute to our family of faith.

**Warm Spaces - Our Lady's hall, every Friday, 1.00 to 3.00p.m. Come for a cuppa, a blether, and some fellowship - all are welcome (bring a friend)!**

### A Daily Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

**St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**

**Please pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life**

## Times of Holy Mass & Confessions etc.



**Monday 27th March**

*No public Mass*  
*(St. James' Prayer Group Meeting)*

**Tuesday 28th March**

**Tuesday of 5th Week in Lent (V)**

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Stations of the Cross 9.30a.m.  
Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

*Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Holy Mass - all are welcome.*

Holy Mass in St. John's Academy, Perth, 1.05p.m.

St. James' Parish:

Stations of the Cross 6.30p.m.  
Holy Mass 7.00p.m.

**Women of the Torah** in the church hall 7.30-8.30p.m.

**Wednesday 29th March**

**Wednesday of 5th Week in Lent (V)**

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.  
Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

**Fasting Lunch 11.00a.m. to 1.00p.m. in the church hall - all are welcome**

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

**Holy Mass 3.30p.m. (please note change of time)**

**Healing & Reconciliation Service 7.00 - 8.30p.m.**

*(individual Confessions available with visiting priests: Fr. Andrew Kingham (Galashiels) and Fr. Michael Carrie (Alloa). Praise and worship, Adoration, prayer ministry. Feel free to come and go, it is not absolutely necessary to remain for the entire period.*

**Thursday 30th March**

**Thursday of 5th Week in Lent (V)**

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish: (P1-P3 Mass)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8.45 - 9.45a.m.  
Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

**R.C.I.A** in the church hall from 7.00-8.00p.m. (last week before break for Easter, resumes Thursday 20th April).

**Friday 31st March**

**Friday of the 5th Week in Lent (V)**

St. James' Parish:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8.45 - 9.45a.m.  
Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

**Warm Spaces & Fasting Lunch 1.00p.m. to 3.00p.m. in the church hall - all are welcome.**

**Saturday 1st April**

**(Vigil of Palm/Passion Sunday, Year - A) (R)**



Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Confessions 4.00 - 4.45p.m.  
Vigil Mass 5.00p.m.

St. James' Parish:

Vigil Mass 7.00p.m.  
Confessions after Holy Mass

**Sunday 2nd April**

**Palm/Passion Sunday, Year - A (R)**

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass 9.00a.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Mass 11.00a.m.

**Donations of green houseplants would be gratefully received to help decorate the Altar of Repose in St. James', Kinross, for Holy Thursday, as would any extra contributions towards the flowers in both churches for Easter. If you wish to make an offering for Easter Flowers please put your offering in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" and pop it in the collection basket - many thanks!**

**This Sunday's readings from the Sacred Scriptures: 5th Sunday of Lent, Year - A.**

**A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel 37:12-14**

*I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.*

Psalm 129(130)

*Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.*

**A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:8-11**

*The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.*

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

**I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;**

**whoever believes in me will never die.**

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 11:3-7,17,20-27, 33-45 (short version)**

*I am the resurrection and the life.*

**Recent Parish Collections:**

Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth:	(18&19/03/23)	Plate:£741.48	Direct to Bank:£91.15	<b>Total: £832.55</b>
		(Papal/Episcopal Charities/SCIAF	<b>Total:£203.79)</b>	
St. James', Kinross:	(18&19/03/23)	Plate:£242.74	Direct to Bank:£600.00	<b>Total: £842.74</b>
		(Papal/Episcopal Charities/SCIAF	<b>Total:£212.85)</b>	

**As always, many thanks for your generosity and for your financial support of the parishes - we depend entirely upon your giving to maintain the parishes, so all of your contributions and donations are greatly appreciated - Fr. Martin**