

Warm spaces in difficult financial times

You may already be aware that there are initiatives to open church property to provide warm and welcoming spaces for those who are in need who are perhaps struggling to heat their homes or have hot food. A number of churches in our area have already begun to offer these kind of services, perhaps one afternoon a week, opening the church hall, providing a warm and welcoming environment with tea and coffee and perhaps a bowl of hot soup, and the chance just to be with other people. This is something that we could do in both Our Lady's and St. James' but it depends upon having willing and committed volunteers who can give of their time and energy. Many churches already have this kind of facility (e.g. a community café) but we have not had such provision. In Our Lady's one of our parishioners has already suggested having something once a week for the senior parishioners to come together, and we are looking into this at the moment, but I wondered if in both St. James' and Our Lady's we could think of providing the kind of service I have mentioned above, perhaps co-ordinating with other local churches so that we aren't open on the same day or time and so that people will have another opportunity to benefit. As I understand it, funding is also available from Perth and Kinross Council to support these warm space initiatives.

So my appeal to you is, can you help, would you like to be involved, do you think you could be part of a parish team supporting this kind of initiative?

We have facilities in both parish halls to at least provide tea and coffee and to warm soup, but what we need are willing volunteers. It might take time for people to get to know that we are here to provide this service, but I'm sure as time goes on, and things get tougher for many people, it could be something that will be of great benefit to our local community.

Anyway, I am asking you now to think seriously about what we can do, and specifically about how you can help establish something like this in St. James' and Our Lady's.

God bless, Fr. Martin

A date for your diary... On Thursday 1st December, in Our Lady's, starting at 7.00p.m. the music group and other parishioners will be reminding us of the story of Christmas. All are welcome to join us for this uplifting evening. A collection will be taken on the evening from those attending towards the church Building Fund. Please see Iona for further details.

Parish Christmas Trip to the Theatre at Pitlochry - important update

Remaining monies for the Theatre Trip to Pitlochry should be paid as soon as possible, please. After payment of the ticket there remains £34.50 to be paid per person. This includes a three course meal (£25.00) and transport to and from the theatre (£9.50). Please hand this in in an envelope marked 'Pitlochry Theatre Trip' and with the names of those attending marked on the same envelope (for ease of keeping track of those who have paid). Thank you. The bus will pick up parishioners on the day from St. James' at 12.15p.m. and from Our Lady's at 12.30p.m. (approximately).

Celebrating St. Margaret in our parishes - Wednesday 16th November

I hope that we, as parishes, can do something this week to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Margaret, the Secondary Patron of Scotland. After Masses on Wednesday we'll gather in the respective church halls for tea/coffee and cake. If any of our talented bakers would like to contribute their efforts would be greatly appreciated! St. Margaret, as you know, did great things to help educate and support the poor and the needy, and so it would be fitting to have a donation plate at each of these tea/coffee and cake events in order that the proceeds can be passed on to the respective S.V.D.P. Conferences in the parishes to support their works of Christian Charity. If you can help organise or support these social events and even encourage others to come it would be greatly appreciated. (Sunday 13th November is World Day of the Poor and this is a good opportunity for us to recognise this, give thanks to God for our blessings, and stand in solidarity with the needy of the world).

An act of hope before receiving Jesus in Holy Communion

O Jesus!

Relying on Thy promises, goodness, and power,
I hope to obtain from Thee the graces
necessary for the sanctification
and salvation of my soul. Amen.

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@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Landline (Kinross): 01577 863329 & E-Mail (Kinross): stjames@dunkelddiocese.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 & www.catholickinross.com

For the weekend of November 12th/13th, 2022

33rd Sunday of the Year - Year C



Advent Appeal - your help would be greatly appreciated.

Sunday 27th November is the First Sunday of Advent (and also happens to be the first anniversary of the death of Fr. Colin Golden—may he rest in peace). Advent is a time of preparation and of penance, always considered by the Church as a "mini-Lent". As we consider how we can prepare for Christ's return and what we might do, in terms of sacrifices, to prepare to celebrate spiritually for Christmas, we would do well to think, perhaps, more even than we already do, about the needs of others and how we can help and support them.

In the past we have collected toys in both parishes for the children at school and in our locality and this is something that I would like to encourage you to do again, please. Having spoken this past week to Mrs. Lynne Mendes, Headteacher at Our Lady's Primary School, the need for this generous help has been flagged-up. Mrs. Mendes has been liaising with local organisations: *Letham Together* and *Letham 4 All*, and following our discussion I am trying to establish more concrete ties between the parish and these groups, so that we are represented and can contribute in a meaningful way. One parishioner has already agreed to help me with this and come to a meeting with me on Monday 5th December at 1.30p.m. (venue to be decided), but if others were interested they would be most welcome to join us in trying to establish a better relationship with these groups.

With regard to practical help from parishioners from both St. James' and Our Lady's we are asking for donations of new and unused board games in particular, and toys for children (all to remain unwrapped, please). The board games will form part of a "pack" which will be offered to families in need and hopefully will help families to have some enjoyment and fun together over the Christmas Season. Food for the "packs" will also be provided through other sources. (Help putting together and distributing these "packs" would also be appreciated closer to the time).

Please then, if you can, bring in new and unused board games and toys which can be passed on to families in need who would otherwise struggle or perhaps put themselves in financial difficulties in order to bring some of the joy of Christmas to their children. From this point onward and just up until Christmas these items can be handed in at either St. James' or Our Lady of Lourdes'.

Thank you once again for your thoughtfulness and generosity, God bless, Fr. Martin

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.

Times of Holy Mass & Confessions etc.

Monday 14th November

33rd Week of the Year (G)

St. James' Parish:

Catechism Class after school for children of the parish - class ends at 4.30p.m.

Prayer Group in the church from 7.30 - 9.00p.m. - All are welcome to attend (includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & the Rosary)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Music Group practice in the church at 6.00p.m.

Tuesday 15th November

Memorial of St. Albert the Great (W)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

Holy Mass in St. John's High School at 1.05p.m.

Practice for the Christmas Show at 7.00p.m.

St. James' Parish:

Holy Hour (Adoration) 5.45 - 6.45p.m.

Holy Rosary 5.45 - 6.15p.m.

Confessions 6.15 - 6.40p.m.

Benediction 6.40p.m.

Holy Mass 7.00p.m.

Wednesday 16th November

Feast of St. Margaret of Scotland, Secondary Patron (W)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

Tea/Coffee and cakes in the church hall after Holy Mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Margaret - all are welcome, & church cleaning (volunteers most welcome)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Hour (Adoration) 5.45 - 6.45p.m.

Holy Rosary 5.45 - 6.15p.m.

Confessions 6.15 - 6.40p.m.

Benediction 6.40p.m.

Holy Mass 7.00p.m.

Tea/Coffee and cakes in the church hall after Holy Mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Margaret - all are welcome!

Thursday 17th November

Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Hungary (W)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass



Friday 18th November

Optional Memorial of St. Fergus (W)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass



Saturday 19th November

(Vigil of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year - C) (W)

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 20th November

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year - C (W)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass 9.00a.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Mass 11.00a.m.

Holy Hour & Prayers for the Holy Souls in Purgatory 3.00 - 4.00p.m.

Confessions after the Holy Hour

Take time to prepare well in silence for being with Jesus, to receive Him in Holy Communion, to enter into the love of His Most Sacred Heart. In prayer, after Communion, thank the Good Lord for coming to you, and speak to Him of your love, your hopes, your life. Bring to the Eucharistic Lord the souls most in need of His help: those with no faith in Him, the sick, the suffering, the burdened, ask for the grace to help them, ask to be an instrument of His love to your sisters and brothers. Be with the Lord in stillness and silence and enjoy the peace of His divine Presence. How blessed we are to have Him come to us, how blessed to know His love, how blessed to be able to share that love with one another.

This Sunday's readings from the Sacred Scriptures: - 33rd Sunday of the Year - C.



A reading from the Prophet Malachi 3:19-20

For you the sun of righteousness will shine out.

Psalm 97(98)



Response: The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

A reading from the 2nd Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 3:7-12

Do not let anyone have food if he refuses to work.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

Alleluia!



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 21:5-19

The destruction of the Temple foretold.

