

Parties for children in the parish and their families

On Sunday 18th December after the 9.00a.m. Mass in St. James', and after the 11.00a.m. Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes' on the same day, I would like to invite children and families to celebrate with a pre-Christmas party - a time to come together to celebrate as we look forward to the birth of Our Saviour at Christmas. I thought we might decorate the respective church halls appropriately and provide juice, crisps, cake, and goodies for the wee ones so that they can celebrate with their friends in the parish family, and also so that parents can come together to enjoy each other's company - all parishioners would be welcome, of course. If you can help to organise this, or contribute in any way I would be very grateful. I hope that this will be a simple way of showing our love and appreciation for the youngest members of our family of faith and thanking parents for the good work they do in bringing their young ones to Holy Mass and passing on to them the beautiful gift of the Faith. God bless, Fr. Martin

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.

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.

An update...

Thank you to those who have already spoken to me about this or sent me e-mails, I really appreciate your willingness to be involved. For the sake of practicality and to be able to begin to move things forward I thought it would be good to have a meeting in each of the parishes to discuss how we can organise things best. So I propose that for all interested there will be meetings in Our Lady of Lourdes on Monday 28th November at 7.30p.m., and in St. James' on Tuesday 29th November at 7.30p.m. Please come along if you would like to help in any way or think you can support these initiatives as we go forward. We will meet in the church halls. God bless, Fr. Martin

Parish Weekly Collections:

<u>Our Lady of Lourdes (12 & 13/11/22)</u>	Total Plate Collection: £531.50	Direct Bank Payments: £68.08
	Overall Total: £599.58	
<u>St. James (12 & 13/11/22)</u>	Total Plate Collection: £354.80	Direct Bank Payments: £600.00
	Overall Total: £954.80	

The 'Direct Bank Payments' represent the weekly average of the overall amount paid directly into the respective parish accounts on a monthly basis.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support. Remember that the parish relies entirely upon your weekly contributions alone to keep going.

I will soon begin again to include requests for the prayers for the sick, the recently deceased, and those whose anniversaries occur in the Parish Newsletter. If you wish someone to be remembered please hand in a note with their name and what the prayers are for (sickness, recent death, etc.) Dealing with so many names you will appreciate that sometimes mistakes are made or sometimes even omissions, please be patient, and please inform me gently if any mistakes have been made, I am always happy to correct them. Fr. Martin (all names should be submitted no later than Thursday to be included in the upcoming newsletter)



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

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



For the weekend of November 19th/20th, 2022

Solemnity of Christ the Universal King - Year C



Parish Christmas Trip to the Theatre at Pitlochry (11/12/22) - 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).

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. 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

For Catholic Education week we hope to welcome Mrs. Futamata, Head of St. John's, to speak at some of our Masses

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.

There are numbers available in both St. James' and Our Lady's 100 Clubs should anyone like to take them. Please speak to Aileen Sorbie in St. James', or Gordon McGregor in Our Lady's for further information. If you are wishing to take part in the large Christmas Draws please make sure your 'subs' are up-to-date as soon as possible.

Times of Holy Mass & Confessions etc.



Monday 21st November

Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (W)

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.

Meeting with the Music Group and Fr. Martin at 7.00p.m.

Tuesday 22nd November

Memorial of St. Cecilia (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:

Meeting of the Ladies' Group in St. James' church hall at 2.00p.m. - all are welcome!

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.

Lectio Divina Group - Women of the Torah, Matriarchs & Heroes - meeting in St. James' church hall after Holy Mass (approx. 7.30p.m.)

Wednesday 23rd November

Mass for the Dead (B)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Holy Mass - 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.

Thursday 24th November

Memorial of St. Andrew Dung Lac & Companions (R)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.



(continued)

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Whole school Mass - Remembrance Mass for our beloved dead



Thursday 24th November

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

R.C.I.A. meeting in Our Lady's church hall from 7.00 - 8.00p.m. for those interested in becoming Catholic or those Catholics who would like to learn more about their Faith - all are welcome. Tea/Coffee, biscuits and fellowship included!

Friday 25th November

Optional Memorial of St. Catherine of Alexandria (R)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Rosary 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass 10.00a.m.

Confessions after Holy Mass

Saturday 26th November

(Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent, Year - A) (V)

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 27th November

The First Sunday of Advent, Year - A (V)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass 9.00a.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Mass 11.00a.m.

Beginning 6th/7th December I hope to have candlelight "Rorate" Masses in the parish during Advent: Tuesday evenings in St. James' and Wednesday evenings in Our Lady of Lourdes'. These will be followed by hot chocolate and fellowship in the respective church halls. See following newsletters for further details - assistance in setting up for this (in the halls) would be greatly appreciated. During this period the *Lectio Divina* will be put on hold, to resume in the New Year.

This Sunday's readings from the Sacred Scriptures: Christ the King, Year - C.

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel 5:1-3

They anointed David king of Israel.

Psalm 121(122)

Response: I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's House.'

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians 1:12-20

The Father has created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that He loves.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on Him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 23:35-43

Today you will be with me in paradise.

Net Ministries - for about the next month a Catholic youth evangelisation group called Net Ministries will be working in St. John's R.C. High School in Perth. Our two parishes and our two SVDP Conferences are helping out with the cost of this 'mission' to the school (many thanks!). Fr. Martin will have two of the team staying in the presbytery at Our Lady's, two young American men: Josue and Callen. They will also be joined at times by a Supervisor. Please, if you come across them, show them your usual warm welcome.

Raffle Tickets for the three Christmas Hampers are now on sale in Our Lady's. Donations of items for the Hampers would be gratefully received (please see the list in the church porch).