

A Brief Holy Week Message from Fr. Martin

Dear parishioners, we've travelled together so far throughout this Season of Lent until we approach now the high-point of the Church's Year: Holy Week. This is the most beautiful, inspiring, and transformative time in the Church's calendar, as we focus on what is at the heart of our belief as Christians, and on what is the source of our hope, and the pledge of our salvation; the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. This is a time to be with the Lord, to journey alongside Him, to meditate on the Mysteries, to enter more deeply into the love that God has for us. Our participation in the liturgies of the Church at this time bringing us into greater union with Him.

I encourage you to make every effort possible to sacrifice usual habits and daily customs, in order to make a spiritual pilgrimage this week with us. Put aside, as much as is possible, the normal routine to spend your time in the presence of our Good God and to celebrate with the Church this way of suffering, death, new life and redemption. This is a time of great grace!

Let us pray for each other in these moments, and bring before Our Lord in the Holy Week Liturgies those dearest to us, remembering especially those who struggle, the sick, the house-bound, those lapsed from the Faith, those who are searching for God, the souls of our beloved dead in Purgatory, and all the ones we carry in our hearts and our thoughts.

May God bless you and yours abundantly this Holy Week and throughout Eastertide,

With love and prayers,

Fr. Martin

My sincere thanks to all who, in one way or another, have helped to prepare the churches and the liturgies for this most sacred time. Thank you to the many who work away in the background to ensure a worthy and uplifting Easter celebration. God bless you for your generosity and your commitment, for the sharing of your time and your energies: thank you for your kind support.

Fr. Martin

**All are encouraged to attend the Mass of Chrism
in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee (150 Nethergate), this coming
Wednesday at 7.00p.m.**

From after the last Mass of Easter Sunday on 31st March up to the first Vigil Mass on Saturday 6th April I will be taking a short break. In case of pastoral emergency please contact one of the priests in Perth. Please note, then, that during that time there will be no public Masses/devotions/Confessions, and there will be no other newsletter issued until the weekend of 6th/7th April. Masses that weekend in both parishes will be at the usual times:

Saturday 6th April – 5.00p.m. Vigil in Our Lady's, 7.00p.m. Vigil in St. James'

Sunday 7th April - 9.00a.m. in St. James', 11.00a.m. in Our Lady's

Parish Newsletter

Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth

&

St. James', Kinross

In the Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Please leave Mass today in total silence, honouring our entry into Holy Week

Parish Newsletter for:

Palm Sunday - Year B, 2024 - 24/03/24

If you haven't been to Confession yet during Lent, please make the most of the times provided overleaf to prepare spiritually for the most holy time of the Church's Year. In this Sacrament of God's loving mercy we receive the pardon and the peace won for us by Jesus Christ through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This is a Sacrament of healing and restoration, a Sacrament of hope and peace, the powerful means of us experiencing first-hand the saving power of the Risen Lord. His beautiful gift to His Church.

Contact details:

Parish Priest - Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Des Connors

Our Lady of Lourdes', 42 Struan Road, Perth PH1 2JP, Telephone: 01738 626979,

E-Mail: ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

St. James', 5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW, Telephone: 01577 863329,

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Parish Mobile Number: 07540534480

Our Lady of Lourdes' Website: ourladyoflourdes@perth.church

St. James' Website: www.catholickinross.com

Office Hours for the Parish Secretary (Dianne Mitchell): Thursday 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon

(Phone 01738 626979 only in order to speak to the Parish Secretary)

Parish Secretary's E-Mail addresses: oloadmin@dunkelldioocese.org.uk or stjamesadmin@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for Our Lady's: ololpsc@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for St. James': stjamespsc@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

& Mobile Number (St. James'): 07720811055

Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency: www.scssa.org.uk

Telephone Number for the Diocesan Curial Offices: 01382 225453

Dunkeld Diocesan Website: www.dunkelldioocese.co.uk

Times of Holy Mass, Confessions, etc.

Monday 25th March

Fig Monday (Violet)

St. James' Parish:

Catechism Class in the hall after school till 4.30p.m.

Prayer Group Meeting in the Church at 7.30p.m.

Tuesday 26th March

Temple Tuesday (Violet)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.

Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions 6.00 - 7.00p.m.

Wednesday 27th March

Spy Wednesday (Violet)

All parishioners are encouraged to attend the Mass of Chrism in St. Andrew's Cathedral, 150 Nethergate, Dundee. When the sacred oils used throughout the year are consecrated, and the priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises. **Mass begins at 7.00p.m. and will be presided over by Bishop Stephen Robson.**

Thursday 28th March

Maundy Thursday (White)

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Mass at 7.00p.m.

(Vigil at the Altar of Repose thereafter until 8.45p.m.)

Compline at 8.45p.m. (lasts, roughly, 10 minutes)

Friday 29th March

Good Friday (Red)

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Office of Readings & Morning Prayer at 10.00a.m.

St. James' Parish:

Confessions 1.30 - 2.00p.m.

Liturgy of the Passion at 3.00p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Stations of the Cross at 6.00p.m., incorporating the veneration of the Cross.

A retiring collection basket will be there for all Good Friday Services: the collection being taken for the Holy Places.

Saturday 30th March

Holy Saturday (Gold/White)

St. James' Parish:

Office of Readings & Morning Prayer at 10.00a.m.

Easter Vigil at 8.15p.m.

Weather permitting we gather outside with unlit candles by Our Lady's Shrine for the blessing of the Easter Fire - please come early so that we can begin on time.

Remember that this weekend there is no Saturday Vigil Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth. The only Vigil is the Easter Vigil in Kinross.

Remember, too, that the clocks go forward one hour this weekend.

Sunday 31st March

Easter Sunday - Mass of the Lord's Resurrection (Gold)

St. James' Parish:

Holy Mass at 9.00a.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:

Holy Mass at 11.00a.m.

Mass Readings for Palm Sunday - Year B (23rd & 24th March)

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult: I know I shall not be shamed.

Psalm 21(22)

Response: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11

Christ humbled Himself but God raised Him high.

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

Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised Him high and gave Him the name which is above all names.

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

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 14:1-15:47

(if you are physically unable to stand throughout the reading of the Passion, please take a seat)

There will be Stations of the Cross at 3.00p.m. today (Sunday 24th March) in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, despite this having been omitted in last weekend's newsletter. Deacon Des Connors will lead the Stations - please make the most of this opportunity to journey with the Lord in prayer .