

DUNKELD NEWS

SERIES 2 ISSUE 3

APRIL 2026



Seminarians in Salamanca

First impressions of life in the Royal Scots College

PAGE 11

JAMES ASHTON & SON



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DUNKELD NEWS

SERIES 2 ISSUE 3 | APRIL 2026

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A time to renew our hearts in the light of the Risen Lord



BY BISHOP ANDREW MCKENZIE

Welcome to the Easter edition of the Dunkeld News, where you can read more about the opportunity for Easter to deepen our identity as God's people and to renew our hearts in the light of Easter.

Although the world may be going through a seemingly unending cycle of conflict and violence, and our politicians grapple with decisions affecting the right to life, we do not despair, for true hope and true peace is found in Christ.

The world needs to encounter Christ, and that is the call of every generation: the universal call to mission. We cannot leave it to others; it begins with each one of us.

We explore the celebration of Pentecost and are reminded the Holy Spirit urges us and empowers us to proclaim the Gospel with our words and with our lives.

Last Eastertide, you may remember I invited all parish priests in the diocese to hold three Conversations in the Spirit with groups of parishioners, following on from the publication of the Final Document of the Synod on Synodality 2022-24.

I am pleased to share with you a summary of the reports and my responses to these on pages 14-15.

Since the last issue, we have continued to welcome new priests to our diocese, and we can all be hugely grateful for their 'yes' to a leap of faith into the unknown.

Many of our new priests have joined us from Nigeria and, on Page 24, we hear from Fr Emmanuel about his journey to our diocese.

A common theme from my discussions with our priests and our laity is the warm welcome that is often given and received – long may that continue!

As always, I thank you all for your contributions to our diocese and to this edition of the Dunkeld News.

I trust you will enjoy reading this issue, and please do not hesitate to contact our team if you would like to contribute or share in future issues.

Christ is Risen.
Alleluia!

Andrew

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JUSTICE & PEACE STATEMENT ON THE ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Justice & Peace Scotland condemns the recent military strikes by the United States and Israel against Iran, as well as the retaliatory attacks occurring across Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE and Israel.

This cycle of violence only serves to spread instability and grief throughout the region, breaching international law and placing innocent civilians,

especially children, in grave danger.

These hostilities and the reactionary strikes that have followed demonstrate that genuine peace and security can never be achieved through bombing campaigns.

True security must instead be sought through dialogue, diplomacy, negotiation and an unwavering respect for the sacred dignity of every human person. As we witness

further amplification of the growing spiral of violence in the region, we call for an immediate de-escalation and a return to the path of non-violence to protect the common good of the entire human family.

As a member Commission of Justice & Peace Europe, we fully support and echo the statement issued by the co-presidents of Justice & Peace Europe on 2 March 2026.

As co-presidents of Justice & Peace Europe, we wish to express our profound concern over the ongoing spiral of violence currently afflicting Iran and the broader Middle East region.

We particularly hold in our hearts the affected populations in Iran and across the region who now undergo yet another trial, following years of tribulation and distress.

No country, however powerful, should place itself above the core principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. Mutual threats and the use of weapons can never constitute a lasting solution to conflicts. On the contrary, they only amplify them: they deepen resentment and hatred, destabilise entire regions and erode the very foundations of global peace and security.

In the face of a tragedy of immense proportions, the present escalation reflects a confrontational logic that increasingly dominates global politics, rather than adherence to the principles of legitimate defence, which require that all possible peaceful means be exhausted before recourse to force as a last resort.

We join Pope Leo XIV in his heartfelt appeal to “all the parties involved to assume the moral responsibility of halting the spiral of violence” and to return to the path of “reasonable, sincere and responsible dialogue.” Only diplomacy that safeguards the “well-being of peoples

who yearn for peaceful existence founded on justice” can sustain hope for a future grounded in mutual respect, cooperation and stability.

We call upon the European Union and the international community to engage in tireless and united efforts towards de-escalation and the full respect of international law, including international humanitarian law. Respect for the inherent dignity of every human person and particular concern for the poorest and most vulnerable must remain at the heart of these efforts. The good of the people – those living in the Middle East, those temporarily present there, and all who suffer the wider consequences of this conflict – must prevail over every political, strategic or economic consideration.

In this time of Lent, let us especially pray for peace: a peace that is both ‘disarmed and disarming’, capable of touching the hearts of those entrusted with responsibility for the common good. May the Middle East, and indeed the entire world, finally embark upon the path that leads to justice, reconciliation and lasting peace.

Dijon/Copenhagen, 2 March 2026

+Antoine Hérouard
Maria Hammershoy

(Co-Presidenta, Justice & Peace Europe)

From anguish to grace

BY FR JIM WALLS

Monsignor Basil O'Sullivan often refers to our diocese as the most beautiful in the world, and those of us who live and serve here would heartily agree.

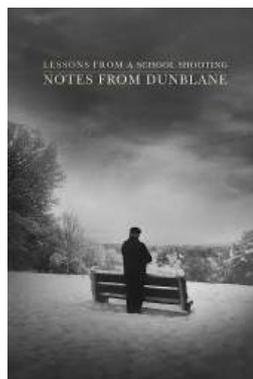
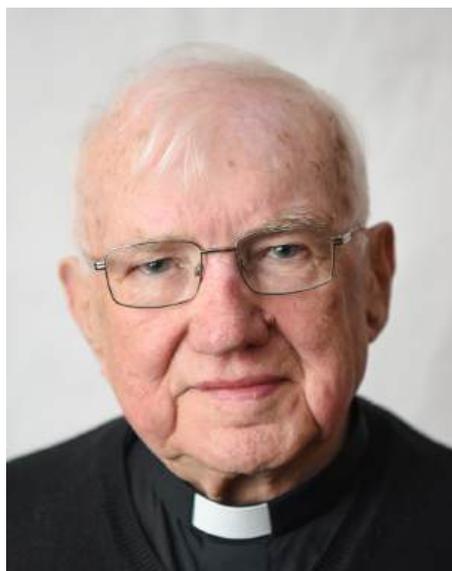
Mgr Basil will celebrate his 70th priestly anniversary this summer.

He has served this 'beautiful diocese' for 70 years and said he does not regret a day of his priestly ministry.

Mgr Basil is a legend in his own lifetime and greatly admired throughout the diocese.

Although this humble Irishman would never blow his own trumpet, his life of priestly service serves as an inspiration to all of us priests, deacons, religious and laity who are blessed to know him.

The priesthood when lived with a humble contrite heart



Mgr Basil flew to the United States to meet Fr Bob Weiss and the Sandy Hook community.

is a life worth living, as Mgr Basil amply illustrates.

Could you be the next Basil O'Sullivan? Could you serve the Lord of the harvest through thick and thin?

Is the Lord calling you to walk in His footsteps and the footsteps of men like Mgr Basil?

To see how a priestly life lived well is a life worth living watch Lessons From A School Shooting: Notes From Dunblane.

This Netflix documentary follows Mgr Basil (the priest in Dunblane at the time of the massacre) as he reaches out to Fr Bob Weiss and his community who suffered

a similar heartbreaking shooting several years after Dunblane.

The film follows Mgr Basil as he corresponds with Fr Bob and shows how their friendship grew and when they eventually meet on the anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting.

In his 80s, Mgr Basil flew to the United States to be with the Sandy Hook community amid their sorrow.

He is filmed chatting and consoling the people.

A priest after the heart of Jesus, in the midst of humanity, bringing healing and consolation.

Could you be him?

Holyrood rejects assisted dying bill

The Scottish Parliament has defeated Liam McArthur's Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults Bill in a 69 to 57 vote.

Bishop John Keenan, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, praised the decision as a 'responsible course of action' to protect vulnerable individuals from the risk of being pressured into a premature death. Bishop Keenan added society's duty is to surround those suffering with respect and care until their natural end, rather than 'eliminating the sufferer'.

Richard Collyer-Hamlin of the Catholic Union expressed hope that this result would influence the House of Lords' scrutiny of similar legislation in Westminster.

Following the vote, advocates urged that the national priority must now shift toward ensuring properly funded palliative care is accessible to all.

Closure of Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme

In late January, the UK government announced the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, which allowed VAT to be reclaimed on repairs to listed places of worship, would end at the end of March 2026.

This announcement was unexpected and will impact current projects as well as ending a scheme that has been vital over many years, and without it will add further financial burdens to dioceses.

The government has announced a replacement grant scheme for England only.

The Scottish Government have not been informed about the details of this change or whether any additional funding will be available.

The Bishops' Conference is working with other stakeholders to enter dialogue with both the UK and Scottish Governments, but we need you to make representations to your MP.

We hope as many people as possible in a constituency will write to their MP.

We are not offering a template letter. Our experience is that MPs engage better when messages are individual and specific rather than a copy-and-paste national campaign.

To find your MP's contact details, please go to the Find Your MP website at members.parliament.uk, and enter your postcode, or the postcode of your church building, into the search bar.



The closure of the scheme could have a serious impact on church renovations.

A reflection on Holy Week and the Easter Triduum as the heart of the Church's year. Moving from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, we see how the liturgy draws us into Christ's Passion, death and Resurrection, deepening our identity as God's people and renewing us in the light of Easter.



BY **BISHOP ANDREW MCKENZIE**

THE CHURCH'S REMEMBERING

Holy Week, especially the Sacred Triduum forms the heart of our liturgical year.

As we celebrate these days we are drawn more deeply into the Paschal Mystery, the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

As the liturgy of the Church is celebrated and the saving events of Christ's death and resurrection are recalled, past and present are brought together so that we might face the future with renewed confidence in Christ.

Through the celebration of the liturgy the Church recalls Christ's last days in and around Jerusalem, alongside the meaning of those events for the world today.

Those events need not simply be remembered, they must also be internalised.

Our liturgy leads us to remember that Christ lives, not in some distant historical event, but in the lives of faithful disciples as the story of salvation continues to unfold.

The liturgies of Holy Week, and particularly the liturgies of the Easter Triduum, require an intense focus for the life of the Church.

The Church's remembering reasserts identity, our identity as the people of God, the body of Christ, as a community called to live in the light of Easter.

PALM SUNDAY

We enter the holiest of weeks through our celebration of Palm Sunday.

This liturgy begins with the Procession of Palms.

The joy of waving palm branches is coupled with the solemnity of the reading of the Passion.

Our branches are not about welcoming Christ into Jerusalem but about welcoming him into our lives.

The procession is part of that process as we walk with the Lord and enter Holy Week.

Later we will stand with open hearts and listen to the Passion.

This year we will read from the Gospel of Matthew.

We will seek to mould our lives after the pattern of the one who gave everything for our salvation.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The focus of the last days of Holy Week is on the Easter Triduum.

These days form one paschal feast of Christ's dying and rising to new life.

Our Sacred Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening, it continues through Good Friday and the Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, and after the quiet of Holy Saturday morning it proclaims with joy the resurrection of Jesus at the Easter Vigil finishing on Easter Sunday.

This single feast lasting

three days demands that we set other things aside.

HOLY THURSDAY

The liturgy for the Mass of the Lord's Supper focuses on the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus.

The meaning of Jesus actions is laid out in the Liturgy of the Word.

The first reading recalls the instructions given regarding the Passover (Exodus 12; 1-8, 11-14).

The second reading remembers Jesus's words at table instituting the Eucharist (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

The gospel, perhaps surprisingly, focuses on Jesus washing of his disciples' feet (John 13: 1-15).

Together the readings remind us that this is what it means to be a disciple, for Eucharist implies a willingness to give our lives in service of one another. Do this in remembrance of me.

GOOD FRIDAY

The liturgy of Good Friday is continued from the evening before.

The Church assembles in silence marking the character of the day and the nature of Good Friday itself.

Liturgical planners need to reflect carefully.

Is the Good Friday liturgy sad and sombre as it mourns a dead Christ?

Or does it celebrate Christ's

Celebrating Easter

triumph and glory, the cross as the instrument of our salvation.

The liturgical colour for Good Friday is the red of martyrdom, but it is also the red of royalty!

The gospel reading for Good Friday is always taken from the passion narrative in the gospel of John.

Jesus hands himself over with great dignity.

This is the appointed hour for the cross is the symbol of victory and triumph over death.

Jesus is the sovereign lord who reigns from the cross.

The Solemn Intercessions that follow a short homily gather the cares of the world before the saving majesty of the cross.

The assembly receives from the cross its mission to intercede in service to the world.

The passion narrative and Solemn Intercessions call for a response as the community is invited forward to venerate or kiss the cross.

In processing to the cross they give ritual expression to their prayer.

Holy Communion is then received from the Sacrament reserved from the night before.

The Good Friday liturgy ends in silence, just as it began.

HOLY SATURDAY

Our Easter journey reaches a highpoint as we gather around the Easter fire to begin our Easter Vigil.

In solemn assembly we listen to the story of our salvation.

The message of salvation proclaimed

in the readings does not seem ancient tonight, for this is our story as we live the Paschal Mystery anew.

Tonight, having listened to our story, we initiate new members and celebrate our Easter Eucharist.

This is the night when Christ Jesus breaks the silence, when light dispels darkness and new life bursts from the tomb, shattering the decay of death.

With our Baptismal Promises renewed we are affirmed in our life of faith.

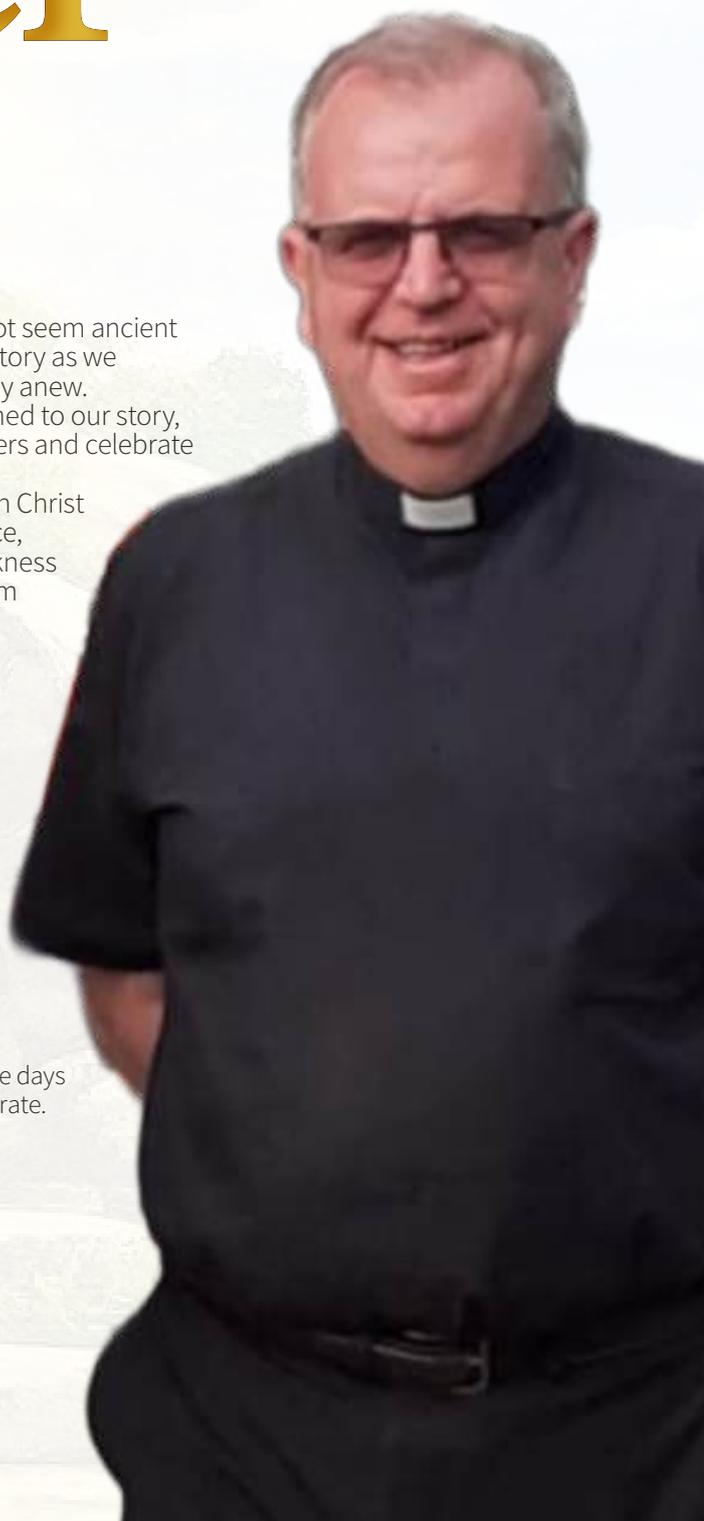
EASTER SUNDAY

The Triduum does not conclude on Holy Saturday night.

The liturgies of Easter Sunday form an important part of the Church's remembrance.

There is much to contemplate during these days and great things to celebrate.

Christ has risen!
Alleluia!



ENCOUNTERING CHRIST



Paul Allaker.

Rooted in an encounter with Christ, in this article, the Diocese's recently-appointed Communications and Evangelisation officer, **Paul Allaker**, explores the Church's missionary calling, his new evangelisation role and the challenge for every baptised Catholic to proclaim the Gospel with confidence.

Twenty years ago, in his encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), Pope Benedict XVI said: 'Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction'.

When a person has encountered Christ, there is a deep love and joy that radiates from their very being, a witness to others that is truly profound: they become 'salt' and 'light' in the world, which means others see the way they live their life, they see their good deeds and it leads them to 'glorify our Father in heaven' (Matthew 5:13-16).

Through this encounter with Christ, and by virtue of our baptism, we are called to share in his mission.

We are not just communicating what Christianity is, but rather who Jesus is, and that can only be done through relationship: with Christ and the people with whom we come into contact.

On the day of his election, Pope Leo XIV emphasised the importance of that mission when he said: 'Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever welcoming, like this square with its open arms, to all those who are in need of our charity, our presence, our readiness to dialogue and our love'.

To help support the missionary focus and activities of our parish communities, Bishop Andrew has created a communications and evangelisation role for the Diocese of Dunkeld.

This has been made possible by the many generous donations over the years to the Proclaiming the Faith fund, which was established by Bishop Vincent.

This role will aim to support the work of our bishop, clergy and laity in proclaiming the Gospel with clarity, creativity and conviction; engage in programmes and resources that help

SHARING HIS MISSION

Christians of all ages build relationships, living and expressing the faith with confidence and joy; use new digital means of communication for evangelisation so that we are using everything we can to reach everyone we can.

There is a quote (often attributed to Vincent Donovan) that says: 'Jesus did not give his Church a mission; he gave his mission a Church'. This should challenge every one of us to consider whether our parish life is emphasising maintenance over mission.

Indeed, let us consider Pope Francis' words in *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel): 'I dream of a missionary option: that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, languages and structures, can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world, rather than for her self-preservation'.

There is an urgency to Christ's mission that even 2,000 years later, must impel us (as individuals, parishes, diocese and the Church) to ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance as to how we can love more radically and sacrificially.

In Matthew 28:16-20, Jesus gives us his Great Commission: 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you'.

That is not just a job for our wonderful clergy!

Every baptised person has been called to share in that great commission.

If we truly wish to answer that call, we may find the Holy Spirit taking us out of our comfort zone and challenging us in ways we did not expect.

But we do not need to be afraid, for Jesus also told us at the end of his commission: 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'.

PROCLAIMING OUR FAITH CAMPAIGN 2006-2011

The Diocese of Dunkeld initiated the Proclaiming our Faith campaign in March 2006, which was estimated to run for five years, with the campaign to raise funds closing in 2011.

More than £1.5 million was raised to allow Bishop Vincent Logan and the campaign committee to distribute funds throughout the Diocese.

The campaign objectives were to support initiatives in youth, pastoral care and adult and clergy formation.

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To find out how to include the Church in your will, speak to your solicitor or contact the Diocesan Office

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SUBMISSIONS

The next issue of *Dunkeld News* will be published towards the end of June 2026. We welcome your contributions in the form of news, community news, features and opinion articles.

Wherever possible you should also send photographs and/or illustrations with your written contribution. Images should be of the highest quality and as large as possible

Please note you must name all of the people in any photograph, include the name of the photographer and obtain permission from all of the people in the photograph for it to be used in the magazine.

The deadline for the next edition is

FRIDAY 15 MAY

Please email your contributions to dunkeldnews@dunkelldiocese.org.uk



Charles, Fyfe and Joseph are settling in well at the Royal Scots College in Salamanca.

From prayer and study to friendship and gratitude, three Dunkeld seminarians, **Charles Chibueze, Fyfe Galbraith** and **Joseph Odegbe**, reflect on their time at the Royal Scots College in Salamanca, where formation for the priesthood unfolds in a city still deeply shaped by faith.



For the seminarians from Dunkeld now living and studying at the Royal Scots College in Salamanca, life in Spain has become much more than a period of academic formation. It is a time of prayer, fraternity and discovery in one of the great historic cities of Catholic Europe.

Charles Chibueze describes his experience simply: 'My experience at the Royal Scots College, situated in the city of Salamanca, which is renowned for its contributions to Spanish culture, has been a great one'.

For him, part of the city's significance lies in its association with some of the great figures of Catholic spirituality, and he speaks of the privilege of being in the home of 'St Ignatius of Loyola, St John of the Cross and St Teresa of Ávila'.

Joseph Odegbe shares that sense of wonder. 'Salamanca has a historical link to several prominent Catholic saints who lived and studied within its walls,' he says.

'It's a great privilege to walk on the same land where these great saints of the Church left their footprint'.

He also notes that the city's Catholic identity is not only a matter of history. Salamanca has 'its own unique beauty' and still 'retains a Catholic aura, as well as medieval architectural arts and structures'.

Faith remains visible in daily life: 'Walking along the street, we meet reverend sisters, nuns and priests.'

He also praises the city's welcome, saying that 'the people are receptive' and the food is 'outstanding and delicious'.

Within the Royal Scots College itself, the seminarians have found an atmosphere well suited to prayer and formation.

Charles says he has been impressed by 'the staff members' joviality and the peaceful atmosphere for prayer and recollection'.

He was also struck by Salamanca's cathedral, with its old and new structures joined together, dating from the 12th and 16th centuries.

Fyfe Galbraith brings a lively note to the picture.

Writing from a cafe in the Plaza Mayor, he greets readers with 'Hola, from the Royal Scots College Salamanca', describing it as 'the golden city'.

'The place is great,' he says.

'The food, architecture, people and college itself are all stunning.'

He also mentions 'many beautiful artworks around the college', 'a lovely chapel' and even 'a swimming pool, although it's not got any water in it yet'.

What comes through in all three accounts is gratitude.

Charles offers thanks to Bishop Andrew McKenzie and the Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld 'for all their love and support'.

Fyfe adds that he will 'pray for all the parishes back home in the Dunkeld Diocese and look forward to returning in the summer'.

Together, their reflections show Salamanca to be a place of growth in faith, gratitude and joy.

CONVERSATIONS IN THE SPIRIT

Following on from the publication of the Final Document of the Synod on Synodality 2022-24, Bishop Andrew invited all parish priests in the diocese to hold three *Conversations in the Spirit* with groups of parishioners during Eastertide 2025.

A total of 28 parishes responded and submitted their reports to the bishop.



1. 'A synodal spirituality flows from the action of the Holy Spirit and requires listening to the Word of God, contemplation, silence and conversion of heart... Our first task is to learn how to discern his voice, since he speaks through everyone and in all things.' #43 *Final Document*

What is the Holy Spirit asking of the Church in our diocese?

2. 'Synodality involves gathering at all levels of the Church for mutual listening, dialogue and communal discernment. It also involves reaching consensus as an expression of Christ rendering Himself present, He who is alive in the Spirit. Furthermore, it consists in reaching decisions according to differentiated co-responsibilities.' # 28 *Final Document*

What stands out for you in this quote?

What possibilities does it open up for our diocese?

As we journey together in communion towards a synodal spirituality what changes does it require and who might provide accompaniment/support for us?

3. A synodal spirituality flows from the action of the Holy Spirit and requires listening to the Word of God, contemplation, silence and conversion of heart... humility, patience and a willingness to forgive and be forgiven. No one can progress along the path of authentic spirituality alone; we need support, including formation and spiritual accompaniment (support), both as individuals and as a community.' #43 *Final Document*

As we journey together in communion towards a synodal spirituality what changes does it require and who might provide accompaniment/support for us?

Having reached some consensus each parish/group of parishes identified the fruits of their discernment and shared them with the bishop. On the next page are the main themes identified and some of the collective suggestions for development. These will help inform future Diocesan Synodal Action Plans.



COMMUNICATION



Parishes called for clearer, more joined-up communication across the diocese, rooted in welcome, belonging, openness, transparency and synodality. They asked for a diocesan vision statement, regular pastoral letters from the bishop, clearer information about diocesan roles, wider sharing of Church news, stronger links between parishes and greater inclusion of rural communities. **Bishop Andrew noted progress has already been made: the communications strategy has been relaunched, a communications group meets regularly, social media has been embraced, *Dunkeld News* has been redesigned and both the magazine and diocesan website are regularly updated. These steps respond directly to many of the concerns raised.**

Parishes identified catechesis as a priority for further development across the diocese. They highlighted the need for ongoing formation, especially on the Eucharist and Baptism, as well as more opportunities for small-group learning and stronger catechesis for both children and adults. **Bishop Andrew placed this within the Church's wider mission of evangelisation, stressing that all are called to lead one another to Christ. He noted that work is already under way: Canon Kevin Golden is supporting adult formation, Paul Allaker is helping parishes strengthen mission and pastoral councils and schools continue to play a vital part in nurturing the faith of young people.**

CATECHESIS



Parishes expressed a strong desire for synodality to take deeper root across the diocese, both in structures and in everyday life. They called for synodal pastoral councils, better formation and leadership training, fuller recognition of women's gifts and greater inclusion of rural parishes. They also stressed that synodality must be prayerful, spiritual and non-judgemental, with bishop, clergy, religious and laity walking together. **Bishop Andrew noted progress is already being made through recent guidance on parish pastoral councils and support from the School for Synodality. He also pointed to hopes for deanery and diocesan councils and ongoing work to promote a more synodal Church.**

SYNODALITY



Parishes made clear that young people and families must remain a diocesan priority. They called for greater support for families, better digital engagement, more social events, stronger links between schools and parishes and opportunities for Conversations in the Spirit with youth groups. Their responses showed a desire for young people not simply to attend activities, but to feel heard, supported and fully part of diocesan life. **Bishop Andrew noted progress is being made: Fr Michael Ngobili has been appointed Director for Youth, work is developing through schools and universities and the new Dunkeld Youth Association is fostering social and spiritual activity across the diocese.**

YOUTH



Parishes identified liturgy as an area needing ongoing care and renewal. They called for greater support for children's liturgy, better homilies and stronger encouragement for the many ministries that sustain the Church's worship. Their responses reflected a desire for liturgy to be celebrated with greater depth, prayerfulness and participation. **Bishop Andrew places this within the Church's teaching that the liturgy is both the summit of its life and the source of its strength. He stressed that our worship should never become casual, but always more prayerful and spirit-filled, with proper support for liturgical ministers and continued attention to improving preaching.**

LITURGY



Parishes expressed a strong desire for a more outward-looking diocese, with greater outreach to marginalised groups and renewed efforts to welcome back those who have drifted away, especially through funerals, weddings, baptisms, initiation and schools. They also highlighted the need to support priests, develop mission-focused events and build stronger links with other Christian communities. **Bishop Andrew echoed these concerns, stressing evangelisation, mission and better mutual support across the diocese. He noted practical steps are already being taken, with Fr Louis Uwaezuoke leading on ecumenism and interfaith dialogue and Fr Mike Freyne focusing on mission, while recognising that further change and renewal are still needed.**

OUTREACH and ECUMENISM and CLERGY



Listening is the key to an education partnership

Reflecting on hearing, listening and public debate, **Canon Tom Shields, Vicar Episcopal for Education**, considers recent Scottish Government legislation and shows how patient engagement can protect Catholic education and bear fruit.

BY **CANON TOM SHIELDS, VICAR EPISCOPAL FOR EDUCATION**

My hearing is getting worse and sooner or later I shall have to do something about it.

Hearing loss often manifests itself in an inability to focus on the speaker because of background noise, and the strain that a person experiences in trying to listen often causes mental and emotional fatigue.

However, we are all often confronted with the problem of really hearing what a person is saying because of different kinds of background noise.

Tiredness, distractions, worries and our own prejudices all combine to pull our attention away from what's really been revealed.

Listening takes time and energy, and both are limited goods.

When the subject of the conversation touches on something important to us, we can often let our emotions and fears take over.

If someone comes along with an easy summary or offers a skewed commentary that appeals to our need for quick and easy answers and reinforces our own world view, then we are very tempted to believe it.

A recent example of how this can happen was the misinformation surrounding The Children (Withdrawal from Religious Education and Amendment Of UNRC Compatibility Duty) (Scotland) Bill that passed in the Scottish parliament on Tuesday, 17 February.

This Bill was introduced to clarify the law on withdrawing children from religious observance in schools and to resolve any

potential conflicts between Scottish legislation and the rights of the child as laid out in the UN Charter on the rights of the child.

All sorts of stories were being repeated about what this Bill was and was not about, sometimes by organisations that have their own agenda.

Thanks in no small part to the Scottish Catholic Education Service under the leadership of Barbara Coupar, our Catholic Parliamentary Officer, Anthony Horan and all those who responded to consultation, the Scottish Parliament has decided that if a parent withdraws their child from religious observance, the child can opt back in.

The child cannot withdraw from religious observance independently of the parent.

Also, it is clearly stated, for the first time, that no one can withdraw from religious education.

While details are still to be worked out in respect of how the withdrawal from religious observance will be negotiated, this bill is, at least in part, the result of careful negotiation and listening by both the Church and the state.

While many try to operate a smoke and mirrors campaign, claiming on the one hand that secular government represents the equivalent of the anti-Christ, and, on the other, that we must keep religion in a box, real engagement and genuine listening between religious and secular authorities can and does bear fruit.

The Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 17 February.

The legislation updates the 1980 Education Act to align with modern children's rights standards.

Its key provisions include:

PUPIL INVOLVEMENT IN WITHDRAWAL

Schools must inform a child if their parent requests their withdrawal from religious activities.

If the child objects and has the capacity to form a view, the school must follow the child's wishes rather than the parents'.

SEPARATION OF RME AND RO

Amendments made during the parliamentary process separated Religious and Moral Education (RME) from Religious Observance (RO).

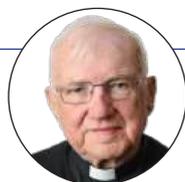
It is no longer possible to withdraw a child from RME, which is considered a core part of the curriculum.

PRESUMPTION OF CAPACITY

There is no minimum age for a child to express their views. They are presumed capable unless proven otherwise.

UNCRC COMPATIBILITY DUTY

The Act adds an exemption to the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024, which ensures public authorities are not acting unlawfully if they are legally compelled to act incompatibly with the UNCRC by another Act of the Scottish Parliament.



MONSIGNOR BASIL O'SULLIVAN

JUBILEE YEAR TO CELEBRATE THE 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ST FRANCIS

In light of Pope Leo XIV's Franciscan Jubilee Year, this reflection explains indulgences, Eucharistic adoration and redemptive suffering as paths of grace, purification and peace.

During this year we can gain a plenary or partial indulgence under the usual conditions - Confession and Holy Communion and by visiting a shrine/church to St Francis and praying there for the Pope's intentions.

A similar indulgence may be gained by the sick and housebound - unable to visit a Franciscan shrine or church, they may gain the indulgence by offering their sufferings to God and by praying for the Pope's intentions

What is an indulgence? The catechism says it is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins for which guilt has already been forgiven.

The Church is the minister of redemption and she dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.

An indulgence is either partial or plenary, depending on whether it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin.

Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead.

The Catechism goes on to explain that sin has a double consequence.

Grave (or mortal) sin deprives us of communion with God and therefore makes us incapable of eternal life: that is to say, eternal punishment.

On the other hand, every sin, even venial sin,

involves an unhealthy attachment to creatures that must be purified here on earth or after death in the state called Purgatory. This purification is called 'temporal punishment'.

These two punishments are not a kind of vengeance inflicted by God from without, but following from the very nature of sin itself.

While patiently bearing sufferings and trials of all kinds, and when the day comes, serenely facing death, the Christian must strive to accept this temporal punishment of sin as a grace.

The pious prayer 'I offer it up for my sins' is more than a pious ejaculation, but a real prayer that can have a beneficial influence on our lives.



St Francis



PAUL ALLAKER

LIVING THE GOSPEL MEANS MAKING MISSION POSSIBLE IN DAILY LIFE

When I was the chaplain at a boarding school, I used to help run the weekly sailing club.

One particularly windy afternoon, a strong gust caught me by surprise, and I ended up over the side.

I did, however, manage to keep hold of a line and was able to climb back aboard.

In my head, I imagined myself like Tom Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt, from the Mission Impossible films, looking cool as I conquered the wake and skilfully pulled myself back aboard.

I can guarantee that nobody else saw or thought that!

It is good to challenge ourselves to make sure there isn't a disconnect between our perception and reality.

This is particularly true when it comes to the spiritual life and just how deeply we are participating in mission.

I think it is quite easy, when we hear the word 'mission' to think that it is just something the Church does generally, or perhaps some people in the Church who have a special role.

This is the point when we

*Be humble,
be simple and
bring joy to
others*

ST MADELEINE
SOPHIE BARAT

need to challenge our perception to match the reality!

Every single one of us is called to share in Christ's mission by proclaiming the Gospel with our lives, which we are called to do at the end of every Mass.

We need to fully co-operate with the Holy Spirit, giving our *fiat*, our *yes*, to God every day so that others may know His love for them in every encounter with us, turning Mission Impossible into Mission Possible!

Three women in our Church's history give us a wonderful way of proclaiming the Gospel with our lives.

The first is St Mother Theresa, who said: 'God has not called me to be successful, he has called me to be faithful'.

Then we have St Thérèse of Lisieux: 'What matters in life is not great deeds, but great love'.

Finally, St Madeleine Sophie Barat said: 'Be humble, be simple and bring joy to others'.

These three wonderful saints show us the way to Mission Possible: faith, hope, love and joy, lived out daily and strengthened by the Sacraments.



St Thérèse of Lisieux.



St Madeleine Sophie Barat.



St Mother Teresa.

Children's Corner

Pull out these fun pages for your children to enjoy this Easter.

A	L	K	T	I	J	E	S	U	S	T	O	Q
U	I	B	O	H	Y	A	D	S	G	R	P	N
L	F	C	M	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S
B	E	J	B	C	X	T	Q	O	E	H	S	M
R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	F
A	Z	M	J	V	N	R	D	U	B	P	E	R
L	M	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S
V	K	J	N	W	I	Z	F	A	I	T	H	F
T	L	O	V	E	W	O	G	P	F	D	G	E
K	Y	Y	X	J	H	A	I	T	C	H	L	S

- EASTER
- LOVE
- HOPE
- JESUS
- DISCIPLES
- TOMB
- RESURRECTION
- LIFE
- FAITH
- JOY
- FORGIVENESS









DEACON JAMES MURPHIE

TAIZÉ: A SERVICE OF PRAYER, SONG AND CONTEMPLATION

Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offences and crimes of the world

POPE ST JOHN PAUL II

When I visit a Church while Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament are in progress, I am struck by the peaceful and serene environment that greets me.

That peace and serenity provide a haven from the business of life and worldly concerns. It's a place for spiritual growth through contemplation and prayer; a place to reflect on our relationship with God.

The purpose of Adoration is, as Pope St John Paul II wrote, to foster a deeper relationship with God and a time to express our love, gratitude and repentance to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

People who spend time in Adoration often report feelings of peace, clarity and a stronger connection to their faith.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament can be carried out on our own or perhaps with other persons present, but with each engaged in their own private prayer time; however, it can also be carried out as part of a communal Rite of Exposition and Benediction. Nevertheless, there should always be time for silent Adoration to allow sufficient time for reflection and contemplation.

Over the last few decades, I have been able to visit the Taizé Community in France and have been blessed by the experience of joining their Taizé prayers.

At each visit, I have been struck by the synergy between the Taizé form of prayer and our time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Taizé prayer also aims to foster spiritual growth, peace and a deeper connection with God by emphasising simplicity, unity and contemplation.

It is typically communal, fostering a sense of unity among participants, yet there is always time for individual silent personal prayer.

The key features are the repetitive chants that are mostly in Latin. The repetition of simple melodic phrases helps participants focus and enter into contemplation. Silence also plays a significant part with periods of silence incorporated into the prayer time, allowing individuals to reflect. Scriptural readings serve as a foundation for meditation and reflection. Finally, there is a strong visual element to the prayer time as the place of worship is usually enriched with candles and icons, creating a peaceful and contemplative atmosphere.

Over the last 15 or so years I have developed the practice of including the key features of Taizé prayer within the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. In other words, the rite is celebrated according to the usual form of Exposition, Adoration, Benediction and Reposition.

Taizé prayer is included within the period of Adoration with chants, a scripture reading, a psalm sung by a cantor and a Gospel reading.

There is also a significant period of silence, during which participants may write a petition or intercession on paper and place it in a basket before the Blessed Sacrament. These papers are burned immediately afterwards.

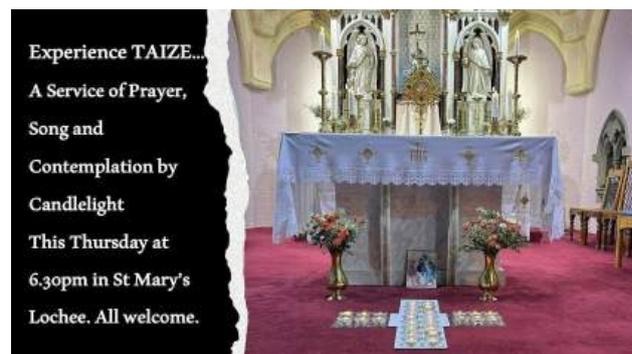
There is another basket containing biblical quotes from which participants may take one. Many people have said how apt the Word they have randomly chosen is in relation to whatever prayer intention they have made.

Our Taizé prayer within the Rite of Exposition and Benediction takes place on the First Thursday of each month at 6.30pm in St Mary's, Lochee, Dundee.

It lasts one hour and everyone is welcome.

Taizé music and prayer is especially popular with young people, so I would encourage young people to come along. I especially encourage anyone who plays a musical instrument or likes to sing choral music to please come along.

james.murphie@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
for more information.



Experience TAIZÉ...
A Service of Prayer,
Song and
Contemplation by
Candlelight
This Thursday at
6.30pm in St Mary's
Lochee. All welcome.

SOCIAL MEDIA

FRANCESCA FORBES



Francesca manages content across Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok and X, covering key events, pilgrimages and liturgical celebrations.

Since our last edition, the diocese has journeyed together through Advent, guided by thoughtful reflections from parish priests and Bishop Andrew.

Alongside this, we've shared news and updates from parishes across the diocese, celebrating the life, faith and activity of our local communities.

We've also continued to work closely with the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, sharing Catholic news and

messages across our platforms to ensure consistent and timely communication.

Now, as we continue our Lenten journey, parish priests continue to offer weekly reflections, accompanying us as we walk together towards Easter.

Follow along on our social platforms below.



tinyurl.com/dunkelddiocese



tiktok.com/@dioceseofdunkeld



instagram.com/dioceseofdunkeld/



x.com/DunkeldDiocese



Children in the days of social media. Photograph by Maxim Tolchinskiy.

Guiding children in a digital age

Recent revelations about Meta have confirmed what many have feared for years: major social media platforms are not simply tools for communication, but systems deliberately designed to foster dependence and maximise engagement.

These platforms can intensify anxiety, depression, body-image distortion, sleep disruption and emotional instability, especially among the young, who are particularly vulnerable to constant stimulation, comparison and reward.

Modern digital culture combines amusement, surveillance and manipulation in ways that weaken attention, resilience, reflection and genuine human encounter.

When the mind is trained to expect constant novelty, it becomes harder to cultivate patience, depth, self-discipline and real community.

The burden of responsibility cannot be placed on families alone, because corporations knowingly created and defended systems that prioritised profit and engagement over human dignity.

What is needed, therefore, is not regulation alone, important though that may be, but a deeper cultural and spiritual renewal.

Families, schools and faith communities all have a part to play in reclaiming silence, presence, virtue, discipline and embodied relationships, and in helping the young to recover a fuller sense of what it means to live a truly human and good life.

This is an abbreviated version of the article 'Scrolling ourselves to death', originally published by Fr Michael Freyne of St Bernadette's, Tullibody.

DUNDEE PREGNANCY AND PARENTHOOD SUPPORT

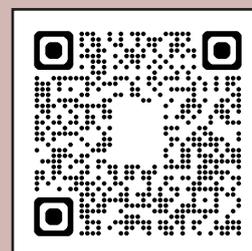
We urgently need cots and buggies.

Open Tuesday and Wednesday
9.30am to 12pm

Thank you for your kindness and support.

07453 784295
dundee1paps@gmail.com

St Columba's Presbytery
Beside St Columba's RC Church
Near Asda in Kirkton.

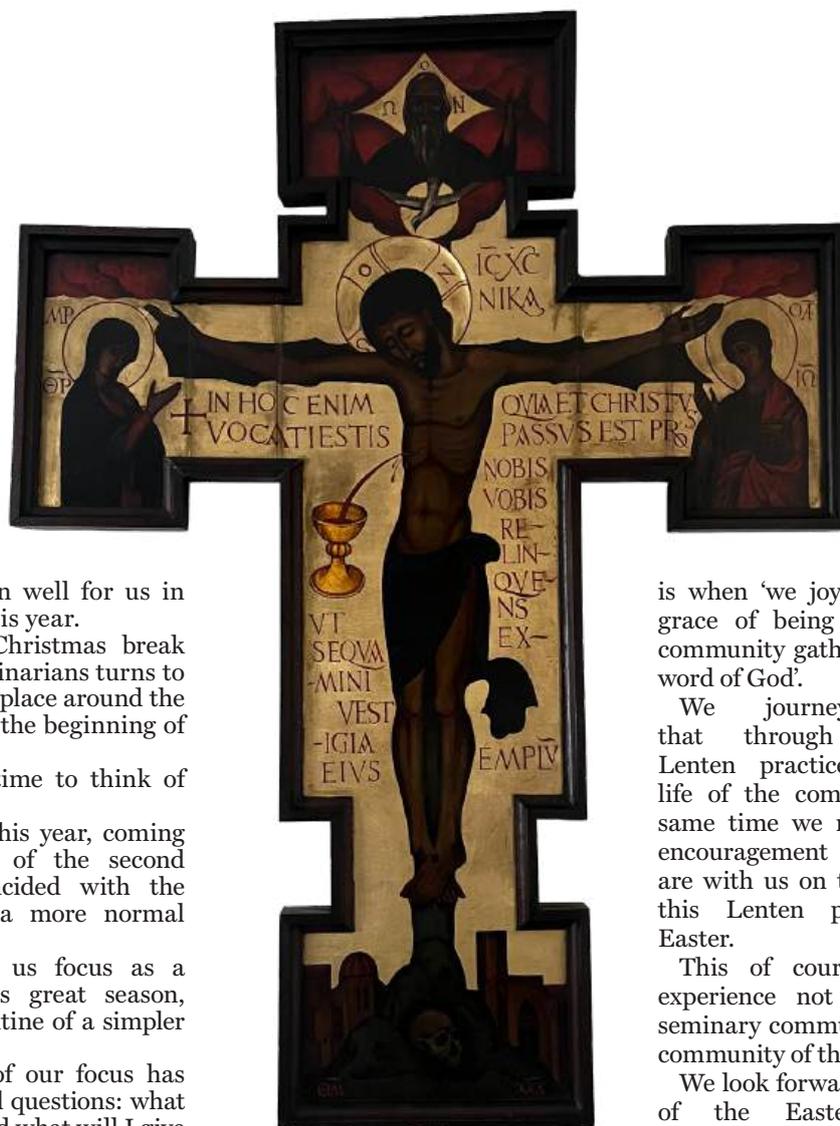




CANON MARK CASSIDY

LETTER FROM ROME

Lent in the seminary is a shared journey, where prayer, sacrifice and mutual support strengthen community life and prepare hearts for Easter.



Lent has fallen well for us in the College this year. After the Christmas break the focus of the seminarians turns to the exams that take place around the end of January and the beginning of February.

They have little time to think of anything else.

Ash Wednesday this year, coming in the first week of the second semester, has coincided with the house's return to a more normal rhythm of life.

This has helped us focus as a community on this great season, settling into the routine of a simpler way of life.

As always, part of our focus has centred on the usual questions: what will I do for Lent and what will I give up. This can lead to a very individual way of looking at the season.

In a seminary community we try to emphasise that while our individual commitment to prayer, fasting and almsgiving are a necessary part of our journey, they must also have an impact on the community.

Our individual commitments must build up the community rather than isolating us from it.

Pope Leo's homily for Ash Wednesday, which is available at vatican.va, reminds us that Lent

is when 'we joyfully rediscover the grace of being Church, namely a community gathered to listen to the word of God'.

We journey together so that through our individual Lenten practices we enrich the life of the community and at the same time we receive support and encouragement from all those who are with us on this Lenten journey, this Lenten pilgrimage towards Easter.

This of course should be our experience not only here in the seminary community but also in the community of the parish.

We look forward to the celebration of the Easter Triduum and Easter Day itself in the confident hope that God will have poured his mercy, his grace and blessing upon us during this holy season of Lent and that we will celebrate the Resurrection as a more united and more vibrant community of the Lord's disciples.

From academe to mission: my first 60 days

BY FR EMMANUEL YASIKKAM OBIDAH

Fr Emmanuel recounts his first weeks in Dundee, sharing a moving journey of priestly mission, cultural encounter, faith and hope

It all began with a phone call and the word 'yes'. The life of a priest is a series of 'yesses' to the unexpected.

For years, my ministry in the Diocese of Bauchi, Nigeria, was defined by resilience – defending the Gospel in a region often affected by persecution.

I completed studies and was preparing myself for another pastoral assignment in the diocese of Bauchi, but God's ways are not ours.

A few days after defending my doctoral thesis my Bishop, Most Rev. Hilary Nanman Dachelem, presented me with a new horizon: a mission to the Diocese of Dunkeld.

The transition began not with a flight, but with a conversation that opened a door to a new chapter of service.

After a rigorous visa process requiring immense patience, I travelled from the heat of Abuja to the brisk air of Edinburgh.

Upon arrival, the warm reception from Bishop Andrew reminded me that while geography changes, the brotherhood of the priesthood remains constant.

My first two months in Dundee

have been a whirlwind of firsts. Settling into St Ninian's, I encountered a sharp, damp cold that is entirely alien to the Nigerian savannah.

Celebrating my first Scottish Christmas, I noted the shift in liturgical rhythm. In Bauchi, worship is loud and vibrant: in Dundee I found a beautiful, reflective stillness – an intimate way to encounter the Divine.

A striking revelation was the religious harmony here.

Seeing St Joseph's Parish standing

in peaceful proximity to the Al Maktoum Mosque was profound.

Coming from northeast Nigeria, a region scarred by Boko Haram and inter-religious conflict, this sight was a testament to mutual respect.

It reminded me that mission is as

much about coexisting in love as it is about preaching.

As I move to St John Vianney Parish in the shadow of the Ochil Hills, I am no longer just keeping the faith I brought from Nigeria – I am sharing it.

The journey from Bauchi to Alva is simply a move from one room of the Father's house to another.

The call to mission is universal and we can learn from each other's experiences.

As I share my story, I hope it inspires others to embrace the journey of faith and community.



Fr Emmanuel.



Niel Deepnarain Bishop Andrew and Emmett Dooley. *Picture by Eddie Mahoney.*

Building a culture of life with conviction

On 21 February parishioners gathered for a day of reflection hosted by Bishop Andrew and our local Dundee SPUC branch that served as a reminder that building a culture of life begins with informed minds and prayerful hearts.

Emmet Dooley, SPUC Education Manager, highlighted the role of the pro-life family.

His mission is one of immense scale - last year he reached 8,000 pupils across 137 presentations, with an 84% approval rating from students grateful to hear the pro-life message.

Emmet's wife added a sobering perspective on the culture wars shifting from the US into our classrooms, noting our youth are increasingly hungry for the truth.

The focus then shifted to the legal landscape with Niel Deepnarain from Christian Concern, who spoke about the importance of keeping Christianity in the public square, sharing legal victories while issuing a clarion call regarding the 'culture of death' manifesting in efforts to decriminalise abortion and the assisted dying legislation.

Both speakers took the opportunity to highlight the need to move from reflection to action, while the Bishops Conference of Scotland have invited Catholics to contact their MSPs, MPs and Peers to voice their opposition to the recently rejected Assisted Dying Bill.



FATHER RONALD MCAINSH

LOCKED DOORS TO OPEN HEARTS: THE HOLY SPIRIT TURNS FEARFUL DISCIPLES INTO BOLD WITNESSES

This meditation traces the path from the Resurrection to Pentecost, showing how fear became courage and why everyone is called to witness

When the editor suggested I write something on the time from Easter to Pentecost, my first instinct was: 'I would like to write about one of the feasts after Pentecost, but I am a creature of obedience, and so, I share some reflections on this very special time of our liturgical year.

It all began at Easter.

You can imagine this group of men and women desolate after the death of Jesus and seeing him placed in the tomb.

And then he rises on Easter Sunday, and the first person to greet him is Mary Magdalene.

Initially she thinks he is the gardener, until he says her name and that very intimate moment when she throws herself at his feet.

Then he says: 'Now get up and go and tell the others'.

And of course, the others don't believe her. St Luke says: 'All this seemed to be pure nonsense, stories told by the women', but something went to the heart of Peter and he set out with John and reached the tomb and saw the cloths; and the Gospel says that at that moment they believed.

But it needed the first apostle, who was a woman, to bring the Good News to them.

After that, we have many appearances of Jesus: on the road to Emmaus, on the shore where he ate fish with the disciples, and on the mountain when he ascended to heaven.

During this time between Easter and Pentecost we have the feast of the Ascension when Jesus tells them that it is good for them that he goes away.

The disciples must have been utterly perplexed. How can this be good for us? He's here. He's risen. He is a miracle worker. But his response is clear, effectively saying: 'If I remain, you'll always be looking to me and not be looking at what all of you can do. But if I go, I will give you my Spirit and I promise that you will do even greater things than I have done'.

But of course they were devastated.

It's very clear in the Acts of the Apostles that they reverted to a mode of fear that so gripped them that they locked themselves away in a room and barred the doors and the windows and stayed with Our Lady.

With hindsight we know that on the ninth day the Holy Spirit came down and changed everything, but they had no idea of this. They didn't know if they would be in that room for a week, five weeks or five months.

And then that Pentecost day came.

Pentecost means 50 days after Easter, and we all know what happened. The Holy Spirit came down on Our Lady and the apostles in tongues of fire, and it so



changed them that they burst through the doors and ran into the streets and started proclaiming the Gospel to anyone who would hear it. And the amazing thing is that everyone did hear it!

It was a big Jewish feast and so there were people from all over the known world speaking so many languages; and yet they all understood what the apostles were saying.

And what they were saying is the essential Christian message we have been proclaiming for 2,000 years: 'Christ has

died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again'.

And they fleshed this out, so that people would understand. They told them that because of the death of Jesus all their sins could be forgiven. They told them that they could start a new life of happiness and joy, free of sin and fear.

I can imagine the riot of excitement and joy in these early days of the new Church.

We are told 3,000 people joined instantly, and that from there each of the disciples went to a different place to share this Good News with their hearts on fire.

It would cost each one their life, but the message was so powerful that they did not count the cost.

And who was in the room with them but Mary, the mother of Jesus who had stood at the foot of the cross and accompanied Jesus and his disciples throughout his life. She was present at the beginning of the infant Church, encouraging, praying and helping everyone, which is why Pope Paul VI conferred on her the title Mother of the Church.

The 50 days leading up to Pentecost are special. After the 40 days of Lent and the sadness and solemnity of Holy Week, it is a time to rejoice. But it is also a time to remember what the Church is all about.

The Church is essentially missionary, and by our baptism each one of us is on a mission. We may feel that we don't have the skills to communicate the Gospel, but let me assure you the Holy Spirit that was given to you at Baptism and poured further into your heart at Confirmation is with you.

Those first disciples had no theological skills, but they went out and shared their faith. In these days of Eastertide, the Ascension and Pentecost let us try to rekindle our missionary spirit - no matter what our age or physical or emotional condition.

The Spirit is greater than our hearts, and through us, God can do great things.

It might be just a word of encouragement, it might be a prayer for someone in need, it might be a visit to an old person. It might be accepting someone who seems to have failed in life.

But you can do it because God says you can do it. Take God at his word.

Happy Pentecost.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Monsignor Ken



Mgr Ken McCafferty, former parish priest at Ss Peter & Pauls, has announced his retirement. There will be a parish celebration at the end of April and a full report in the next issue of Dunkeld News.

Bonus Ball

St Columba Bonus Ball and SS Leonard and Fergus 100 Club have places for new members.

To join please see Kathie Hutton in St Columba's and Natalie McKaig in SS Leonard & Fergus.

Prayer Group

The St Mungo's prayer group now meets in the home of Maggie Bowie on Tuesdays from 2pm to 3.30pm.

If you would like to be part of the prayer group, please phone Maggie for more information on 01259 212022

Choral Concert

Continued thanks to all those who helped put on the Choral Concert by Candlelight, which raised £189 for the restoration of St Mary's, Lochee, and £189 for SCIAF.

Thanks also to the family of Lisa Simpson whose Funeral Collection raised £180 for the restoration.

Coffee and biscuits

Available after Sunday Mass at St Fergus, Forfar, and St Anthony, Kirriemuir.

Why not come along for a natter and meet up with other visitors, friends and other parishioners alike. There are no strangers here, only friends who have never yet met.

A rota list is available at both churches if you would like to assist in the provision of this facility.

Donations gratefully accepted.

Daniel Adams

Daniel is the cheif executive of Akshaya Patra, an Indian Charity the feeds 2.4 million hungry children every day and who worked with Mary's Meals for 12 years.

He will talk about the 'Revolution of Tenderness' after Mass at St Mary's, Lochee, on 26 April

Festival of Synodality

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland is organising a Festival of Synodality at Glasgow Caledonian University on Saturday 6 June.

Open to all, this national gathering will be a day of prayer, renewal and shared reflection, offering an opportunity to experience Conversation in the Spirit and to explore together how God is calling the Church forward.



The programme will include inspiring contributions from Bishop Alan McGuckian, Fr David McCallum and Sandra Chaoul, as well as offering the opportunity to meet others from parishes, schools, dioceses and faith organisations from across Scotland.

Lunch is included. Tickets cost £65 and are available from bit.ly/synodality26 or by scanning this QR code.



St Thomas RC Primary School



On the first Sunday of Lent, P4 and P7 pupils at St Thomas RC Primary School took part in the Rite of Enrolment for the Sacraments at St Thomas of Canterbury in Arbroath.

Pentecost Lectures

Prior Simon and the Community of Pluscarden Abbey have pleasure in announcing this year's Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures, which will take place from the afternoon of 26 May until the morning of 28 May.

Each year since 1994, they have invited a distinguished theologian to deliver a series of four lectures, to which all are welcome.

There is no charge for attending the lectures, which take place in St Scholastica's Guesthouse.

Tea and coffee are provided, as is lunch on the Wednesday.

There is limited accommodation in the Abbey guesthouses, so early booking is advised at pluscardenabbey.org.

St Mary's, Lochee

A Thanksgiving Mass will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 13 May in recognition of the 160th anniversary of the Solemn Dedication of the church and to offer thanksgiving for the completion of Phase 1 of St Mary's Restoration Project.

All those who have supported the restoration project are warmly welcome.

Health Walk

Parishioners of St Fergus, Forfar, and St Anthony, Kirriemuir, welcomed an opportunity to have a short walk and a chat as part of Murton Farm's Health walks, held every third Wednesday of the month.

If you come regularly or have never been before, please join us for a circular walk that takes less than an hour.

All abilities are catered for, it is totally free and includes a cuppa afterwards.

Foodbank

The monthly collection of non-perishable foods for the St John the Baptist, Perth, Foodbank takes place on the first Sunday of each month.

There will also be bacon rolls available after 11am Mass on that day, with a suggested donation £2.50 each, with all proceeds going towards food for the foodbank.

Care of Creation

Jim Hampton has been invited to become a member of the Bishops' Conference Care of Creation group, which looks at various issues under the banner of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*.



Jim's expertise and knowledge on energy matters, and the success of St Ninian's parish with Eco-Congregation Scotland's Gold Award, will prove invaluable to the group.

Quiz Night

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the St Andrew's Cathedral, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St Patrick and St Mary (Forebank) quiz night in St Patrick's Church Hall.

The final total raised was an amazing £1,362, which is a big step towards our target of £40,000 for the Celtic FC Foundation Recovery Café.

You can still sponsor John Quinn, who is raising funds for SCIAF. Sponsorship forms are available at each of the four churches in our cluster.

100 Club

St Anne's, Carnoustie, 100 Club, a fundraising venture that ensures funds are available to purchase the parish's needs, is looking for more members.

Membership costs only £26 a year and there are regular cash prizes.

Please see Maggie Smyth in the porch of the church and take a look at the beautiful urface in our hall, which was financed by the 100 Club funds.

Listening together

BY MONSIGNOR ALDO ANGELOSANTO

As we journey together, witnessing to the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Church and in the world, Pope Leo encouraged us all when we gathered in Rome last October for the Holy Year Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope for Diocesan Synodality Core Groups.

The Pope told us the Synodal teams are an image of this Church which lives in communion.

He went on to say: 'Dear friends, we must dream and build a more humble Church, a Church that is not triumphant and inflated with pride, but bends down to wash the feet of humanity, a Church which does not judge, but becomes a welcoming place for all, a Church that does not close in on itself, but remains attentive to God so that it can similarly listen to everyone'.

When Bishop Stephen Robson asked me to be the liaison priest with the General Secretariat of the Synod about five years ago, and a small core group was formed to coordinate the work of Synodality in the Diocese, I never dreamt where it would lead me.

Our first task was to help collate the results of the largest consultation in the Church.



Questionnaires were sent to parishes, meetings were held and the answers collated and discussed, then sent to the Bishops, who sent them to Rome, where a Continental Assembly was held in to help

create a Working Document for a Synod of Bishops, with lay people attending, and this Synod was in two parts.

Pope Francis certainly got us working.

Looking forward to the Synod in Rome, we held meetings in the Pastoral Centre, learned all about Conversations in the Spirit, visited parishes to share this with parishioners, trained facilitators to lead groups in prayer, and learnt more about "listening with the ears of the heart".

We are planning a Diocesan Synodal Event on 9 May, in St Mary's Hall, where our guest speaker will be the author Austen Ivereigh will be ready to take questions.

Many documents have come from this journey of Synodality. Two important ones are the Final Document of the Synod, to which Pope Francis gave his approval as now part of his Magisterium, and the Document on the Implementation of the Synod.

We are deep in that phase now and are setting our sights on re-imagining Pastoral Councils, following the path of Conversations in the Spirit.

With the gentle whisper of His Breath, the Holy Spirit is moving the Church to produce great fruits, not just for the Church but for the world.

MAKE YOUR DONATION GO FURTHER WITH GIFT AID

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Please contact your parish priest or Gift Aid organiser for more details about the Government's Gift Aid scheme.

At the heart of Alpha is the fundamental Gospel message – the *kerygma* – professed by all Christians. The Alpha course runs for 16 sessions over 11 weeks, including an Alpha Day during the middle of the course. At the heart of the Alpha programme is the culture of personal invitation, both in terms of inviting guests to take part and the opportunity to respond to the Gospel message.

A typical Alpha session begins with connection: time to build relationships over food, usually a shared meal.

Content: a different big question about the Christian faith is unpacked, shared as a video episode.

The Alpha talks are designed to communicate the core Gospel message in a relatable, engaging way.

Communication: a key element of each session is an open conversation in small groups about the week's topic.

Guests can freely share their thoughts, beliefs and questions — or just see what others made of it.

Alpha adheres to Catholic Church teaching and is often used as a pre-catechumenal tool to accompany seekers before formal preparation for the sacraments.

This particularly aligns to the Sacrament of Confirmation or the periods of

enquiry and mystagogy in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Alpha is a great way to start a leadership pipeline by empowering all people to lead out of their charisms.

There are multiple roles to support Alpha, from hosts and helpers to hospitality, administration and catering.

Many of the most successful Alphas are led by people who were formally guests.

This is also a great ministry to empower the laity, not adding another responsibility on the clergy, but rather owned by the whole community.

Details of upcoming Alpha courses in our diocese will be posted on the website and social media channels.

If your parish would like to run Alpha and would appreciate some help getting started, please contact paul.allaker@dunkelldioocese.org.uk.

Explore life, faith & meaning



alpha.org.uk

Try Alpha.

Alpha

IF YOU ARE A SURVIVOR OF ABUSE BY SOMEONE WITHIN THE CHURCH AND WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE, YOU CAN DO SO BY CONTACTING OUR DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISOR IN CONFIDENCE

OUR SAFEGUARDING ADVISOR IS LINDA GOURLAY

safeguardingadvisor@dunkelldioocese.org.uk
01382 225453 (Option 5)

The Catholic Church in Scotland has a mandatory reporting policy. This means all allegations of abuse are reported to the police. Although all allegations are reported, you will have the right to decide whether or not to engage with the police at this stage. If you wish to make a statement to the police, or if you decide you are unable to do so at the moment, the Safeguarding Advisor is still available to offer you support.

St. Mary's Care Home



At St Mary's Care Home, we are passionate about providing safe, personalised care that supports independence, choice, and inclusion for everyone who lives with us.

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Contact Us



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01382 533376



www.stmaryscarehome.co.uk

Answer Our Lady's invitation and join the diocese's annual pilgrimage

There are some invitations you don't ignore. When Our Blessed Mother called St Bernadette to the grotto in 1858, a simple yes changed the world.

Today, millions continue to respond to that call in the little town of Lourdes, at the foot of the Pyrenees - and this July you are invited to be part of that story.

A DIOCESAN FAMILY AT PRAYER

Bishop Andrew's first pilgrimage as our Bishop was a great success, and we are keen to make it an ever more truly Diocesan event - your presence would make it all the richer.

It would be wonderful to have representatives from each of our parishes as we gather at Our Blessed Mother's request this year.

Imagine our whole diocesan family praying together: united at the Grotto, united at the altar, united in hope.

WHY LOURDES?

The Sanctuary is a place of profound peace and powerful prayer.

The candlelit Rosary procession, the Blessed Sacrament procession, Mass at the Grotto, the healing baths, quiet moments by the River

Gave - Lourdes has a way of renewing faith and restoring perspective.

Catholic pilgrimage is never just travel: it is a journey of the heart.

We step away from routine and rediscover what matters most.

We pray not only for ourselves, but for our families, our parishes, and those who have asked for our prayers.

In Lourdes, heaven feels very close.

HOW YOU CAN TAKE PART

You can join us as a pilgrim and enjoy our full spiritual programme in the beautiful surroundings of the Sanctuary at the base of the Pyrenees; join us as an assisted pilgrim and participate fully in the pilgrimage with the aid of our army of helpers; join us as part of our medical team or as one of our wonderful yellow T-shirt helpers, offering practical service and joyful support to those who need it most.

There is a place for everyone - whether you come seeking prayer, healing, service, or simply a deeper encounter with Christ through His Mother.



Kimberley Black and Cathie Findlay at the Ball. *Picture by Donna Brown.*

Raising funds for Lourdes with a generous helping of joy and friendship

BY CIARA HUTTON

The fifth annual Dunkeld Lourdes Service (DLS) Fundraising Ball took place on 7 February and was a rousing success!

The ball helps subsidise DLS volunteers and allows them to support anyone in need with their pilgrimage to Lourdes.

The Ball has become a staple for the DLS family to catch up, celebrate the past year and raise money for the next pilgrimage to Lourdes.

This year it raised £4,300, almost one quarter of the money needed to support the pilgrimage.

During the meal, we were able to reflect on previous pilgrimages and meet future Yellow T-shirts.

During the ball attendees spoke about how DLS has impacted lives and how vital it is that the support continues.

The ball also highlights the hard work and commitment of DLS throughout the years.

Thanks must go to the wonderful effort made by the Ball Committee and also to all those who came along on the night.

We are grateful to everyone for supporting such a worthwhile cause.

Book at bit.ly/dunkeld-lourdes2026 or scan the QR code
15-22 July from Glasgow

✉ dunkeld@pobox.com ☎ 07801 227443



May they all be one

BY BETTY MADILL

THROUGHOUT MY 29 YEARS AS A BISHOP, I HAVE KNOWN THE FOCOLARE MOVEMENT AND HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THEIR PRAYERS AND FRIENDSHIP. MAY IT CONTINUE TO FLOURISH

BISHOP CHARLES J. HENDERSON

The Focolare Movement is an international movement dedicated to unity: unity with God, unity within the Church and unity among people of every nation, culture and state of life.

Its inspiration is found in Christ's prayer in John 17:20-21: May they all be one.

Rooted in prayer and daily life, it seeks to build a more fraternal world in which people recognise one another as brothers and sisters, as children of the one God.

This desire for unity lies at the heart of the movement's life and mission.

Focolare works among people of every nation, creed and background, encouraging all who seek a better world for their neighbours and who wish to recognise the good in others.

Believing that we are all God's children, it sees us as members of one worldwide family, called to care for one another.

The movement began when the young Silvia Lubich, later known as Chiara Lubich, believed she was called by the Holy Spirit to dedicate her life to God.

She chose not to marry, but instead to live wholly for Jesus, with a special love for Our Lady and a deep openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Through prayer, love of neighbour and a life of unity with others,

she began to form small house communities inspired by the Gospel.

These communities sought to live as the first apostles did, sharing everything in common: food, earnings and daily life, with Jesus in their midst.

From its humble beginnings in Trent, Italy, the movement gradually grew into a worldwide reality that is now present on every inhabited continent and continues to attract people who are drawn by its spirit of unity, simplicity and charity.

Although it began as a women's movement, it soon drew in people from many different walks of life, including lay people, priests, bishops and members of religious groups.

A Focolare house may be home to a group of women, usually five or more, or to a similar house for men.

These communities live lives of celibacy, dedicating themselves to God and to the service of others.

There are also married members of Focolare who live independently while following the same core principles and working alongside the small houses for the good of the wider community.

Many who belong to these communities are lay men and women who place their talents at the service of others.

Among them are doctors, electricians, musicians, nurses, priests and many others, some fully dedicated to the movement, others living its ideals



Chiara Lubich.

through their ordinary professions.

Many are employed outside the house and pool their earnings into a common fund, which is shared according to need.

The spirit of the movement is open and welcoming: anyone who loves God and seeks the good of others can find a place within it.

The movement is also ecumenical in outlook and works closely with Christians of other traditions, respecting each one's form of worship while seeking greater unity among all who love God and desire to live in harmony with their neighbours.

It is also committed to dialogue with people of other faiths, recognising that God loves every person and calls us to mutual understanding, respect and peace.

One expression of this wider spirit is the Mariapolis, an annual residential gathering held in different countries around the world.

At these gatherings, members and friends come together to experience and celebrate the unity of God's family.

There is also the opportunity to pray regularly with fellow Christians across the world.

Once a month, many gather on Zoom for Prayers for Unity, joining on the second Monday of the month.

Participants have included people from the United States, all parts of the United Kingdom, Ireland, Malta, Russia, Scandinavia and many parts of Europe, praying together for the needs of the world and for greater harmony among nations.

In Scotland, the movement has its lead house in Glasgow, with other small groups in places such as Falkirk, as well as groups that meet online each month.

Once a year, efforts are made to bring the Scottish community together for a gathering of prayer, friendship and renewal.

The Focolare Movement is held in high esteem within the Church.

Every Pope since Paul VI has recognised it as a force for good and as a genuine charism of the Holy Spirit.

Its witness to unity, prayer and fraternity has also won respect beyond the Church.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
THE FOCOLARE MOVEMENT
VISIT FOCOLARE.ORG.UK. YOU
CAN ALSO CONTACT BETTY AT
BLUE7BUTTERFLY54@GMAIL.COM
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND
OUT ABOUT FORMING A SMALL
HOUSE GROUP.



1943

Chiara Lubich consecrates her life to God in wartime Trent. The movement begins.

1944

Chiara and her first companions share a flat in Trent, the first focolare or 'hearth'.

1949-59

Summer gatherings in the Dolomites grow into the Mariapoli, a lived experience of unity and community.

1961

A meeting with Lutheran pastors in Darmstadt marks the start of Focolare's ecumenical dialogue.

1962

Pope John XXIII gives the first pontifical approval and recognises the movement as the Work of Mary.

1990

The Holy See approves the updated General Statutes.

1991

Chiara launches the Economy of Communion in Brazil, linking spirituality with social and economic life.

2004

Together for Europe in Stuttgart brings Focolare into collaboration with other Christian movements and communities.

2008

Chiara dies at Rocca di Papa.

Today

Focolare is present in 140 countries, with 23 little towns and 16 publishing houses worldwide.

BISHOP OF DUNKELD

Right Rev. Andrew McKenzie
bishops-secretary@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

VICAR GENERAL

Very Rev. Kevin J. Canon Golden
kevin.golden@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

VICARS EPISCOPAL

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Very Rev. Kevin J. Canon Golden
kevin.golden@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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Very Rev. Andrew Clark
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Very Rev. Louis Uwaezuoke
louis.uwaezuoke@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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Very Rev. Dr Thomas Canon Shields
thomas.shields@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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Youth

Very Rev. Michael Ngobili
michael.ngobili@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Vocations Director

Very Rev. Jim Walls
james.walls@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

PARISH DIRECTORY AND TIMES OF MASSES

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, BROUGHTY FERRY:

Canon Kevin Golden
standrew@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5.30pm (Sat), 9.45am
Weekday: Mon-Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil 6pm (previous evening), 9am

OUR LADY OF LOURDES, PERTH:

Father Leszek Wiececzek
ourladyoflourdes@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 10am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

OUR LADY OF MERCY, ABERFELDY:

Canon Steven Mulholland
stbridespitlochry@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR, AUCHTERARDER:

Monsignor Basil O'Sullivan
chancellor@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 10am
Weekday: Wed 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil 6pm

OUR LADY OF SORROWS, DUNDEE:

Father Gregory Murphy
ourladyofsorrows@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Mon, Wed 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA, TAYPORT:

Monsignor Patrick McInally
stcolumbacupar@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat)
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

SS LEONARD AND ST FERGUS', DUNDEE:

Father Alex Obiorah
stleonardstfergus@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 6pm (Sat), 10am
Weekday: Mon, Wed 6.30pm, Fri 9.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil 6pm (previous evening), As announced

SS PETER AND PAUL, DUNDEE:

Monsignor Ken McCaffrey
stpeterandstpaul@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 6pm (Sat), 10am
Weekday: 9.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil 7pm, 9.30am

ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL, DUNDEE:

Canon Kevin Golden
standrew@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11am, 6pm
Weekday: 1pm (daily except Sat); 10am (Sat)
Holy Day of Obligation: 1pm, 7pm

ST ANNE'S, CARNOUSTIE:

Monsignor Aldo Angelosanto
stbridesmonifieth@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: Tues, Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 11am

ST ANTHONY'S, KIRRIEMUIR:

Father Dijo Thomas
stfergusandanthony@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.15am
Weekday: Tue, Fri 9.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: 6pm

ST BERNADETTE'S, TULLIBODY:

Father Michael Freyne
stbernadette@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5.30pm (Sat), 8.30am, 11.30am
Weekday: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Sat 9.30am, Frid 7pm
Holy Day of Obligation: 9.30am, 7pm

ST BRIDE'S, MONIFIETH:

Monsignor Aldo Angelosanto
stbridesmonifieth@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 11.30am
Weekday: Mon, Thurs 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 9.30am, 7pm

ST BRIDES'S, PITLOCHRY:

Canon Steven Mulholland
stbridespitlochry@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST CLEMENT'S, DUNDEE:

Father James Walls
stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: Wed 9.30am; rest of the week 10am (at Immaculate Conception, Dundee)
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST COLUMBA'S, CUPAR:

Monsignor Patrick McInally
stcolumbacupar@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 6.30pm (Sat), 11.15am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: 7pm

ST COLUMBA'S, DUNDEE:

Father Alexander Obiorah
stcolumba@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Tue, Thu 8.30am, Sat 9am
Holy Day of Obligation: 9am

ST COLUMBA'S, DUNKELD:

Canon Steven Mulholland
stbridespitlochry@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 6pm (Sat)
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST FERGUS', FORFAR:

Father Dijo Thomas
stfergusandanthony@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 6pm (Sat), 11.15am
Weekday: Wed, Thu 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil (previous evening) 6pm

ST FILLAN'S AND ST ALPHONSUS, DOUNE:

Father Emmanuel Adindu
stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.45am
Weekday: Wed, Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 6pm

ST FILLAN'S, CRIEFF:

Father Tobias Okoro
stfillancrieff@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5.30pm (Sat), 11am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: 9.30am, 7pm

ST FILLAN'S, NEWPORT-ON-TAY:

Monsignor Patrick McInally
stcolumbacupar@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 10.15am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST JAMES', KINROSS:

Father Martin Pletts
 stjames@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 10am
Weekday: Mon, Wed, Fri 10am, Tue 6.15pm, Thu 6.45pm
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PERTH:

Father Louis Uwaezuoke
 stjohndunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Anticipated 4pm (Sat), 9am, 11am, 6.30pm
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST JOHN VIANNEY, ALVA:

Father Andrew Marshall
 stjohnvianney@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am, 6.15pm
Weekday: TBC
Holy Day of Obligation: 9.30am, 6.15pm

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER, CALLANDER:

Father Emmanuel Adindu,
 stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Tue, Thu 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 10am

ST JOSEPH'S, DUNDEE:

Father Michael Ngobili
 stjosephdundee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11am
Weekday: Wed 6pm, Thu, Sat 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: Morning as announced, evening 6pm

ST LUAN'S, ALYTH:

Father Gregory Umunna
 ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: Wed 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST MARGARET'S, COMRIE:

Father Tobias Okoro
 stfillancrieff@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: 6pm

ST MARGARET'S, MONTROSE:

Father James High
 stmargaret@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Mon, Fri, Sat 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST MARY MAGDALENE'S, PERTH:

Father Leszek Wiececzek
 stmarymagdalen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 10am, 12.30pm (Polish)
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST MARY, OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, DUNDEE:

Canon Kevin Golden
 standrew@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Mon-Fri 11.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: 11am

ST MARY'S MONASTERY, PERTH:

Sunday: 10am
Weekday: Mon-Sat 12.15pm
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST MARY'S, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, DUNDEE:

Father James Walls
 stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 4.30pm (Sat), 11am
Weekday: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat 10am (Wed 10am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion)
Holy Day of Obligation: 10am, Vigil (as announced)

ST MATTHEW'S, AUCHTERMUCHTY:

Monsignor Patrick McInally
 stcolumbacupar@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST MUNGO'S, ALLOA:

Father Michael Carrie
 stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 6pm (Sat), 9.30am
Weekday: Tue, Thu, Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil (previous evening) 7pm, 10am

ST NINIAN'S, BRECHIN:

Father James High
 stmargaret@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 10am
Weekday: Tue, Thur 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 6.30pm

ST NINIAN'S, DUNDEE:

Father Michael Ngobili
 stniniandunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 9.30am
Weekday: Tue 6pm, Wed, Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST PATRICK'S, DUNDEE:

Canon Kevin Golden
 standrew@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 9.30am
Weekday: Mon, Thu 9.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST PIUS X, DUNDEE:

Father Gregory Murphy
 stpiusx@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 10am
Weekday: Tue, Fri 9.30am
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST SERF'S, HIGH VALLEYFIELD:

Father Michael Carrie
 stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 11.30am
Weekday: Wed 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 2pm

ST STEPHEN'S, BLAIRGOWRIE:

Father Gregory Umunna
 ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: 5.30pm, 11am
Weekday: Tue, Fri 10am, Wed 7pm
Holy Day of Obligation: As announced

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, ARBROATH:

Canon Tom Shields
 stthomas@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 10.45am
Weekday: As announced
Holy Day of Obligation: 10am and 7pm, (School Mass as announced)

THE HOLY FAMILY, DUNBLANE:

Father Charles Chukwa
 holyfamily@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Sunday: Vigil 5pm (Sat), 11am
Weekday: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 10am
Holy Day of Obligation: 10am, 3pm, 7pm

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Faith, fun and fellowship



Paul Allaker, Fr Greg Murphy and Fr Michael Ngobili with some DYA members at the special pancake party.



The year began in style with a Burns Supper.

The Dunkeld Youth Association (DYA) continues to hold monthly events for people from 18-35, beginning the year in style with a Burns Supper in the hall at St Andrews Cathedral, Dundee, complete with an Address to the Haggis by John Quinn.

The event was attended by around 30 people and was a fun and celebratory evening.

The DYA also marked the beginning of Lent with a pancake party, at which the young people enjoyed a talk

entitled *How Love And Joy Are The Hallmarks Of Our Faith* by the diocese's communications and evangelisation officer, Paul Allaker, before enjoying a selection of pancakes and toppings.

Special thanks go to DYA coordinator Aimee for arranging these events, to Youth Director Fr Michael Ngobili for continuing to guide the youth efforts and to all those who lent their support.

All DYA events, announcements and information can be found at linktr.ee/dunkeldyouth

Opening the word at St Paul's

Hannah Crowe, RE teacher at St Paul's, said: 'I have always been passionate and fascinated with biblical scripture.

'Winning the Best Bible award many times at my local Girls Brigade, I struggled with dyslexia growing up, yet even with the complex literature of the scripture, the text always spoke to me.

'This is why I decided to create a bible study group open to both staff and learners.

'With the Bible being a living text, I encourage all to share their views even if it appears to contradict the comments of another, as God will reveal to each of us what we need to hear from Him.

'The group is growing strong with around 12-14 regular attendees, with two of our Caritas pupils Joel Christie and Maja Grzejdak, helping run the group'.

Lyndsey Reilly, principal teacher of RE said: 'It has been fantastic to have Miss Crowe join our RE department and start the bible study group.

'We have grown our chaplaincy this year and it now includes the bible study group, a rosary group and morning mass alongside the Caritas award.

'We are planning to start a Catholic social teaching group for pupils next year and are looking forward to growing our chaplaincy further'.



Hannah and Maja Grzejdak. Photograph by Lyndsey Reilly.