

Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity No SC001810
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Served by the Little Flower Congregation (CST Fathers)
Fr John Mundackal CST, Fr Jacob Edakalathur CST, Fr Rogi Narithookil CST

4th Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday) - Year B - 3 May 2009
World Day of Prayer for Vocations



Sunday Mass at 11 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday at 9 a.m.

Saturday at 10 a.m.

Morning Prayer

Monday to Friday at 8.45 a.m.

Saturday at 9.45 a.m.

Confession

Before Sunday Mass; on request

Exposition

Tuesday from after Mass until 10.30 a.m.

Please remember in your prayers all those in our parish community who are sick especially: Jean McLaughlin, Charles McLaughlin, Donna Small, Joe Kingdom, Norman Fyffe, Fr. David Ward, Margaret Reid, Sunil Joseph (Fr. John's nephew), Cathie Cochrane, Gertrude Dignan, Ina Carlin, Aileen Low, Neil Cord, Helen Donachie, Terry Reynolds, Elizabeth Gibson, Betty Inglis, Aileen Low, Michael Bruce, Billy Fyffe, George Ferguson *Our Lady of Lourdes pray for them.*

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who recently entered eternal life: May they be raised to new and everlasting life in Christ.

Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frank Dignan, Annie Duffy, Canon Romeo Coia, Father Daniel Gallagher.

Last Weeks Offerings: £378.25 - Many thanks for your generosity!

Welcome

Today we welcome our young people who are to receive the Sacraments of Initiation this year, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. This morning during Mass they will sign their names in the Book of Enrollment. Please keep them and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks.

Sunday Soundbite

One of my seminary classmates has always reacted when the story of the Good Shepherd was read. “I don’t like being compared to sheep!” he said. “They’re dumb, and smelly, too!”

I grew up in the city, so my experience with sheep is limited. But I do know that shepherding was an important part of the life for the people of Biblical times. It’s the relationship between shepherd and sheep that makes Jesus’ comparison work.

The shepherds of Jesus’ time herded their flocks through wilderness, ready to defend them from attack by wild animals. In a crowded sheepfold at night, shepherds of several flocks herded together could identify their own sheep—and vice versa! Jesus’ listeners would have understood the economic interdependence of shepherd and sheep—a truly good shepherd would value each and every individual in his flock.

The relationship Jesus offers us is one characterized by the dignity and worth he sees in each of us. He knows each of us by name, with an intimacy he shares with us from the Father, whom Jesus knows with the intimacy of a Divine Son. And the bottom line: Jesus gives his life for us, his flock.

My classmate and I still chuckle about his reaction to being “herded together” in this biblical image. But we both agree: We want to be counted among the Lord’s flock!

Vocations Mass: The Sisters at Wellburn invite to join them for the monthly vocations Mass on Tuesday 5 May in the Convent Chapel at 7.15 p.m. The celebrant will be Father Czeslaw (Joe) Kolasa, SAC, one of the Pallotines based at St. Francis’.

THINK VOCATIONS: On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for holy vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, especially for our diocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. If you are considering such a vocation, call our diocesan Vocations Director - Father Jim Walls on 534557 or visit www.priestforscotland.org.uk

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O almighty and eternal God who did send Thy Divine Son into this world to give His life for the souls of men, we beg thee send more labourers to the harvest. Grant us the priceless blessing of good Catholic homes; homes which shall be sanctuaries of prayer, fortresses against evil and nurseries of vocations. May the parents of such homes long and pray for the high honour of offering one or more of their children to Thy service and wherever Thy call comes, may it find a ready and generous response in the hearts of the children of such homes. That like the first disciples, they may gladly leave all things to follow Thy Divine Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with Thee forever. Amen.

WELLBURN APPEAL: The good sisters at Wellburn are currently raising funds for a new minibus. This will allow them to take the residents on day trips among other things. The cost of the new minibus is £40,000, and the sisters have raised a fair amount so far. At the recent Parish Council meeting it was agreed that there would be a retiring collection next Sunday to help the sisters in their fundraising.

KEY AMNESTY: So we can get an accurate picture of who has keys and what keys they have, there is to be a key amnesty. If you are in possession of a key for either the church or hall, please fill in the sheet in the sacristy. Thank-you

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 13 May: First Confession at 2 p.m.

Tuesday 26 May: Celebration of Confirmation at 7 p.m.

Sunday 7 June: Celebration of First Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

Sunday 14 June: Diocesan Celebration in honour of Feast of Corpus Christi.

YEAR FOR PRIESTS: His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, has announced that the Church will celebrate a Year for Priests beginning on the Feast of the Sacred Heart, 19 June and ending on 19 June 2010. At the end of the Year for Priests, the Holy Father will proclaim St. John Vianney, as patron saint of all priests. In our diocese Bishop Vincent will mark the beginning of the Year for Priests with the celebration of Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Friday 19 June at 7 p.m., in St. Andrew's Cathedral. He invites everyone to attend and pray for their priests.

A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

Lord Jesus, you have chosen your priests from among us and sent them out to proclaim your word and to act in your name. For so great a gift to your Church, we give you praise and thanksgiving.

We ask you to fill them with the fire of your love, that their ministry may reveal your presence in the Church. Since they are earthen vessels, we pray that your power shine out through their weakness. In their afflictions let them never be crushed; in their doubts never despair; in temptation never be destroyed; in persecution never abandoned.

Inspire them through prayer to live each day the mystery of your dying and rising. In times of weakness send them your Spirit, and help them to praise your heavenly Father and pray for poor sinners. By the same Holy Spirit put your words on their lips and your love in their hearts, to bring good news to the poor and healing to the broken-hearted.

And may the gift of Mary your mother, to the disciple whom you loved, be your gift to every priest. Grant that she who formed you in her human image, may form them in your divine image, by the power of your Spirit, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY

Pope Benedict's general prayer intention is: "That the laity and the Christian communities may be responsible promoters of priestly and religious vocations".

His mission intention is: "That the recently founded Catholic Churches, grateful to the Lord for the gift of faith, may be ready to share in the universal mission of the Church, offering their availability to preach the Gospel throughout the world".