

DUNKELD NEWS

Diocesan Newsletter of the Bishop of Dunkeld

February 2015

TIME TO MAKE AN HONEST AND FAITH-FILLED RESPONSE

Let your voice be heard at the Synod on Family Life

As you know Pope Francis has asked the world's Bishops to think and pray about the Church's support for, and care of, couples preparing for marriage, couples who are already married in the Church and couples whose marriages have sadly gone awry.

Catholic marriage and the family that results is a beautiful sacramental sign of the bountiful and creative love of God present in our world. The Holy Father has also asked us to think, pray through and discern our support and care for those in marriages who are suffering from violence or breakdown, lack of reconciliation and the many other factors that can throw married and family life into jeopardy.

You might remember how last October, before the Extraordinary Synod, Pope Francis asked lay people, priests, couples, families, Bishops and in fact the whole church to ponder and reflect on some weighty questions affecting the family.

Now for the 2015 Ordinary Synod this October he has asked us to do a similar exercise. Though the timescale is very tight, the Holy Father has asked Bishops Conferences to consult as widely as possible parishes, families, priests, individuals, lay persons and bishops to give their responses as honestly, and in as faith-filled manner as possible, to a series of new questions constructed in the light of the Last Synod.

Unfortunately Roman Documents are not always easy to read, nor do they ask the kind of questions that are easily understood by many of us. But it is important that you all, if possible, read the so-called Relatio which is the fruit of the last year's Synod and then look at, and consider, the questions which arise from that Relatio.



This can be done in various ways: in parish groups with the Parish Priest; individually, as a family response, or as couples who are married as a 'couples' response, also by priests and Bishops! We are all INVITED to respond.

I have asked Mr Andrew Mitchell, our webmaster, to put two documents online, together with a method of responding to them through our website:

www.dunkelldiocese.org.uk

- **RELATIO** is for reading and study to inform our thoughts.
- **40 questions** is the full text of the Vatican's questions.
- **Responding electronically** through our website is a much simpler exercise, with clear instructions on how to make your response. The questions in this latter document are fewer and more straightforward and will take less time to answer.

There is also the possibility of replying to me by hand/post by sending your responses to the questions to: Bishop Stephen Robson, Diocesan Offices, 24-28 Lawside Road, DUNDEE, DD3 6XY.

It is imperative that all responses reach me by 22nd February if they are to be submitted and incorporated into a diocesan response to be made by 28th February 2015.

I know that this timescale is ALMOST impossibly tight. However the Bishops themselves only received the documents from the Vatican at the Bishops Conference in Salamanca last week. I am sorry for this but if we are to make responses as the Holy Father has requested we will need to get off the mark.

+ Stephen Robson

+ Bishop Stephen,
Bishop of Dunkeld

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: News, views and coming events from around the diocese

Uncovering the truth beyond the statistics

A quick glance at the 'religion' section of the UK's most recent census, 2012, makes interesting reading. It would appear that for years we have been underestimating our Catholic population in Scotland.

Our Catholic community has of course been enlarged by immigration over the years, we knew that. What we didn't know was that in an age of declining membership – so we thought – the numbers of Catholics had been rising steadily. How are we to understand this?

The experience of most of us is that Mass attendance seems to be declining. Perhaps recently they have bottomed out but the numbers of those going to Mass doesn't seem to be increasing to any great extent.

Of course, depending on our criteria for membership of the church: through baptism, Mass attendance, Christmas and Easter Mass attendance, attendance at weddings and funerals, etc., we could get wide ranging estimates.

For the past number of years we've been constantly scaling down our numbers to match what we see in the pews.

But this leads us to a massive deception. Because the 2012 Census figures give us the real number of those who still regard themselves as Catholics in spite of not going to Mass. In other words the numbers of those going to Mass is an indicator to the numbers of Catholics we are reaching and touching with the Gospel, but nothing more than an indicator. Because those who regard themselves as Catholics are far more in number than we realised.

This reality is both good news and scary at the same time.

There for all to see in the Census figures are the following numbers:

	<i>Numbers of Catholics</i>
City of Dundee	26,991
Angus	7,765
Perth and Kinross	13,041
Clackmannanshire	4,814
Fife	7,600
Stirling	4,600
TOTAL Catholics	64,811
<i>(The actual number of Catholics in Dunkeld Diocese)</i>	

And this trend repeats itself right across Scotland: number of self-declared Catholics in Scotland (2012)= 841,053

While it is true that the figures for Fife and Stirling areas are estimated proportionally, because the diocese does not have the whole of Fife and only a small part of the Stirling area, the trend is clear.

The scary side of this discovery is not so good and ought to be a wake-up call to us. The 2013 Catholic Directory for Scotland, the year corresponding to the Census figures showed an estimated Catholic Population as 30,000. That same year the official Mass attendance figure for the Diocese was 8,964. The baptismal and marriage statistics were very low with Baptisms at 271 and Marriages at only 77.

While it is possible that these figures are not totally accurate, they won't be widely out. Various conclusions therefore flow from these figures.

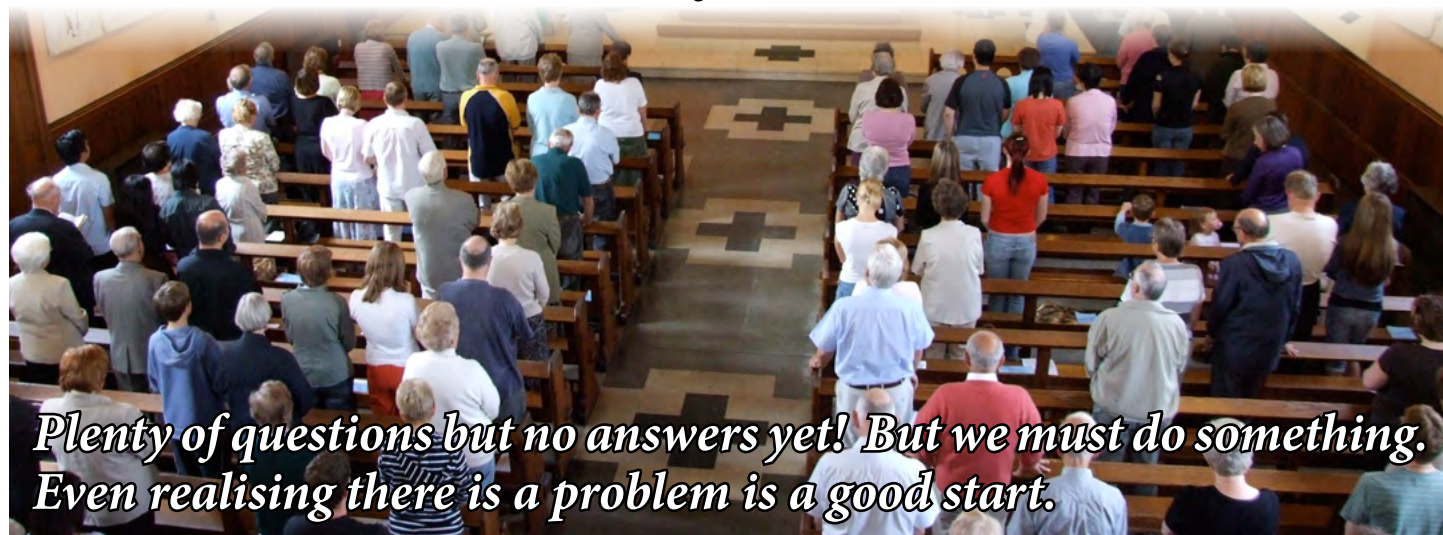
1. Those Catholics who are still regarding themselves as Members of the Church are far more numerous than we have been estimating (almost 100% more).

2. The Mass attendance, even allowing for errors, shows that our Mass-going population is only about one seventh (about 14.5%) of the total. Our diocese is therefore severely lapsed from practice of the Faith and yet these people still regard themselves as Catholics. And so should we. Frequency of Mass attendance is not the only criterion of Membership of the Church. This is highly significant.

3. The Marriage figures speak for themselves; most couples do not appear to be getting married in the Church.

4. Our schools which are still widely supported by our people may be our only remaining direct link with these families.

5. This realisation is one that ought to spur us on to use any means of re-evangelisation. We must try anything that will re-connect us with our people. Our people are still there and we can't abandon them just because they aren't going to Mass! How can we welcome them back? Why is there such a fall-off in practice of the Faith? How can we re-connect and welcome and re-integrate those of our people who still regard themselves as Catholics but who don't feel they can stand visibly with us?



Our hopes are high for Wellburn's future

As you know the Little Sisters of the Poor are to leave Wellburn in Dundee after almost 152 years. It has been a very painful decision for them and it was exceedingly painful news for us and for some of our priests who are in care there. After all, the estate at Wellburn has been in Catholic hands since the 1840s and the Little Sisters have been in situ since 1863.

Since the future of the Home became unclear a number of families have decided to move their loved ones to other care facilities and a couple of staff have left.

Bishop Stephen says, "Contrary to rumours to the contrary, we are actively seeking funding to be able to purchase Wellburn for the diocese, to keep the home in Church hands and hopefully to develop the site with a new Wellburn Nursing Home."

"To this end I have also approached one of the New Religious Orders whose mem-

Continuing the great traditions of St Jeanne Jugan



bers specialise in care for the elderly to replace the Little Sisters of the Poor and continue the Traditions of St Jeanne Jugan. This hope is at an advance stage of realisation."

"By the end of February I would hope to be able to announce that the diocese would be in a position to purchase. Obviously we would also be seeking to form a professional funding group to raise

money for St Joseph's, Wellburn that would keep it sustained over the years."

"Please keep these intentions in your prayers during the month of February. What a great advert this would be to the people of the diocese - and wider - of the Church's concern and love for the elderly which Pope Francis recently called the 'treasure house of our collective memory' and, I would add 'wisdom.'"

Bridging the gap passing on the faith to our children

On Saturday, 17th January, we had a visit from Mr Phil Butcher from the Catholic Grandparents Association. The Association is big in Ireland, England and the USA. It recognises the wonderful part Catholic grandparents nowadays play in the continuing faith formation of their grandchildren (and even children). About forty people from the diocese came to hear Phil and to experience something of the fundamental ideas that underpin the Association.

It is to be hoped that those who attended the conference will have the help from their parishes to start an association in their own communities. With so many families experiencing a missing generation in the trans-

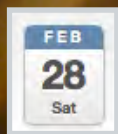
mission of the faith grandparents are so well placed to bridge the gap and keep the faith-chain alive and strong. This seems to me to be a real ministry that grandparents can do. Grandparents have an access and a privileged place in the lives of their grandchildren. They can be a quiet supporting presence to parents and grandchildren in passing on the faith and our Catholic Tradition in a simple way.

There will be much more about this later as groups start to form. Ron and Helen Wylie have already had great experience of the CGA and will be coordinating our activities in the diocese with a constant support of the CGA.



Surprisingly the greater number of participants had come from the far-flung parts of the diocese. There were few from the City of Dundee. Bishop Stephen would like to thank those who came from Dunblane, Alloa, Crieff and Montrose especially for making the effort.





An Afternoon for Life

An Afternoon for Life is an important initiative in the diocese.

This Event will take the form of a Study Afternoon on Saturday, 28th February from 12 noon to 4pm. to help inform us on current debates in Embryology, Euthanasia and Abortion. This year promises to be another difficult one for Catholic Faith and Morals.

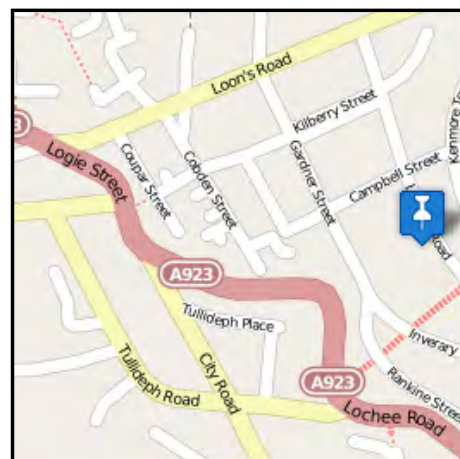
Last year we saw the passing and implementation of the same-sex marriage legislation. This year there is the great threat to the elderly and vulnerable with the Assisted Suicide legislation surfacing again in England and in Scotland. There was also the recent ruling in the Supreme Court against the Glasgow Midwives and their right in conscience not to be involved directly or indirectly in abortions.

The Meeting will take place in the St Ninian Pastoral Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee DD3 6XY

The programme for the day will be as follows:

12noon	Light lunch (provided)
12.45pm	Introduction
1pm	Calum McKellar Scottish Council on Human Bioethics - Embryology
1.45pm	John Deighan Scottish Parliamentary Office - Euthanasia
2.30pm	Coffee
2.45pm	Sr Roseann Reddy Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative - Abortion
3.30pm	Panel and Questions

To register please email: mcgraw.clare@gmail.com or turn up on the day.



DIRECTIONS:

If you are travelling from the north/ east or west of Dundee, the St Ninian Institute is best approached from the Lochee/Logie Road (A923) – the main Dundee/ Coupar Angus Road which intersects with the Kingsway (A90) at the Camperdown Junction. Driving towards the city centre, turn off left at Loons Road and then Lawside Road is the 4th street on your right.

From the south, after you have crossed the Tay Road Bridge, follow the A923 Coupar Angus road until you reach Loons Road (a sharp right turn), Lawside Road is the 5th opening on your right.

Currently most SatNavs will direct you to the locked entrance at the front of the St Ninian Institute in Gardiner Street. If you arrive there you should follow the boundary wall in an anticlockwise direction along Inverary Terrace, turning sharp left up Lawside Road.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES (SPRED)

Most of us have within our parishes people with learning difficulties. These can be of all ages. They are often well integrated and much loved in our communities but sometimes they feel excluded from what is going on faith-wise in the parishes because they have special needs (physical, emotional and psychological, educational).

Bishop Stephen reports, "About 20 years ago I came across SPRED (Special Religious Education for people with learning difficulties). I was greatly impressed with its simply methodology. It works. It often does as much, if not more, for the catechist or 'friend' as it does for the person with learning difficulties."

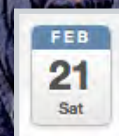
"With Sister Cecilia O'Dowd DC, Bishop Stephen started up SPRED in the Diocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh. It is now also in Glasgow and Paisley and Mother-

well and Galloway as well. It has been immensely successful. Priests and people please consider coming along to learn about it."

The new SPRED Director for Edinburgh is Mrs Emma Robertson. She and her husband, Stuart, have fostered children with learning difficulties and Emma and Stuart have both known many young people and children who need help to understand the Faith at their own level.

Emma will be coming to the St Ninian Pastoral Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee, on Saturday 21st February from 11-3pm.

Please come along and find out what it is all about and perhaps think about a couple of parishes becoming pilot schemes to take SPRED on as a way of transmitting the Faith to young and not so young people with learning difficulties.



Celebrating the Extraordinary Form of the Mass

Shortly after Bishop Stephen came to the Diocese last year he was asked to consider permitting and promoting the celebrating the Extraordinary Form of the Mass in the Diocese (the so called 'Vetus Ordo' or the 'Old Mass').

Extraordinary Form of the Mass has never been abrogated (forbidden) though it was largely disused or restricted in the Church since the New Liturgy in English was introduced, the so-called Novus Ordo. Pope Benedict XVI in his Motu proprio containing new norms called 'Summorum Pontificum' liberated the old Mass from its old restrictions and since 2007 any priest in good standing, and with sufficient knowledge, can celebrate it.

The first thing Bishop Stephen had to find out when he was approached was the number of people who would be seeking to have such a celebration. There appears to be a stable group of about 60 people in the diocese which would give sufficient reason to promote the celebration of an Old Rite Mass. But this would need to be sustainable and stable. It must also be able to sustain itself financially and be well enough supported in sufficient numbers.

Accordingly Bishop Stephen has decided to plan a celebration of the Extraordinary Form of the Mass in Lawside St Joseph's Convent Chapel on Sunday, March 15th 2015 at 4pm (4th Sunday of Lent). This will take the form of a Sung Mass in the Old Rite according to the Missal of Saint John XXIII (1962).



The Mass will be celebrated by Father John Emerson FSSP of the Society of Saint Peter, one of the Traditional Congregations in the Church.

Bishop Stephen has the names and phone numbers of those who have requested the Mass and will be contacting them presently.

Says Bishop Stephen, "After the Mass there will be a short meeting of all those present to see how or if this celebration can

be made a regular feature. As I have said, it would need to sustain itself financially and it would need to be well supported."

"There is no reason why this celebration should be divisive or contentious. It will be celebrated for those who desire the Extraordinary Form and have a right to access it and who love the music and ceremony of the old Mass. It is not obligatory for anyone and it will not be replacing the Ordinary or usual Form of the Mass."

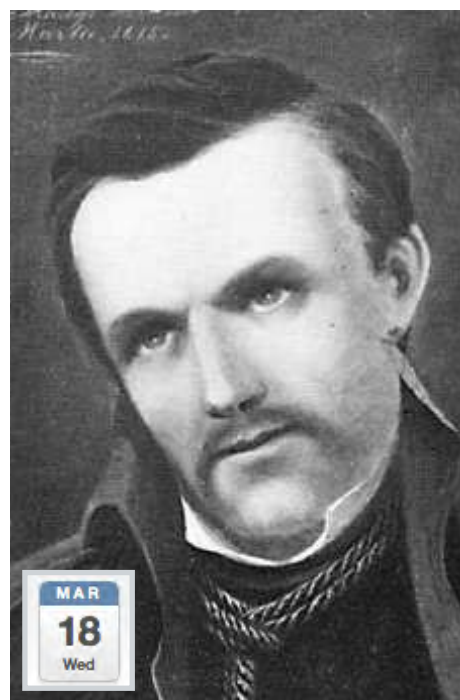
400th anniversary of the Martyrdom of Saint John Ogilvie, the Jesuit Martyr

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the Martyrdom of Saint John Ogilvie, the Jesuit Martyr. While there will be a number of celebrations around Scotland there are three which will be most notable for us:

- a National Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral Glasgow on March 10th at 7.30pm to which a number of representatives have been invited from each Diocese (still to be appointed)
- a Diocesan Mass to commemorate the Martyrdom of Saint John Ogilvie on Wednesday, 18th

March at 7pm in St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee to which all are invited.

- a play on the Life of Saint John Ogilvie on Saturday, 28th March which will be put on by the Archdiocese of Glasgow Lent-fest Drama Group. While it will be for children principally, adults are also encouraged to come along. It is almost certainly to be hosted in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Lawside; however pressure of numbers might dictate another venue. There will be more news about this later in the next Dunkeld News.





Preparing for Marriage

DURING THIS YEAR OF 2015 we will be setting up a new support service for Marriage and Family Life. We are sharing with the Archdiocese of Saint Andrews and Edinburgh a new programme. At the present moment we are beginning to train new couple-catechists for this programme.

Marriage preparation is vitally important in this present time as marriage and family is seriously under threat. Catholic Marriage is a wonderful sign to the whole Church and to Society at large of love, stability and fruitfulness in a rapidly changing world. We would also hope to be able to provide for those who are married and those whose marriages have sadly not been a happy time.

Mrs Sally McElroy the Director of the Programme in Edinburgh is prepared to do all necessary training here in our Diocese and we can put all our own identifying marks on all the teaching materials to make it our own.

Bishop Stephen has asked Sally to come and address the priests at the next Presbyteral Council in February on the structure and goals behind the Programme.

It seems likely that the training will be at Lawside, at the St Ninian Pastoral Centre, but the marriage preparation courses can be delivered locally or in larger centres in the diocese. It will take a year to get the programme up and running. Please pray for its success.

Feast of our Lady of Lourdes



FEB
11
 Wed

Mass for the Sick

There will be a Mass for the Sick in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Lochee at 7pm on Wednesday 11th February, celebrated by Bishop Stephen Robson. The preacher will be Mgr. Aldo Angelosanto and all are warmly invited. Access the text of the Holy Father Pope Francis' excellent Message for the World Day of the Sick on our excellent new Diocesan website - www.dunkelddiocese.org.uk



Aid to the Church in Need

Prayer

- Information

- Action

**Please join Aid to the Church in Need in prayer this month
and ask God to protect the Christian people in Pakistan
who are suffering discrimination and oppression because of their faith:**

Heavenly Father, you know all of those who suffer in your name.

We ask that you be with the Christians in Pakistan and encourage them to remain strong in their faith and trust despite physical and psychological abuse.

We remember those who are imprisoned for their faith. We especially remember Asia Bibi who still remains in jail with a death sentence hanging over her head as a result of Pakistan's blasphemy laws.

Please comfort all those who have lost loved ones and who live in fear. Strengthen the Church leaders in Pakistan with wisdom and courage to bring truth justice and peace to their nation.

We also pray, most merciful and loving Father, that our brothers and sisters in Christ are blessed with the spirit of forgiveness for those who persecute them.

Amen.

For further information about Aid for the Church in Need, and our work,
please contact Loraine McMahon (01698 337470)
or email lorraine.mcmahon@acnuk.org

Aid to the Church in Need is a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church and a Registered Charity in Scotland (SCO40748 and in England and Wales (1097984)

Keep in Touch

All official communications should be addressed to the Diocesan Chancellor



Office opening hours 8.30am-4.30pm

**Diocese of Dunkeld,
Diocesan Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road,
Dundee, DD3 6XY**

Tel 01382 225453



Hospital Admissions

Most of the priests already do this, but would you please ask your family members who are admitted to hospital – and remind them often – to let their parish priest and the admissions team who admit them to hospital whether for elective or emergency/acute care, that they are Catholic Christians and would be happy to receive a visit from the Catholic chaplain.

Too often the Chaplains do not actually know that our Catholic people are in hospital as the Data Protection Act does not allow us as priests to access the religious affiliation or the names of patients. Many of our people are disappointed when they don't receive a visit from the priest-chaplain who may simply not know they have been in hospital. Shortly there will be leaflets available with a tear-off slip to complete and present to the admissions team when you are admitted to hospital.

ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN HOSPITAL? DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS IN HOSPITAL?

Name _____ Hospital _____ Ward _____

Please complete/ tear off and return with your collection - or hand to your priest after Mass

Celebrating the Year of Mark the Evangelist in the Lectionary and the Liturgy



Two evenings on Lectionary and Liturgy will take place in the McAuley Room of the Diocesan Centre, Lawside Road, Dundee on Thursdays 5th and 12th February for 7-9pm.

These may be of interest to readers, cantors, leaders of the Children's Liturgy of the Word and those involved in RCIA or catechetics, musicians and those who choose the liturgical music.

SERRA CLUB MASS

There will be a Vocations Mass and Prayers for Vocations celebrated in St Joseph's Convent Chapel, Lawside on Saturday morning, 21st March at 10am to which all are invited.

Bishop of Dunkeld:

The Right Reverend Stephen Robson
 bishop@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Diocesan Centre**Chancellor:**

Mr Malcolm Veal B.A.
 chancellor@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Human Resources Manager

Ms. Fiona Burnett, C.I.P.D.
 personnel@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Finance Administrator

Miss Melissa Walton, A.C.C.A.
 accounts@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Finance Administrator Assistant

Miss Lily Haverman
 accountsadmin@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Vicars General:

Very Rev. Mgr. Aldo Canon Angelosanto
 St Mary's, Lochee,
 Dundee. DD2 3AP.
 Tel 01382 611282

Very Rev. Martin Canon Drysdale
 St Fillan's, Ford Road,
 Crieff. PH7 3HN.
 Tel 01764 653269

Episcopal Vicars:

Very Rev. Dr. Thomas Shields PhB, STL, PhD
 (Faith Formation of Young People)
 St John the Baptist's,
 20 Melville Street,
 Perth, PH1 5PY
 Tel 01738 622241

Very Rev. Mgr. Basil Canon O'Sullivan JCL
 (Clergy)
 St Clare's, Claredon Place,
 Dunblane. FK15 9HB
 Tel 01786 822146

Rt. Rev. Mgr. Kenneth Canon McCaffrey
 (Education)
 29 Byron Street,
 Dundee. DD3 6QN
 Tel 01382 825067

Very Rev. Ronald McAinsh CSsR
 (Religious)
 St Mary's, Hatton Road,
 Kinnoull, Perth. PH2 7BP
 Tel 01738 624075

Very Rev. Steven Mulholland
 (Ecumenism and Interfaith Relationships)
 St Mary's Rectory, 22 Powrie Place,
 Dundee. DD1 2PQ
 Tel 01382 226384

Very Rev. Kevin Canon Golden
 (Adult Faith Formation)
 The Presbytery, 56 Dishlandtown Street,
 Arbroath. DD11 1QU
 Tel 01241 873013

Very Rev. James High
 (Laity and Lay Organisations)
 23 Market Street,
 Montrose. DD10 8NB
 Tel 01674 672208



**Jornada Mundial
 de la Juventud**

**July 22 - Aug. 1, 2016
 REGISTER TODAY! >>**

WHAT IS IT?

WYD is a celebration of Catholic youth, who gather from all over the world at the invitation of the Pope. WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter with other young Catholics centred on Jesus Christ. This event is an opportunity to experience firsthand the universality of the Church; to share with the whole world the hope of many young people who want to commit themselves to Christ and others.

WHO IS INVITED?

Previous World Youth Days have drawn literally millions of Young Catholics between 16 and 30. You could be one of millions!

**A YEAR TO CELEBRATE
 CONSECRATED LIFE**

As announced by the Holy Father recently, November 2014-November 2015 will be a year to celebrate and pray for our Religious Priests, Brother and Sisters in the Consecrated Life. The diocesan launch took place on Friday, 30th January 2015 in St Joseph's Convent Chapel, Lawside. There will also be a National Mass to celebrate Consecrated Life on the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord (Candlemas) on 2nd February 2015 at 12 noon in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, Edinburgh.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Holy Father appointed Canon Aldo Angelosanto as a 'Chaplain of His Holiness' with the title of Monsignor. We congratulate him greatly and we also congratulate the appointment of Father Kevin Golden, the Administrator of the Cathedral, as an Honorary Canon of the Diocese of Dunkeld.

Youth Event

**Sunday, 8th
 March 2015**

St Andrew's Cathedral,
 Nethergate, Dundee.
 DD1 4AE

**Join young people
 from across
 the Diocese for this
 Lenten Youth Mass
 with Bishop Stephen**

The programme for the evening is:

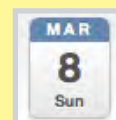
5.15pm Catechesis
 with Bishop Stephen
 in the Cathedral Hall

6pm Youth Mass

7pm Students hosting food
 and games in the hall

8.30pm Departure

Let's encourage as many young people
 as we possibly can to attend this Lent.
 If you need help with transport please get in
 touch and I will organise something for you.



**Please reply to
 Frankie McGuire
 07706 610543
 with numbers attending**

'Do not be afraid to go and to bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away, most indifferent. The Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity and the joy that is so characteristic of you.'

Pope Francis

LOURDES 2015

The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will be from July 10th to July 17th. Last year's Pilgrimage was wonderful and was a great event in the life of the family of the Diocese.

The Pilgrimage is being run this year by Joe Walsh Tours of Dublin. Last Year the young people and families together with the older pilgrims, but especially the sick, made the Pilgrimage a wonderful experience of faith. **YOU ARE ALL MOST WELCOME TO COME.**