

DUNKELD NEWS

Diocesan Newsletter of the Bishop of Dunkeld

No. 27 May 2022

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PERTH PEACE MARCH RALLIES PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

In faith and solidarity



Photos courtesy of Andrew Mitchell

On Saturday 19th March around 500 people set off from St John the Baptist Church, Perth, taking part in a March of Peace in the city. It was the Feast of the Solemnity of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church - and a day to call for peace in the world.

One of the organisers, from among Perth's Polish Community, said, "It was good to see so many people taking part, both Scottish and Polish and many other too."

"We started with Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr Bogdan Palka SDS, in St John the Baptist Church at 11am. He was assisted at the altar by Deacon Kris Jablonski. This was followed by a period of quiet Adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament, before a prayerful Procession for World Peace and Peace in the Families gathered in the street outside to follow the chosen route through the city centre."

The traffic was halted and shoppers paused to line the streets on either side, some clapping and others falling silent, bowed in prayer, as the procession passed them slowly by.

"At the head of the procession, four pole bearers held aloft a statue of the Blessed Virgin. It was a reminder of Pope Francis' declaration was he was preparing to consecrate the people of Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

Along the route the marchers recited the Holy Rosary and other prayers along the way. At the heart of the procession Zbyszek Wasik and Marilou Ciantar took turns to lead the prayers in Polish and in English.

It was a powerful witness of faith, and the show of solidarity for the people of Ukraine, led one in the procession to remark:

"After 80 years living in this city I have never walked through my own High Street with a Rosary in hand, reciting these prayers." John Joyce and his wife Irene

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Photo courtesy of Tomasz Marana

MORE - MARIAN REFLECTION - SCHOOL and PARISH NEWS - DUNKELD YOUTH SERVICE -

St Mary's Care Home

39 Panmure Street,
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01382 533376



Registered Office: Dunkeld Care Ltd,
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*"If anyone wants to be first,
he must make himself last."*

*Could you put yourself last
and Christ and his People first?*

*Could you serve as He did,
in priesthood or religious life?*

Speak to Fr Mark Cassidy

Vocations Director

stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk
or call 01382 611282

Visit Priests for Scotland

<https://priestsforScotland.org.uk/>

to find out more

CONTACT 07453 784295
dundee1paps@gmail.com

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PERTH'S POLISH SCOUTS ARE AMONG THE FIRST TO SEND AID TO UKRAINE

Polish Scout motto says 'Czuwaj' meaning - be aware!

Living up to their motto, Perth's Polish Scouts launched an emergency appeal in the city within hours Russian invasion, both in support of Ukrainian refugees and for those fighting to defend their country.

The idea came from the UK's National Polish Scouts Association (ZHP) who were in direct contact with the association in Ukraine. Perth Scout Leaders Paulina Rybicka and Kasia Guzowska found the girls and boys needed little prompting to get involved.

TV images of women and young children fleeing from their homes and crowding onto trains on their way to Poland and other countries have added to the urgency.

Paulina said, "In the first instance we were looking for pillows, blankets, sleeping



bags, tents, clothes, medical supplies, plasters, painkillers, tourniquets, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, bottled water, canned food and formula milk."

"We are really grateful for the support we have had from the city, both Scots and Polish. The first van is almost loaded now and leaves this week. Just 5 days since the invasion we had almost filled the first lorry. Our next loads have focused on food and medicines. We've just started but already there are many volunteers helping us coordinate the aid."

The organisation has now expanded its operations - check www.facebook.com/TASH4UKRAINE for the latest updates

Forfar and Kirriemuir parishes pledge prayers and funds for Ukraine

Fr Tobias Okoro, parish priest of St Fergus, Forfar and St Anthony's, Kirriemuir, writes "We know that the plight of the Ukrainian people has touched the hearts of many, and the parishioners of St Fergus' Church, Forfar and St Anthony's Church, Kirriemuir have responded wonderfully with concrete action to help."

"Coupled with ongoing prayers, a fundraiser involving baking and sale of cakes, biscuits, etc. was organised. Together with requests for individual financial donations the grand total of £550.00 was amassed."

"With the support of former Ukrainian parishioners who are now living in Poland and Ukraine, the money was able to be sent directly to Fr Stanislaw Wegrzynski of St. Nicholas Church in Pnikut, Ukraine, so that it could be used at source in whatever way the priest deems fit."

Already, the money has been received in Ukraine and Fr Stanislaw wrote back saying:

"Thank you very much for praying for us in Pnikata and all of Ukraine, especially for peace. Thank you also for the unexpected



gift of your hearts in the form of material help - 20,559 UAH."

"I distributed this money to each house of our parish. Parishioners are in the process of receiving this money. We are grateful for this help, especially in this difficult time. Many thanks to the organizers and those who made the generous donations."



Continued from front page

...walked the route together. With a stout stick in one hand, and his Rosary in the other, John added, “Indeed it is conceivable that a public Marian Procession like this has not taken place in the city’s High Street since the Reformation over 450 years ago.”

Among the civic leader that joined the procession were Provost Denis Melloy and Councillors Alasdair Baillie and Willie Wilson. Representatives of Perth Quakers and other churches in the city, including Rev Maudeen MacDougall of Scone and St Martin’s Church, now also interim minister at St John’s Kirk, Perth, were supported by Perth Action for Churches Together.



Photo courtesy of Tomasz Marana



www.dunkelddiocese.co.uk/perth-peace-march/



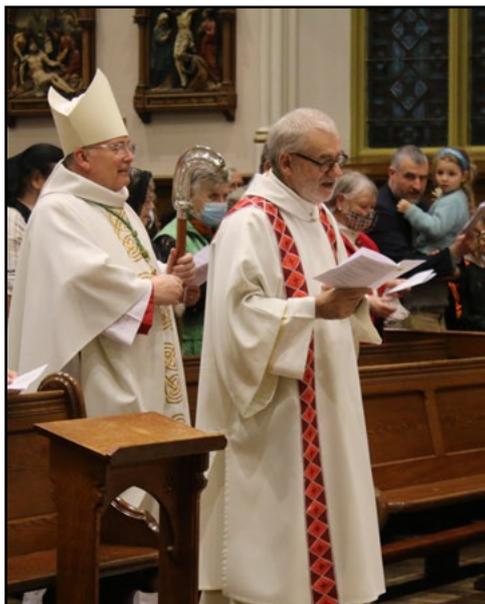
Photos courtesy of Andrew Mitchell

The Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass is held during Holy Week in every Catholic diocese. In Dunkeld Diocese it is normally held on the Wednesday of Holy Week. During this Mass, the priests, deacons and gather around the Bishop, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. (Left) - Oil of Catechumens (green); Oil of the Sick (purple) and Sacred Chrism (white).



It is also an occasion for us to renew our Baptismal Promises and for the Priest and Deacons to renew their vow of obedience to their Bishop as well as their commitment to serve God's people. At the end of the Chrism Mass, the Holy Oils are brought back to every parish in the diocese for use in the coming year. Whenever the Holy Oils are used in a diocese, the ministry of the Bishop who consecrated them is symbolically present.



Photos Courtesy of Eddie Mahoney



Good Friday Walk visits three Perth churches



Diocese of Dunkeld Catholic Chaplains

Ninewells, Royal Victoria Hospitals and Roxburghe House

Direct Line 07821 624124

Patients with foreknowledge of their admission to hospital should endeavour to seek the Sacrament of the Sick from their Parish Priest beforehand

Please be aware that it is necessary to make an express request (using this number or via the staff) for a hospital visit, as admission lists are no longer passed on to the chaplain

NHS Tayside Switchboard 01382 660111

Use this number to request an emergency alert to be sent to the hospital pager of the priest on call
www.dunkelldiocese.co.uk/hospital

Perth's Traditional Good Friday Walk began with Morning Prayer at St John the Baptist's, in the city centre, before setting off across the river, up hill, to St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull, before descending to St Mary Magdalene's Church, in Craigie.

At each stage of the journey the participants prayed at the Stations of the Cross - Jesus is condemned to death; he is made to bear his cross; he falls the first time; he meets his mother; Simon of Cyrene is made to bear the cross; Veronica wipes Jesus' face; he falls the second time; the women of Jerusalem weep over Jesus; he falls the third time; he is stripped of his garments; he is nailed to the cross; he dies on the cross he is taken down from the cross, and then he is placed in the sepulchre.

Photo Courtesy of Norma Giulianotti

Strengthening the Church's culture of care

The headline message that emerged from the recent Safeguarding Audit exercise was that, as we emerge from the Coronavirus pandemic and Church activities begin to resume, it is time to refresh in everyone's mind our shared responsibilities for Safeguarding.

This 're-opening' of Church life coincides with the establishment of the Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (SCSSA), the appointment of Board members and the current recruitment of professional staff. Arguably, this is the biggest step yet taken to ensure that the Church's 'culture of care' grows stronger.

The latest edition of Safeguarding Matters is on the diocesan website together with two important job adverts and advanced warning of a National Safeguarding Conference in the autumn, Walking Together in Safeguarding.

NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE

for clergy, religious, PSCs, volunteers, employees and all responsible for safeguarding in the Church

Walking together in Safeguarding

a journey of personal and communal conversion



Participants include: The Hon. Lady Rae, SCSSA Board members & staff

on Saturday 1st October 2022

in the University of Strathclyde
Technology and Innovation Centre, George St., Glasgow

N.B. The Conference will be run as a 'hybrid' event, enabling you to attend in person or online.

Details of costs and how to register will be published in May.

World unites in Prayers for Peace

Along with the Holy Father, Pope Francis, and other dioceses around the world, Bishop Stephen led the people of Dunkeld Diocese in an Act of Consecration of the Church and all humanity, especially the people of Russia and Ukraine, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at a service, at 4pm on Friday 25th March, the Feast of the Annunciation.



Photo Courtesy of Eddie Mahoney

At St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee, Bishop Stephen was assisted by Mgr Ken McCaffrey, parish priest at Ss Peter & Paul's in the city, as he led a service of reflection and prayer, with Exposition and Benediction before inviting the whole congregation to join with him in saying in the Solemn Act Consecration.

In the past, there have been a number of consecrations of both Russia and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, made by different Popes (including several by Pope Pius XII and St John Paul II, and one most recently by Pope Francis - October 13th 2013).

At the same time, in Glasgow, an estimated 2000 people converged on George Square. They were participating in the Rosary for Peace and the Consecration of Ukraine, Russia. The crowd was drawn from all ages, and from all parts of Scotland in union with others in the Church around the world at that moment.

One in the crowd reported:

"Before it began, George Square was full of lively revellers and others enjoying the lovely spring-like evening. Some were just heading home from work.

When the participants began to arrive, and gather in their numbers, a sense of faith, peace and hope, filled the air. The background noise seemed to dissipate and all that could be heard was the crowd uniting in prayer."

"Led by Bishop Keenan (Paisley) we said the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, interspersed with hymns to Our Lady. "

"We then said the prayers of Consecration together and 2000 voices became as one."

"It was a poignant occasion, gentle and peaceful in nature, as we bore public witness to our Faith in the midst of the busy city. As the Bishop remarked, we were fortunate to be able to be there freely and without fear of war, thus contrasting with the situation of the Ukrainian people in their homeland and cities."

"As dusk fell upon us, and we prayed, so we were aware that bombs were potentially falling on Ukraine. As we gathered together, we knew Ukrainian women and children were separating from their loved ones, in their plight to flee. As we safely departed to our own homes, we knew Ukrainians were being made homeless, not knowing what their futures would hold."

"As the crowd received a final blessing from the Bishop Keenan, there was a palpable sense of having entrusted Ukraine and Russia to the Blessed Mother, in full and certain belief of her intercession. We pray for these countries, for our clergy, ourselves and for peace throughout the world."

Similar ceremonies also took place in St Peter's, Rome, led by Pope Francis and in Fatima, Portugal.

Prayers for Peace at St Joseph's, Callander



Photos courtesy of Fr Leszek Wicaszek

Also on the Feast of the Annunciation, Fr Leszek Wicaszek, S.A.C. marked the occasion of Papal Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to Immaculate Heart of Mary in St Joseph's Parish, Callander, with a Rosary Marathon, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10am to 3pm. People visited the church for adoration and Rosary prayers for Peace.

Brechin couple are in CAFOD's top three UK fund raisers

Walking against hunger



John and Hanneke Elder, Brechin

John and Hanneke Elder from St Ninian's parish, Brechin, have been walking at least 5km every day for the 40 days of Lent as part of CAFOD's Walk against Hunger challenge. The couple are raising money to tackle global food poverty. John and Hanneke have raised an impressive £3500 so far making them CAFOD's top Scottish fundraisers, and third overall in the United Kingdom.



Westies - Tilly & Winnie

Both John (69) and Hanneke (63) have health conditions which make the walk even more of a challenge, but they remain committed to completing their steps, John says:

"I need a new knee and Hanneke has had shingles and nerve pain, but given the generous donations, we are determined to reach 277km and beyond. I have Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and have also raised money for children's hospices through walking and Hanneke by offering 50p lunches."

The couple are lucky enough to be walking in the beautiful Scottish and Yorkshire countryside with their two Westies Tilly and Winnie, Hanneke says:

"We are only four miles from Angus hills and 15 miles from two superb beaches. Special places we like to walk include Glen Lethnot, Caterthuns, St Cyrus beach and Glen Esk. For the first two weeks of the challenge we stayed in a farmhouse in the Yorkshire Dales and walked about 10km each day on the fells."

Each year, more and more people around

the world are going hungry despite there being enough food in the world to feed everyone.

Supporters like John and Hanneke are raising money so that the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) can continue its vital work helping communities around the world gain better access to food. CAFOD supports communities in the long-term through training people in farming methods, and savings and loans schemes which can help people to start small businesses. John adds:

"We are both Catholic and felt that given the dire situations in Afghanistan and Ukraine it's really important to raise money for humanitarian charities like CAFOD. The only worry is that we aren't raising enough, but we are happy that our contribution will help."

CAFOD's Events Coordinator Neil Roper says:

"We are incredibly lucky to have committed supporters like Hanneke and John taking part in this year's Walk against Hunger. Their impressive fundraising will make a real difference to ongoing work of in communities across the world working to tackle the causes of hunger and malnutrition."

It's not too late to get involved in CAFOD's Walk Against Hunger. We welcome new sign-ups from individuals, parishes and schools at any time throughout the year.

Here' are the links to
John and Hanneke's
Justgiving pages



<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/Lathallan>

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/walk-against-hunger-with-me-and-my-dogs>

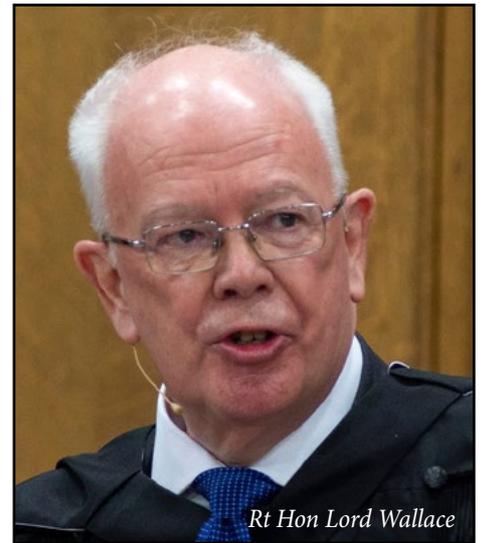
Joint call for effective solutions in face of the cost of living crisis

The leaders of Scotland's three largest Christian churches have called on the Scottish and UK Governments to "set aside political differences" and "seek effective solutions" to the cost of living crisis. Lamenting the tragedy of poverty in the UK in 2022, the Church leaders express serious concerns about the significant increase in energy costs and rising inflation which risk pushing more people into deep poverty and creating for some, "the grim choice between eating or heating."

A statement issued on Tuesday 22 March 2022, by Rt Hon Lord Wallace, Moderator of

the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; Rt Rev Hugh Gilbert, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland; and The Most Revd Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, urges "pragmatism and compassion to seek effective solutions to this very serious and worsening situation".

"The Church of Scotland, the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Roman Catholic Church, along with Christians and people of other faiths and those of no faith, are deeply concerned about the cost of living crisis. The cost of living is rising fast. Energy bills are expected to increase significantly in April and



Rt Hon Lord Wallace

inflation is pushing up the cost of essentials, including food."

"This will hurt low income families more than most and push more people into deep poverty, creating for some the grim choice between eating or heating. These are not luxuries, they are the very basics. It is a tragedy that poverty, especially child poverty, continues to be a significant problem in the United Kingdom in 2022."

"We urge both the Scottish and UK Governments to set aside political differences and come together in a spirit of pragmatism and compassion to seek effective solutions to this very serious and worsening situation. We call on political leaders to listen to those who have lived experience of poverty and to follow this engagement with the creation of conditions necessary to support people out of poverty and to prevent people falling into poverty in future."

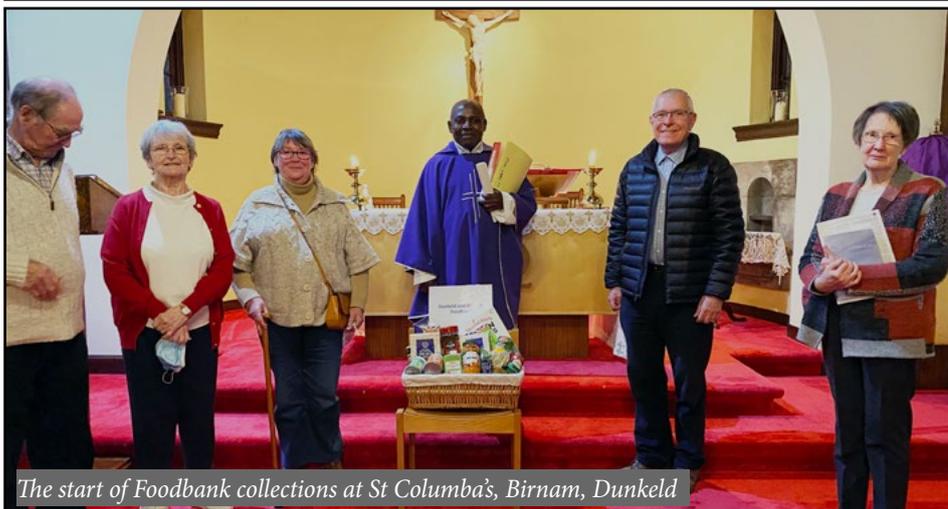
"At the same time we applaud the hard work of third sector and charitable organisations who, despite having to contend with a surge in demand and financial challenges of their own, continue to support the poor and vulnerable in our communities through essential and life-sustaining services."

Tina Simpson reports from Pitlochry:

"Helping local families who are struggling financially was the focus of Lenten alms giving in St Bride's Pitlochry, St Columba's Birnam and Dunkeld, and Our Lady of Mercy, Aberfeldy. Parishioners at all three highland Perthshire churches were invited to bring at least one item for the Food Bank each week. Pictured here with their parish priest, Fr Emmanuel Adindu MSP, some of the parishioners with donations collected on the first Sunday. We also received generous donations of money. A good effort from our small congregations."



Fr Emmanuel Adindu MSP with parishioners at St Bride's, Pitlochry



The start of Foodbank collections at St Columba's, Birnam, Dunkeld

Empowering her pupils to use their God-given talents to the best of their ability



Marie Futamata

Mrs Marie Futamata write: "I am delighted and honoured to be the Headteacher and Campus Leader of St John's Academy in Perth. I firmly believe it is a wonderful school with immense potential, and I look forward to guiding the school on its continuing journey towards excellence. The pupils, staff and support staff truly make St John's an excellent place to work and learn. I am looking forward to my family relocating to Perth in May, exploring Perthshire with my two boys, and immersing ourselves into our new parish and community."

"So where did my journey start? Well, whilst training to be a Theatre Director at Queen Margaret University, I worked as a Youth Worker for Glasgow City Council. I thoroughly enjoyed this time, seeing how the power of drama and theatre could improve outcomes for young people. Upon

completing my undergraduate, I decided to try teaching abroad before committing to teaching in Scotland. So, at the grand old age of 23, I jumped on a plane and flew off to Japan where I worked for 3 years. It was during this time I met my husband, hence the surname, and I suppose the rest is history."

"Upon returning to Scotland, I undertook my postgraduate degree at Strathclyde University where I trained to be a drama teacher. On completing my probationary period, I took up post in Helensburgh. During this time, I was promoted to a Principal Teacher of Guidance. I then moved to North Ayrshire where I was a Depute Head Teacher before making a sideways move to Renfrewshire Council as a DHT, and laterally a Senior Phase Development Officer before moving to St John's Academy."

"As Headteacher, I want to ensure the very best educational and spiritual experiences for our children and young people to prepare them well for the challenges that lie beyond school. A key priority will be empowering our pupils to use their God-given talents to the best of their ability, enabling them to contribute positively to our community of faith and wider society."

"My vision for the school is to ensure the health and wellbeing of all and that we continue to deliver high quality learning and teaching. We want our pupils to move successfully into a positive and sustained destination. We will continue to improve attainment and achievement for all our pupils, and through collaboration with young people, parents, and carers we will achieve the best possible outcomes for all."

"I have always been passionate about creating better outcomes for children and young people irrespective of their background. I firmly believe that by encouraging the right culture where staff feel supported, we will build the right learning environment for every child and young person to thrive."

"I am hoping that over the next few weeks, COVID-19 restrictions may further ease, and that we will be able to welcome visitors back onto campus and develop strong partnerships with parents, external partners, and businesses to help us deliver a first-class education to all our pupils."

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at st-johnsacademy@pkc.gov.uk to start our conversation.

Silverware for Perth's Singing Rainbows

19th Perth Rainbows, based at St John's RC Church, Perth were the winners of Perform in Perth's 'Action Songs for Rainbow Guides' class. The girls, all aged 6 years old, were presented with the Perth City Division of the Guides Quaich.

Adjudicator Mr Jonathan Rea BEM remarked, "It was so obvious that you enjoyed singing. You had lots of smiling faces and you spread lots of joy in the room."

Rainbow Leader, Anne Mitchell said; "The song was the Frog Song, with all its actions, and it was a real hit with the girls. But winning the trophy was like the icing on the cake - they were thrilled to bits."



IN BRIEF

Heavenly harmony as musicians unite

On Wednesday 20th April, an Evening of Music and Prayers for Ukraine was held at St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee. The Cecilian Choir and the Cathedral Choir were directed by Canon Kevin Golden and accompanied by Kevin Veal (organ) and Mary Veal (harp).

A retiral collection was taken for the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and around £740 was raised.

All roads lead to Rome from Blairgowrie

The parish at St Stephen's, Blairgowrie have been fund raising in support of a planned trip to Rome in July for the altar servers and their parents.

In addition to a Parish Coffee Morning and a Quiz Night, there will be Saturday Car 'Wash and Waxes' throughout the month of May in support of the trip.

'Skail Daze' for SCIAF

A special performance of Gerry Fulton's 'world-renowned' epic Skail Daze (School Days) is to be staged at the Little Theatre, 58 Victoria Rd, Dundee DD1 2NU, on Friday 20th May, at 7pm. Come along for a night of fun and laughter!

Tickets £6 from Gerry or Clare Fulton, Our Lady of Victories or from Christine Coyle at Our Lady of Good Counsel - or from Pat McGoldrick at the 'New 4 U' shop in the Hilltown, Dundee.

Contact gerryfulton@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Via Lucis - Stations of the Resurrection

St Mungo's, Alloa held Stations of the Resurrection on the 3rd Sunday of Easter. This is a fairly new devotion, which was first used in Italy in 1990 and was approved by the Vatican in 2001. Just as the Stations of the Cross complement the Sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary, so the Stations of the Resurrection parallel the Glorious mysteries. In a fashion similar to the Via Crucis and the four passion narratives, the Via Lucis reflects upon the final chapters of each of the four gospels, which narrate the appearances of the Risen Lord from Easter to Pentecost.

Honorary title for Fr Andrew after years of service in prison chaplaincies

Sunday Mass in St Fillan's, Crieff, saw the installation of Fr Andrew Clark as an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Chapter in recognition of his service with prison chaplaincies in the diocese. Fr Andrew is pictured here along with Bishop Stephen Robson (left) and Canon Tom Shields, parish priest at Crieff.



The sky's the limit at St James', Kinross

Wilma Carragher, St James', Kinross, went Sky Diving last month to raise funds for the parish's St Vincent de Paul fund. SVDP undertakes any form of help that alleviates suffering or deprivation, and promotes human dignity and personal integrity in all respects.

Wilma said, "Through challenging times, and with the very generous financial help from our supporters, our conference consisting of twelve members have been able to help a significant number of people throughout Kinross-shire and beyond!"

"We have worked with a number of other agencies and groups in order to provide financial help, household necessities and personal help and encouragement to others. We are very much aware that requests for assistance of all kinds are in the process of increasing dramatically."

The Sky Dive raised £2360, far beyond expectations.

St Columba's hold 'Big Brew' in support of Traidcraft

Susan McAllion reports, "During Fair Trade Fortnight, St Columba's Church, Kirkton, held a "Big Brew" raising £115 pounds for Traidcraft. Pictured left-right: Rosalind Cabrelli, Susan Etle and Kathy Hutton.



Confirmation Day at Ss L...



Bishop Stephen Robson and Fr Alexander Obior School, Dundee, who received the Sacrament of

NEWS AROUND OUR PARISHES



Sacrament of Reconciliation in Perth



One group of the boys and girls of P4 at St John's Academy (Primary), Perth, are seen here with Canon Steven Mulholland, Fr Bodgan Palka SDS and their teachers, after taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children are preparing to receive their First Communion later this month.



Confirmation Day at Our Lady's, Perth



Leonard & Fergus, Dundee

The boys and girls of P7 at Our Lady's Primary School, Perth, with Bishop Stephen Robson and their parish priest Fr Martin Pletts on their Confirmation Day in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Perth.



Sacrament of Reconciliation in Alloa



Confirmation with the pupils from St Andrew's RC Primary School in Ss Leonard & Fergus, Dundee.

Congratulations to St Mungo's Primary, Alloa, P4 children and our friends on taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you to Fr Michael, the teachers and families for helping to prepare these young people.

“Mary is not only the bridge joining us to God; she is more.”

“She is the road that God travelled to reach us, and the road that we must travel in order to reach him.”



Pope Francis
Feast of the Annunciation 2022

Mary a month

May is the month traditionally set apart for honouring our Blessed Lady. The place of Mary, the mother of Jesus, in the Church and in our lives is something that we are invited to reflect on from time to time.

In the early 1960s when the bishops of the Church in the Vatican Council were issuing documents on a variety of topics, such as the liturgy, the place of sacred scripture, interreligious dialogue and so on, many of them said that there should be a separate document on Our Lady.

However, the theologians argued that it would be unwise to do this, as the place of Mary is at the heart of the Church. And so, the final chapter of the most important Council document called *Lumen Gentium* - on the nature of the Church - focused on Mary, the mother of God and her place in our lives and the life of the Church.

In this final chapter, the Council Fathers urge us to have a real devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus. However, they go on to add a word of caution, reminding us that this devotion should not be too superficial nor should it be exaggerated. In the words of the document, “It should abstain zealously both from all gross exaggerations as well as from petty narrow-mindedness in considering the dignity of the mother of God” It also advised us to respect the members of other Churches and not give them the impression that we deviate of the doctrine of Jesus being our Saviour.

So how did this simple Jewish girl become the mother of God? The answer is to be found in the bible - in the gospel of St. Luke, where at the Annunciation, Mary is told that through the power of the Holy Spirit, she will conceive and bear a son. Her first response is confusion: “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” And then when the angel reassures her that, “the Holy Spirit will come upon you”, Mary’s response has rung loud and clear down through the ages. “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done it me.”

And the world has never been the same. The world has never been the same because the Word became flesh in this woman; this

nd the of May

with Fr Ronald McAinsh, C.Ss.R.

Word who was both a human being and the son of God.

In the early centuries of the Church great arguments raged about that nature of Jesus. Was he really just a very holy man? Was he really God just pretending to be human? How could an ordinary woman be called Mother of God? We had the teacher Nestorius and his followers saying that Jesus was two persons in one body, and the Church saying that this was heresy. And so, the crunch came after years of debate with the teaching of the Council of Ephesus in 431 solemnly declaring that Mary is the Theotokos, a Greek word that means “God-bearer”. What is most interesting here is that it was largely the lay people – who instinctively knew this truth – who pushed the bishops to make this solemn declaration.

And so down through the ages, devotion to Mary the mother of God has been practiced in the Church. Those of us who are older, will remember May devotions, May processions, October as the month of the holy rosary and the great feast of Our Lady such as the Assumption and the Immaculate Conception being celebrated with great devotion and joy

For some time after the Second Vatican Council, in the late 1960s external devotions to Our Lady seemed to wane. There was a new focus on the mysteries of the life of Jesus which was good, but perhaps the human and more tender side of expressing love for the mother of Jesus was a bit sidelined.

In recent years, the Anglicans, Methodists and now the Church of Scotland have begun to show a new consciousness of the role of Our Lady in our salvation and in our world. And she is no longer seen as a major stumbling block in our ecumenical relations. This struck me very forcibly recently when I participated in a march in solidarity for the people of the Ukraine.

The march was organised by the Polish community of St John’s church, Perth and made its way through many of the main streets. As we were gathering, I noticed quite a few people from other churches and several non-Catholic street pastors. I

was aware that during the walk the rosary would be recited in English and in Polish and that a statue of Our Lady would be carried by four men at the front of the procession. I wondered how this would go down with the non-Catholics. “No problem” they said. “If this is the way that people want to pray, then we are happy to join them”. And then one of them said to me, “And don’t forget, a good mother never divides but always unites”. It is a lovely thought.

More and more in our digital and sterile society we need the heart of a woman and the care of a mother, and in God’s plan of salvation, we have been given Mary the mother of Jesus as our helper and our model.

And she always leads us to Jesus. The last recorded words of Mary are found also in the gospel of Saint Luke when at the wedding at Cana she says, “Do whatever he tells you”. And if you’re listening, you will always hear him inviting you to be kind and generous and loving.

These are often not easy things to do in the face of aggression and tyranny and hate. And it is here that we can turn to Our Blessed Lady who stood at the foot of the Cross

and supported Jesus in his agony, so that he was able to call out. “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing”.

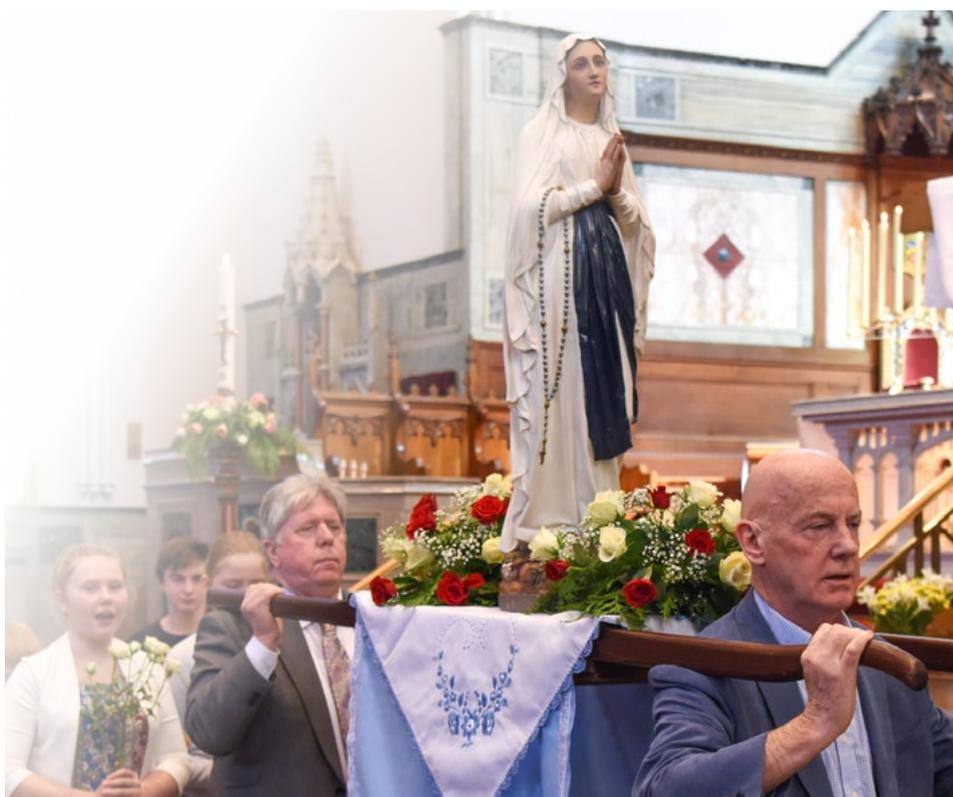
May I conclude with a short example? I remember watching the film ‘Jesus of Nazareth’ produced by Franco Zeffirelli. At the foot of the cross, the mother of Jesus and her sisters are there with St John. There is a cordon of Roman soldiers keeping the mob back. Mary Magdalene, the infamous woman, is trying to push her way through the cordon to be at the foot of the cross, but the Roman soldier says, “Sorry lady, it’s only family”. Mary, the mother of Jesus hears this and turns round and says, to the soldier “But she is family”; and Magdalene is allowed to join the others at the feet of the person who gave her a new life.

We are all family; but sometimes we need to be reminded of this truth – that we are all belong.

Let’s recall this young Jewish girl who said ‘yes’ to God, and ask her to help us to grow in love of Jesus and to believe that he died out of love for each one of us.

Here in the monastery in Kinnoull, we have the first church in the world dedicated to our Lady of Perpetual Help. In every private and public room since 1868 there is an icon of Our Lady. Daily in our oratory our community asks Mary to look after - not only the people of the diocese - but everyone in need. Let us in this month of May, this month of Mary, trust in her powerful intercession.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us.



NEWS AND PICTURES FROM

Top of their class at the Perthshire Music Festival



Photo courtesy of Steve MacDougall



Photo courtesy of Steve MacDougall



Photo courtesy of Richard Wilkins

As the entrants returned in person to this year's Perthshire Music Competition Festival, after the previous year's virtual event, adjudicators praised both the players and their teachers for the great spirit they had shown throughout the pandemic and the restrictions particularly on group playing and on wind blown instruments.

Amongst this year's winners were Violet Povey (Flute - Initial) - St Stephen's, Blairgowrie (above left) and Jan Kruczynski (Cello - Beginners) - St John's Academy, Perth (above right).

(Pictured Left) - the joint winners in the String Solo (Initial Class), to the delight of their teacher Grazyna Mlynarczyk, were Maria Magdalena Krakowiak (left), Our Lady Primary, Perth with Milena Szafran (right), St John's Academy (Primary), Perth.

St Clement's pupils unfurl their true colours to show support for Ukraine

St Clement's RC Primary School, Dundee, held a School fundraiser for the SCIAF's Ukraine Relief Fund.

The school's Depute Headteacher, Leigh Donnelly, reports:

"We held a fundraiser yesterday in school. Everyone was asked to wear something blue or yellow to represent the Ukrainian colours. We raised a fantastic £244.43."

Both the staff and the pupils lined up in the playground, wearing blue and yellow, to map out Ukraine's flag.



M AROUND OUR SCHOOLS

A conducted visit for Our Lady's Primary, Dundee



The children from Our Lady's Primary's Woodland Room visited Our Lady of Victories Church, Forebank, Dundee, and were shown around by Canon Kevin Golden.



P4, 5,6, and 7 from Our Lady's RC Primary, Dundee, are shown the Stations of the Cross in the nearby Our Lady of Victories Church by Canon Kevin Golden.

St Joseph's Primary, Dundee, on the road to Dalguise



As residential trips re-commence, P7 from St Joseph's, Dundee, are excited to be on the road for their outward bound adventures at Dalguise, near Dunkeld.



Swift response to Ukrainian Appeal at St Paul's, Dundee

Within just one week of St Paul's Academy, Dundee, asking for donations to their Ukraine Appeal, the school Chapel was already half full with contributions from all around the community. Many had no connection with the school but just wanted to do something to show solidarity with the people of Ukraine in these dark moments.

The ASDA store, just a short walk away, contributed many items of school uniform (shirts, blouses, trousers as well as gloves, scarves, hats etc). The children at the nearby St Fergus RC Primary School gave teddies and soft toys. All donations were combined with those from the Cathedral and then transported to Edinburgh en route to Poland and beyond.

A spokesperson at St Paul's Academy reflected on the school motto "One Community, Many Gifts" and said, "to that we can certainly add a Generous Heart!"





Dunkeld's Synod Pathway continues towards next steps

The consultation process which is part of the diocesan phase of the Synod in the Dunkeld Diocese is now near to reaching completion.

The people of God have been consulted, and, in the spirit of prayer, the diocesan synodal team, and their support team, have read in excess of 10,000 written statements from: 1131 Diocesan Questionnaires, 69 Pupil Questionnaires, 30 Family and Friends Questionnaires, and 32 Parish Listening Sessions.

This hugely encouraging response now spurs the core team on to collate, analyse and synthesise the consultation input to ensure our final report is a true reflection of the diversity of views and opinions expressed, paying particular attention to the real life experiences of participants, both positive and negative. Once a draft synthesis has been prepared it will be shared with

participants at a Diocesan Pre-Synodal Meeting, likely to be held on Saturday 25th June.

The venue has still to be confirmed - but the day will begin at 10.30am with Coffee and Welcome; 11am - Input; 12pm - Break and the day will conclude with Mass at 1pm.

Thereafter Bishop Stephen will then submit the final report to the Bishops' Conference of Scotland.

Next Steps

It is now time in our individual parishes to find ways to progress along synodal path. It is time to continue journeying together, to devise shared plans for a listening, inclusive community, and, united by the action of the Holy Spirit, to discover how God is calling us to be as the Church in the third millennium.

New statue unveiled to St Gianna Beretta Molla, patron Saint of Unborn Children

At the unveiling of a statue of St Gianna at the National Shrine in Carfin, on Thursday 28th April, 2022, the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children asked for her intercession for their work of the pro-life movement in the United Kingdom.

St Gianna was a 20th century wife, mother, and doctor, most often remembered for her sacrificial love for her unborn daughter.

She is a patron for mothers, physicians, and unborn children.

To commemorate her holy life, and ask for her intercession, the new statue was unveiled at Carfin Grotto, Scotland's National Shrine. Following the unveiling of the statue, Mass was celebrated at the Grotto followed by refreshments in the Little Flower Hall.



BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF SCOTLAND

The Relaxation of Covid Restrictions

As more Covid restrictions are lifted in Scotland on 21st March, 2022 parishes are asked to continue to observe the legal requirement to wear face coverings (except where existing exemptions apply).

In addition, parishes are asked to observe the following principles:

- **Please respect the space of fellow parishioners where possible.**
- **Hands should be sanitised on entering and exiting the Church.**
- **Continue to ensure good ventilation.**

The Bishops thank all parishes, priests, and volunteers for all their efforts during the past two years and encourage all Catholics to return with confidence to our celebration of Holy Mass and the Sacraments, the source and summit of our faith.

FAQs

What about cleaning? Should parishes maintain the rigorous cleaning regimes adopted during the pandemic to date?

Cleaning regimes may revert to pre-pandemic levels of cleaning.

What about the sign of peace?

The sign of peace would be better discontinued until further notice.

Can we use confessionals again?

This is not advised, for the present moment, given the lack of ventilation.

Feet may be washed during the Mass of the Lord's Supper in places where it is customarily practiced.

The protocols surrounding the administration of Holy Communion are to be continued until further notice.

Holy Communion under both kinds should not be administered to the faithful.

Holy Communion for priest concelebrants should continue by intinction from the chalice.

Justice and Peace brings city parishes closer together



Dunkeld's Justice and Peace representative, Nick Marra, congratulated the organisers who held a SCIAF Coffee Morning in St Andrew's Cathedral Hall, in Dundee, and all who took part.

The neighbouring parishes of St Joseph's, St Mary's Forebank and Our Lady of Good Counsel worked together with the Cathedral for SCIAF's Lenten campaign to support farmers in Malawi and to raise awareness of climate change.

"It was a great combined effort, for two very worthy causes. Over £1600 was raised - thanks to all who gave their support."

Photo courtesy of Eddie Mahoney

Celebrating Easter Mass at St Peter's



Photos courtesy of Jackie Clark

Fr Jim Walls, Dunkeld's 'man-in-Rome', celebrated Mass at St Peter's during the Octave of Easter, together with Canon Andrew Clark and Fr Gregory Murphy, assisted at the altar by Deacon Malcolm Hutchison. Deacon Malcolm is in his final preparation for Ordination to the Priesthood which takes place in St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee on 6th July 2022.

Dunkeld Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

8th-15th July 2022

with Joe Walsh Tours

Those who wish to go are encouraged to book up as soon as possible as the numbers this year are likely to be limited.

THE BOOKING FORMS CAN BE
ACCESSED ON THE WEBSITE
www.joewalshstours.co.uk

The client is asked to search
for the Dunkeld Pilgrimage
entry on the website under
'Diocesan Pilgrimages'.

Please then click on the
'more information' icon and
the booking form will download.

Alternatively, the paper BOOKING FORM
may be sent by post to book, or else the Tour
Company can be phoned
on the UK office number

FREEPHONE 0808 1890468

Joe Walsh Tours, 46-48 Long Street,
Middleton, Manchester M24 6UQ.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Remembering your Parish/Diocese in your Will

- The Church encourages us to be mindful of God's many blessings and of His provision for us. In so doing, our natural response is to want to give back, recognising that all good things come from God. One way we can all do this is to remember the work of our parish / diocese in our will. This is a simple way to thank God for all His goodness to us during our lives and ensure that our faith will live on in future generations.
- Leaving a gift in our will is the culmination of a life-time of faith, a sign of gratitude for all we have enjoyed.
- Once we have provided for the needs of our family, this is a simple step we can all take. By remembering our parish and/or diocese in our will, we can support the vital work of priests and people in the building up of God's Church, in looking after our churches and in reaching out to these in need in our local communities.
- All this is made possible as we give back to God in response to his care of us.

Benefits to Others

- The Government supports gifts to charities by people in their wills and any such gift is free of Inheritance Tax. This means that when your executors are calculating whether any Inheritance Tax is payable on your estate at the time of your death, they do not have to take into account any amount which you give to the Church.

Getting Advice

- For advice on writing your will we recommend you speak to your solicitor. We are happy to liaise with them regarding wording, and can be reached at the Diocesan Offices 01382 225453.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/family/death-and-wills>

MAKE YOUR DONATION GO FURTHER !

giftaid it

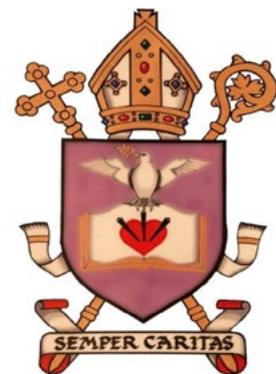
Sign up today so our parishes/diocese can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you!

You just need to:

- Pay UK or Capital Gains Tax
- Donate via identifiable methods

Gift Aid helps our parishes and diocese to thrive!

Donation			Total with Gift Aid
Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	
£5	£20	£240	£300
£10	£40	£480	£600
£20	£80	£960	£1200
£25	£100	£1200	£1500



Ask your Parish Priest or Gift Aid organiser for more details or to sign up and gift aid your donation.

I'M A HIGHER RATE TAXPAYER, I'M NOT ELIGIBLE

Yes you are! If you Gift Aid your donations, the parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 that you give, and you can reclaim the difference between the basic and higher rate of tax for yourself, when you complete your tax return.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL CHECK MY IMMIGRATION STATUS

No. Gift Aid has nothing to do with immigration and legal status. No information is shared with policing agencies.

MY TAXES WILL GO UP IF I CLAIM GIFT AID

No. Gift Aid is retrospective. It has nothing to do with future taxes; it's about tax you've already paid.

Ask your Parish Priest or Gift Aid organiser for more details or to sign up.

Top 5 Gift Aid Myths

Don't let the following misconceptions get in the way of signing up to Gift Aid.

I'M A PENSIONER, GIFT AID DOESN'T APPLY TO ME

If you pay tax on a pension or capital gains taxes on investments then YES you CAN Gift Aid - up to the amount of tax you've paid.

HMRC WILL AUDIT OR REVIEW MY PAST YEARS' RETURNS

Gift Aid filings do not trigger anything in HMRC's database, but are simply to check you're a taxpayer on record. No connection to your past returns, or triggering of an audit will result.

APPEAL IS LAUNCHED TO REPAIR DUNKELD'S HISTORIC GRAVESTONE



The headstone of the Bishops and Clergy of Dunkeld Diocese is in urgent need of restoration. The diocese has now launched an appeal fund.

The historic stone, set high at the top of Dundee's Balgay Cemetery, marks the resting place of six of Dunkeld's Bishops –

- + Angus MacFarlane (1901-12),
- + Robert Fraser (1913-14),
- + James McGuire (Coadjutor 1939-44),
- + John Toner (1914-49),
- + William Andrew Hart (1955-1981),
- + Vincent Logan (1981-2012)

Buried alongside these Bishops there are nineteen other priests who served the diocese both in the city of Dundee and beyond.

The restoration work will include re-securing the foundations; repairing, cleaning and resetting the marble and refreshing the inscriptions involving over 1000 characters of text.

The estimated cost of this work is calculated to be in the region of £25,000.



Please consider a donation to contribute to the cost of restoration. It would be most gratefully received. Cheques should be made payable to 'Diocese of Dunkeld' and posted to the Finance Administrator, Diocese of Dunkeld, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY. Please state in your mailing 'Bishops' Headstone'.

You may also use the **DONATE** button on the diocesan website or directly using BACS:

Sort Code 83-18-32, Account Number 00140054, Ref: Headstone

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Dundee. DD3 6BJ
Tel 01382 225453
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(Vocations)
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Tel 01382 611282

Very Rev. Michael Freyne
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The Presbytery, St Bernadette's
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Tel 01259 213274

Very Rev. Steven Canon Mulholland
(Ecumenism and Interfaith Relationships)
St John the Baptist's, 20 Melville Street,
Perth. PH1 5PY
Tel 01738 259371

Very Rev. Thomas Canon Shields
(Education)
The Presbytery, St Fillan's
Ford Road, Crieff. PH7 3HN
Tel 01764 653269

DUNKELD YOUTH SERVICE HAVE KICKED OFF ONCE AGAIN WITH A BRAND NEW LOOK AND A REJUVENATED PROGRAMME FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH ACROSS THE DIOCESE

Youth Retreats are an invitation to accept Christ's gift of salvation

Dedicated to young people, the mission of the Dunkeld Youth Service (DYS) is to support and encourage faith formation in a fun and engaging way, to make young people feel comfortable in their parish communities and to help them to explore and deepen their faith. **DYS aims to connect young people to other places and events which can help in their journey, and to provide a safe place for them to open their hearts to Christ.**

Canon Tom Shields, Vicar Episcopal for Education, is also the Youth Director for the Diocese, overseeing youth activities and ensuring that things keep moving along to provide a selection of opportunities for young Catholics in our local areas. He works tirelessly to achieve this, assisted by former Youth Coordinator, Charis Soares, and a small team of young adult volunteers known as the Youth Commission.

Starting off as a teen, attending events herself, Charis has worked for the Youth Office for several years, co-ordinating youth events, doing administrative tasks and generally working hard in the background to make sure everything goes smoothly! She also leads and facilitates some of the events, and hopes to share the joy and fellowship that she has found through her faith and



participation in Catholic Youth events.

The Dunkeld Youth Commission was first established in September 2016 in the wake of World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. The mission of the group is to carry on the spirit of World Youth Day and to draw young people from the edges, involve those who are already interested, pass the church to young people and pray for the change of hearts and rediscovery of the gospel and of the sacraments. The Commission is made up of several young people across different ages and areas within the diocese, who regularly meet with Fr Tom to discuss the Youth Service activities and plan events for young people.

What's Going On?

A series of retreats have begun in our diocese, facilitated in partnership with NET Ministries Scotland. This began last week, when a team from NET Scotland conducted retreats for candidates preparing for Confirmation at St John's Academy, Perth and St Dominic's Primary, Crieff. For High School pupils, a retreat day, run by NET Scotland, will take place on Sunday 15th May, at St Mary of Victories, Forebank, Dundee. (The one planned for St Columba's, Cupar, has been postponed.)

According to their website (netscotland.org/retreats), NET Ministries present

youth with the truth of who they are as God's children and how true joy and meaning in life are found by accepting Christ's gift of salvation and living as His disciple.'

'Throughout the retreats there is a strong emphasis on listening, acceptance and encouragement. Every NET retreat day concludes with an extended time for the young people to pray and respond to God's invitation to receive his love.'

Charis adds that: 'It is Net Ministries' objective to provide the catalyst for young people to consider life's most important questions, in the hopes that they will experience a personal conversion. We are working closely with them to provide opportunities for young people in our diocese to encounter Christ in a new way, and to experience the joy of being children of God.'

Stay Up to Date

Dunkeld Youth Service has relaunched its online presence, and it posts continuous updates on all their activities, as well as useful insights and resources. Its details can be found below:

Website: www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk
Facebook: [facebook.com/dunkeldyouthservice](https://www.facebook.com/dunkeldyouthservice)
Instagram: @dunkeld_youth_service
Twitter: @RC_Dunkeld_Youth

DUNKELD NEWS

Coming editions

3rd July 2022
25th September 2022
3rd December 2022

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