



# Parish Newsletter

St Fillan, King St, Newport-on-Tay  
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Queen St, Tayport



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## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time — 27<sup>th</sup> July 2025

*Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the God who saves us, alleluia.*

*Year: C(I). Psalm week: 1. Liturgical Colour: Green.*

**First reading:** *Genesis: 18:20-32.* 'Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps 138(137).* On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

**Second reading:** *Colossians 2:12-14.* 'God made you alive together with him, having forgiven all trespasses.'

**Gospel:** *Luke 11:1-13.* 'Ask, and it will be given to you.'

### HOLY MASS TIMES

**Our Lady Star of the Sea:** Saturday Vigil 5pm

**St Fillan's:** Sunday 10:15am

### EUCCHARISTIC SERVICES

**Our Lady Star of the Sea:** Monday and Friday 10 am.

**St Fillan's:** Services suspended until further notice

### Weekday Mass in St Fillan's

Bishop Andrew will continue to say Mass in St Fillan's during the week, on those days on which his pastoral duties allow him to do so. The days will be posted on WhatsApp - Sam Morton has set up a dedicated group for this purpose (Daily Mass at St Fillan's) - and placed the link on the Parish Group. It is reproduced here for those who might not have seen it already: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/COZWXsnfWEZ6ZKK3IUBZLP>.

### Mgr. Pat's Corner

#### World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

"Old age is not a time of life that is easily understood ... no one prepares for old age ... the more developed societies expend large sums on this stage of life without really helping to understand and appreciate it; they offer healthcare plans to the elderly, but not plans for living old age to the fullest ... we are tempted to ward off old age by hiding our wrinkles and pretending to be forever young ... we imagine the only thing we can do is bide our time thinking that we cannot 'still bring forth fruit'.

We as a global society must do a much better job of engaging the experience and wisdom of grandparents and the elderly. Instead of putting our elderly on the sidelines, how can we find ways to accompany them as circumstances and abilities change? For some it might be in the vocation of caregiving. For others, it might be the vocation of prayer or redemptive suffering. We should highlight and honour these callings as worthwhile and honourable.

The message is to persevere in hope. God continues to give us the gift of life and the promise of eternal life. Growing old is natural and ageing is not a condemnation, but a blessing and an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Christ and with one another."

(The late Pope Francis)

Mgr. Pat

### Support UNICEF at Tayport Church of Scotland

Come and enjoy an afternoon of good chat and food in the Parish Church garden (or hall, depending on the weather – after all, despite heat waves, this is still Scotland!), from 2 pm until 3.30pm, on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Entry is by donation, which will go to UNICEF, who are facing increasing demands upon their resources.

### Taize Services

The next two Taize Services will take place in Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Tayport, on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, and in Tayport Church of Scotland on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, starting at 6.30 pm. The format, as usual, will be a short service of quiet reflection.

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/NewportTayportCatholic/](https://www.facebook.com/NewportTayportCatholic/) **Parish WhatsApp:** 07484 170812.

**Hospital Chaplaincy:** Ninewells, Victoria and Roxburghe House. Please call the duty chaplain on 07821 624124

**Special Prayers:** We pray for those who have died recently, for those whose anniversaries fall at this time, for those caring for the sick, those mourning the loss of loved ones or struggling to cope with difficulties in their lives. Let us continue to pray for a spirit of love, understanding and forgiveness be granted to us, such that hatred be eliminated, that killing and intimidation cease, and just and lasting resolutions may be found to all conflict.

#### Saints and Feastdays

*Today: (Netherlands) St Titus Brandsma (1881 – 1942), Priest, Professor of Philosophy.* (Included because of the particular nature of St Titus' life and martyrdom.) Born in Bolsward in the Netherlands, he was baptized Anno Sjoerd Brandsma. He joined the Carmelites at Boxmeer in 1898 at the age of seventeen and took the religious name Titus. He was ordained a priest in 1905. Following his ordination, he went to Rome and studied for a doctorate in philosophy at the Gregorian Pontifical University, which he was awarded in 1909. Returning to Holland, Titus pursued the career of a teacher and writer. He taught at several schools before taking on the position of Professor of Philosophy and the History of Mysticism at the Catholic University of Nijmegen, where he was later appointed Rector Magnificus in 1932. At the same time, he was active in journalism. He was vehemently opposed to Nazi ideology and spoke out against it many times before the Second World War.

Underlying his career as a teacher and writer was his deeply personal search for the God of Jesus who was the centre of his life. He lived out this mission in a practical way giving to all who needed his help. It was from this deep relationship and conviction that he would argue against the National Socialist ideology, as Holland came under Nazi occupation. As adviser to the Bishops on the Catholic Press, Titus defended the right to freedom of education and of the Catholic Press. Titus believed such freedoms were implicit to the message of the Gospel.

He was arrested in January 1942, when he tried to persuade Dutch Catholic newspapers not to print Nazi propaganda (as was required by the law of the Nazi German occupiers). He had also drawn up the Pastoral Letter, read in all Catholic parishes, by which the Dutch Roman Catholic bishops officially condemned the German anti-Semitic measures and the deportation of the first Jews. After this Pastoral Letter, the first few thousand Jews to be deported from the Netherlands were all Jewish converts to Roman Catholicism, including St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein).

Amidst the suffering of Titus's imprisonment, prisoners and jailers spoke of his ability to bring an awareness of peace amidst the horror of the prison camps. Eventually he was transferred to Dachau where he was killed by lethal injection on the 26th July 1942. The witness of his life is an example of prophetic action arising from a commitment to the Gospel and revealing the merciful presence of God, even in the most horrific of times.

*Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July: Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus.* Martha was the sister of Mary of Bethany and Lazarus. In the West, her feast day comes a week after that of St Mary Magdalene because of the old and probably erroneous tradition that Mary Magdalene was the same person as Martha's sister. Modern scholarship having made matters clearer, Martha, Mary and Lazarus have since 2021 been celebrated together on this day, which was formerly assigned to Martha alone.

Lazarus repays reflection. His resuscitation forms such a key part of salvation history – which is why it has a Sunday in Lent dedicated to it – that it is easy to forget Lazarus himself. But as Monsignor Ronald Knox says somewhere, he deserves our sympathy and not only our envy, because this was not a resurrection. Lazarus was still mortal and he had his dying to do all over again at some point in the future. What Lazarus thought of being brought back to Earth is not recorded. The presence of the incarnate Lord must have made up for the postponement of Heaven, but – where less dramatic circumstances are concerned – we should think of Lazarus when we prepare to make spectacular acts of charity on behalf of people who may not necessarily appreciate our interventions.

*Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July: St Peter Chrysologus (380 – 450), Bishop.* He was born and died in Imola in northern Italy. He was made bishop of Ravenna, the new capital of the Roman Empire, and was responsible for many of the building works there. The name "Chrysologus" means "golden speech", and was given to Peter because he was such a gifted preacher; unfortunately, most of his writings have perished, and only a collection of short sermons remains.

*Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> July: St Ignatius Loyola (1491 – 1556), Priest and founder of the Jesuit Order.* Ignatius (or Iñigo) was born in Loyola in the Spanish Basque country. He was a soldier but was wounded in the battle of Pamplona (against the French) at the age of 30. During a long convalescence he read a life of Christ and a collection of lives of the saints and discovered that his true vocation was to devote his life wholly to God. He was as systematic about this as he had been about his military career: he spent a year's retreat in a Dominican friary, made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and then set about learning Latin.

Such enthusiasm in a layman caused grave suspicion in the Spanish authorities, and he was questioned and imprisoned more than once. He moved to Paris in 1528 and continued his studies; and then in 1534 Ignatius and six companions bound themselves to become missionaries to the Muslims in Palestine. By the time they were ready to set out, war made the journey impossible and so the group (now numbering ten) offered their services to the Pope in any capacity he might choose. Several of them were duly ordained and they were all assigned to various tasks.

Soon it was proposed that they should organise themselves into a regular religious order, and in 1540 the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) was formed. Ignatius was the first Superior General until his death. Soon after their foundation the Jesuits began to meet the challenge of the Reformation: a tough task, given the debilitated state into which the Church had fallen, but one which, as Ignatius said, had to be undertaken "without hard words or contempt for people's errors". Ignatius had a gift for inspiring friendship and was the recipient of deep spiritual insight. Soon after his conversion Ignatius wrote the Spiritual Exercises, a systematic step-by-step retreat that can be followed by anyone – and has been followed by many, not all of them Catholics, ever since.

**THE SUNDAY CAFÉ.** All welcome to stay after Sunday Mass for coffee/tea and a chance to chat with fellow parishioners. Volunteers to join the rota are always welcome. If you would like to help occasionally, please talk to one of the team at the back of the church. Donations are always welcome and will keep this channel of communication open.

**THE FOOD BANK STILL NEEDS YOU.** In fact, donations have been tailing off, while demand remains high. Non-perishable foods and toiletries can be left at the back of the churches or at local collection points: the Co-op in Tayport, Scotmid in Newport and Spar in Wormit. Financial donations also welcome. The Taybridgehead Foodbank still needs volunteers, particularly in the Tayport area. If you are willing and able to volunteer some of your time to help the Foodbank, please get in touch by calling 07840 957039 or through the 'Contact Us' link on their website. <https://www.taybridgeheadfoodbank.org.uk/>

#### From the Evening Prayer of the Church tonight

Christ is the Head of his body, the Church, and we are the members of that body; praying in his name, we say: – *Your kingdom come!*

May your Church be a light to the nations, the sign and source of your power to unite all men: may she lead mankind to the mystery of your love. – *Your kingdom come!*

Guide the Pope and all the bishops of your Church: grant them the gifts of unity, of love, and of peace. – *Your kingdom come!*

Lord, give peace to our troubled world; and give to your children security of mind and freedom from anxiety. – *Your kingdom come!*

Help us to bring your compassion to the poor, the sick, the lonely, the unloved; lead us to find you in the coming week. – *Your kingdom come!*