

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST MARGARET'S, DUNFERMLINE
AND
CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME, OAKLEY

VIRTUAL  WEEK 45

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Masses also streamed at:
<https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-margarets-rc-church>

St Margaret's is a Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrew and Edinburgh,
a Charity registered in Scotland SC0008540.

RESPONSE FOR THE SUNDAY MASS AND MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

PSALM	Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	<i>I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life</i>

Day	Time	Date	Intention
SUNDAY	10am (SM)	7	People of the Parish
MON	10am (SM)	8	Deceased parents and relatives of Moira McCrae
TUES	10am (SM)	9	Special intention (sick person)
	7pm		Rosary and Benediction
WED	10am (SM)	10	Graeme McAdam (Anniversary)
THURS	10am (SM)	11	Anna Hain (Anniversary)
FRIDAY	10am (SM)	12	Gaffney Family
SAT	10am (SM)	13	Mary Bell R.I.P.
SUNDAY	10am (SM)	14	People of the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass celebrated for a particular intention please get in touch by email, phone or drop a note through the letterbox or, if at a service, pop into the box for offertory collections.

If you wish a Mass card, write your name and address and one will be posted.

PARISH ZOOM GROUP

On Sunday's at 11am there is a gathering for coffee after Mass and on Thursday evenings starting at 7:30pm there is a social quiz evening. These events are open to **all** parishioners. To find out how to join them please email Tom Scott on tom.scott0711@gmail.com.

DEAR FRIENDS

In this Sunday's Gospel passage Jesus cures Simon Peter's mother-in-law. It's said that this is the reason behind Peter's three-fold denial of Jesus at the Passion! Joking aside, if we look at the scene as described it is a whole whirlwind of activity. So much is happening yet, in the midst of all of the activity, Jesus still has time to take notice of the individual, he has time to go to Simon's mother and law and cure her of this fever that had her in its grip.

She, once cured, recognises their needs and waits on them.

Sickness has much more than a physical effect in our lives, we feel cut off and useless, Jesus not only cures her illness but restores purpose and meaning to her life. Peter's mother-in-law experiences the compassion, healing and mercy of God in her own life and this enables her to care for others.

Also, in the midst of all of the activity, Jesus makes time for prayer. It is clear that this is no optional extra but that it is fundamental to his life and mission, driving and guiding him. Simon's mother-in-law became aware of the presence of Jesus as he stooped over her, she would have seen his face, as he rebuked the fever, she would have heard his voice, as he raised her up, she would have felt his touch. We experience his presence through prayer: that presence brings us healing, forgiveness, peace and strength and spurs us on to share what we have experienced and received in our own lives.

With best wishes and prayers for the coming week

Fr Chris

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

'My Jesus, I Believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
Although You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.'



PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

From 'Patris Corde' proclamation by His Holiness Pope Francis announcing a Year of St. Joseph.

LIVESTREAMING

AS THE PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL THE END OF THE FEBRUARY AT LEAST, OUR LIVESTREAM ACCESS REMAINS AVAILABLE.

FUNERAL MASSES MAY BE CELEBRATED IN CHURCH WITH A MAXIMUM CONGREGATION OF TWENTY PEOPLE.

For both weekday and weekend Masses at 10am (and now Rosary and Benediction on a Tuesday at 7pm), livestream access from St Margaret's (as well as prior recordings) please go to <https://stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk/stream/> or at <https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-margarets-rc-church>

In addition, his grace, the Archbishop also holds his Sunday Mass, information via the Archdiocesan website.

St Joseph's in Clarkston are continuing with their telephone Mass service. The Number to call to hear Fr Stephen's Mass is 0141 473 4869.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENT – FAITH IN THE TIME OF CRISIS



Archbishop Leo Cushley invites you to

Faith in the Time of Covid

Different approaches to the pandemic from distinguished voices

 Bishop Philip Egan	 Dr Mary Rice Hasson	 Prof John Haldane	 Rt Hon Gordon Brown
Sunday 31 January 5pm	Sunday 07 February 5pm	Sunday 14 February 5pm	Sunday 21 February 5pm
Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Egan	Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Hasson	Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Haldane	Register bit.ly/FaithCovid-Brown

 Each event last 30 mins.

Events available after the event from the Archdiocesan website

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT HOME



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Visit <https://archedinburgh.org/childrens-liturgy-at-home-get-ready-for-sunday-35/> for some great ideas to celebrate and explain this Sunday.

More resources can be found at <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy> and at https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/_uploads/www.rpbooks.co.uk/FMfrom3rdOrdinary.pdf for ideas over next few weeks for different age groups.

In Sunday's Gospel we learn about Jesus' love and help to those who are not well. As we gather at home, we thank God for our families, and for the time we spend together in prayer. We do this, knowing that God is with us, helping us always especially when times are difficult.



PARISH CHARITIES/GROUPS



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Our SVP conference has been working hard to meet the needs of those in difficulty at this time. If you can help, the Bank Details are:

Account Name	SSVP AEO2044
Sort Code	800655
Account Number	00768139

A massive Thank You to all who have donated!



ST. MARGARET'S ONE WORLD GROUP

SUPPORTING MARY'S MEALS, HAITI HELP, EMMS AND PEAS.

Thanks for generous donations from parishioners with which we have paid £618 to Marys Meals for Geveh Fancheh in Liberia School for January and February. There is still time to give to the Mary's Meal Double the Love till 31st January.

We thank recent donors but if any of you feel able to donate to our work you can do so to our bank account:

Account Name	St Margarets One World Group;
Sort Code	83-33-00
Account Number	10191867

If you prefer to send a cheque, please contact our treasurer Maureen Japp on 01383 725967 or by email at maureenjapp17@gmail.com

PARISH FINANCES

Please only donate if you can do so; do not put yourself into any hardship.

If you can, please consider Gift Aiding any donation you make.

1. Standing Order

Standing order forms are available on the parish website or you can set up on online via your bank.

2. Online ad hoc donations

If you have internet banking you can use this too. There are two ways:

- using the following bank account details:
for **St Margaret's**: sort code: 80 06 55 Account 00720303.
for **Holy Name**: sort code 83 33 00 Account number 00176355.
- using the link via the Archdiocese (archedinburgh.org) online secure 'donate' links

THE CRY OF THE POOR

Psalm 34

John Foley, S.J.

Refrain

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Bless-ed be the Lord.

Verses: Slightly faster

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, with praise
 2. Let the low - ly hear and be glad: the Lord
 3. Ev - 'ry spir - it crushed, God will save; will be
 4. We pro - claim your great - ness, O God, your praise

1. ev - er in my mouth. Let my soul glo - ry in the
 2. lis - tens to their pleas; and to hearts bro - ken, God is
 3. ran - som for their lives; will be safe shel - ter for their
 4. ev - er in our mouth; ev - 'ry face bright-ened in your

to Refrain

1. Lord, who will hear the cry of the poor.
 2. near, who will hear the cry of the poor.
 3. fears, and will hear the cry of the poor.
 4. light, for you hear the cry of the poor.

Text: Based on Psalm 34:2-3, 18-19a, 19b-20, 4.
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CLEAR YOUR HEAD

The coronavirus outbreak has been going on for a while now. Daily life has changed for all of us in Scotland and it can feel worrying, lonely and uncertain. It's ok to not feel yourself. We have some great tips to help you clear your head and connect with others this winter. <https://clearyourhead.scot/>

An important thing to remember is that although things might feel hard right now, the situation won't last forever. And there is help available.

The tips on clearyourhead.scot are meant to help you look after your well-being but may work differently for different people. Be kind to yourself and don't strive too hard with an idea if you recognise that you are struggling with your emotions or if anything isn't working for you right now. **You can always try again another day.**

Any time you start to feel overwhelmed, it's important to acknowledge your feelings and speak to someone you trust. That could be a friend, a family member or your GP. Or you may find it easier to call a helpline like NHS24 (shortcode 111), Breathing Space (0800 83 85 87) or the Samaritans (116 123) or text Shout's 24/7 crisis text service on 85258.

Take the opportunity to choose to retreat indoors, slow down and rest.

Why not create a cosy atmosphere in your favourite part of your home? Perhaps spend the evening (or afternoon) snuggled on the sofa reading a book or chatting by the warm glow of candlelight.



The health benefits of watching an open flame can help you relax. A virtual fireplace recording or soundscape can create a fireside ambience at home.

Why not try bringing nature into your home? You could have houseplants or bring outdoor potted plants in for the winter and connect with nature by looking after them. You could have a little nature tray for fallen leaves or seed heads found on your walks outside, or make a nature mobile.

If you are thinking of decluttering at home this winter, consider who might benefit from your unwanted things by donating them to a charity or good cause.

ST MARGARET LECTURE

Sister Catherine Droste OP will give this year's St Margaret of Scotland Lecture. Archbishop Cushley will conclude the event with a reflection. It takes place online on Wednesday, 10 February, 4:00-5:30pm. Registration details at <https://events.st-andrews.ac.uk/>

MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS LECTURE

The Scottish Catholic Historical Association and the Scottish Catholic Heritage Collections Trust are delighted to be able to invite you to Mary Queen of Scots: An Afterlife, an online zoom lecture by Dr Steven J Reid (University of Glasgow).

The event will be held on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 5:00pm, online via ZOOM. Please ensure that you sign-up at the following link to secure a space: <https://bit.ly/3ccZY4y>

LENTEN SCRIPTURE GROUP

A Lenten Scripture study group will meet 6 times starting on Monday 22nd at 7.30 p.m. The meeting will be held on Zoom for further details please contact Tom Scott at tom.scott0711@gmail.com **The meetings are open to all parishioners** and you don't need to attend them all.

PARISH PANDEMIC SURVEY

Thanks to those who completed the survey. An analysis and summary of responses is attached. The Parish Council will look at the answers and ideas and use them as we plan for parish life after the pandemic!

INSPIRE: LENTEN PRAYER TALKS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE (BOOK VIA WEBSITE)

- 1) **Becoming Saints Today: Unlocking the Present Moment**
Sr Anna Marie McGuan | Tue 16 Feb, 7-8pm |
- 2) **Songs of the Redemption: The Benedictine Liturgy of the Hours** Br Joseph Cannon (Pluscarden) | Tue 02 Mar, 7-8pm
- 3) **Prayer as a Relationship as Reflected in St Teresa of Avila**
Sr Sally Rollo (Dysart) | Tue 16 March, 7-8pm |
- 4) **Praying the Passion According to St Mark**
Archbishop Leo Cushley | Tue 23 March, 7-8pm

WHAT WOULD POPE FRANCIS DO?

To mark the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' election, the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre is delighted to announce a number of prominent Catholic voices exploring the teachings of Pope Francis.

Join them each Tuesday in lent as they delve into some of the key issues defining his papacy.

Lectures start 23rd Feb – see their website for more information:
<https://edinburghjesuitcentre.org.uk/>

WEE BOX

The Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) has announced that supporters of the much-loved WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE Appeal, will soon be able to get their hands on the WEE BOX.

For more than two decades, the initiative has been a fixture in many households throughout Scotland. Every year, generous Scots give up a treat for Lent and place the money they would save into the WEE BOX.

Money raised from this appeal helps to provide the crucial schooling, healthcare, food, sanitation, and support to earn a living that families need to work themselves out of poverty.

The Scottish aid charity has developed comprehensive online resources, jam packed with exciting activities for all ages to ensure people are able to continue to support the appeal.

Penelope Blackwell, Director of Public Engagement said: "The money raised from Lent appeals provides a lifeline to thousands of families who are less fortunate and gives them the hope and support they need to build better futures. We cannot do any of this without the help of our supporters and I would like to thank each and every one you."

To order a WEE BOX go to: www.sciaf.org.uk/weebox or call 0141 354 5555.

FIRE AND WATER



If you missed the event held recently, you can rediscover the power of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Baptism in the video titled **Fire & Water**, from Sr Anna Marie McGuan, our Catechetics advisor, available from the Archdiocesan website or via the **new Archdiocesan YouTube site**: bit.ly/ArchYouTube which will be the location to find other recorded events you may have missed.

FEAST DAY OF ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

February 8th is the International Day of Prayer and Reflection Against Human Trafficking and the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita.

There are upwards of 40 million people trafficked and held in modern slavery today. Pope Francis has said “we declare in the name of all people and of every one of our own Creed that modern slavery—in the form of human trafficking, forced labour, prostitution or the trafficking of organs—is a crime against humanity” and asked us to “work together to eradicate the terrible scourge of modern slavery *in all its forms.*” St Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of persons who are trafficked and was herself a victim of human trafficking. She was born in Darfur, Sudan in 1869, was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery.

She was canonised by Pope Francis in 2000. You can read her story here: www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-josephine-bakhita

PRO-LIFE EVENT

Stations of the Cross, organised by the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, will take place each Monday evening of Lent at 7:45pm. The Stations will be followed by a short reflection by one of our priests. You can register on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/archdiocese-of-st-andrews-amp-edinburgh-18333988801>

...from Father Isaac GOD, HUMAN SUFFERING AND THE BELIEVER.

There are four important attributes of God: All Powerful, All Knowing, All Presence and All Good.

When we reflect on the problems some people are going through, we ask ourselves why should it be so if God is Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent and Absolute Benevolent? Why does he allow human beings whom he loves so much to suffer in the world he created? The book of Job was actually written to address to problem of human sufferings in the world.

But to blame God for all the ills in the world is not the answer. The first place to look is within every human being: one's inhumanity to another. Wars are started by human beings, food shortages are deliberately caused to keep the world prices up, and millions are abused, exploited and manipulated by their own fellow human beings (Vima Dasan). In the language of the philosopher "Man is woe to man". But the question remains: why does God permits evil?"

To answer this question, a theologian propounded a theory "Deius absconditus". He said God created the world and was living in it. At a point in time, he discovered that the problems of this world were too much, he then abandoned the world and absconded into heaven. Can this world exist if God is not in the world? He alone holds firmly holds in existence.

Many other theologians have attempted to answer this question advancing many theories and teachings on human sufferings. St. Augustine was notable in this area. For him suffering gives meaning to life. Some say God allows suffering as a purifying fire. Whatever reason that is advanced human sufferings remain a mystery of which without God it becomes meaningless and absurd. Job would say He who allows the wounds is equally our healer. (Cf. Job 5:18). Hence, suffering is not a problem to be solved but a mystery to be lived. In precision, human suffering which culminates in death should remind us that this world is not our home we are only being prepared for our true home in heaven.

It is pertinent to note that all that is necessary for the victory of evil over good is that good people do nothing when others suffer. Therefore, let us reach out to others in their sufferings and pains; in their weakness and fears; in their rejection and dejection, in their abandonment and forgottenness. Let us witness to the truth that God still loves all human being even in their weakness and fragility. We Christians Blessed with hope, are not storerooms but channels, we are not cisterns but springs.

It is disheartening to see some of us afflicting sufferings on others by words or actions, by propaganda or mere gossiping. We already have too many pains in the world. Like Jesus who brought healing to so many in today's gospel, let us be moved to alleviate the sufferings of our fellow human beings. This help should be spread across everyone not to some sections of humanity. (Cf. Mk1: 38-39) For that is what we Christians are called to do. However, if we must sincerely help others St. Paul tells us in today's second reading that we must be prepared to endure some discomfort "I have made myself a slave to all, that I might by all means save some" 1 Cor. 9:22

"Every new day, as long as each day lasts, keep encouraging one another" (Cf. Heb.3:13). In Acts 4:36, Barnabas was called a son of encouragement because he brought consolation to the Apostles through the help he rendered. Beloved in Christ, Be a child of encouragement. "Help do not hinder others" says Fr. Panteleon Ireagbu. Be a Barnabas to someone every day. "Our Prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you cannot help them at least don't hurt them". (M. Gandhi.)

Stay safe,
Remain Blessed,
Happy Sunday to you.