

ST FILLAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Dunkeld Diocese, Scottish Charity No: SC001810
Website: stfdac.co.uk

03rd January 2021

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY

During this very difficult period, it was felt that some form of communication/support network could prove very useful to Parishioners, especially those who are housebound and vulnerable.

Please contact Fr. Les by phone 01877 330 702 or by email: parishpriest@stfdac.co.uk for further information.

PERFECTED REVELATION



The “**epiphany**” of Jesus, his revelation to the world, was accompanied by the offering of three gifts, each of which symbolized a different aspect of the divine/human Saviour.

- **Frankincense** is offered to Jesus, the Son of God, the eternal Word of the Father who is worshiped with the Father and the Spirit.
- **Gold** is offered to Jesus the King of the human race, the summit of creation.
- **Myrrh** is offered to the divine/human Saviour of the world who suffered and died for the salvation of all.

Jesus is revealed in our own day. He is revealed as the Word of God speaking to us in the marvellous workings of nature, in the achievements of the human spirit, and in the dialogue between Church and world.

He is revealed to us as King in every victory over ignorance, alienation, and powerlessness. He is revealed to us as Suffering Messiah in the heart and face of every poor person, every stranger, every wanderer living in a back alley or under a bridge, every person victimized by others.

“His glory has shone among us.” We have only to recognize him and to do what the magi did in his presence: “They prostrated themselves and did him homage.”

Jesus perfected revelation by fulfilling and manifesting himself: through his words and deeds, his signs and wonders, but especially through his death and glorious resurrection from the dead and final sending of the Spirit of truth.

Vatican II, Constitution on Divine Revelation, 1965:4.

JUSTICE AND PEACE



Today, Message from William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland Justice and Peace Commission

Happy New Year!

On the first days of the Year of Our Lord 2021, we pray that the world may be freed from COVID-19 through a global programme of vaccination, and we pray for peace.

HOLY MASSES IN OUR PARISH

Please pass this information onto anyone who may not have internet access.

The Scottish Government has announced that we are in LEVEL 4 from Boxing Day. We can still attend our churches to celebrate Mass, BUT subject to the Covid-19 Guidance on social distancing, face covering etc. and the requirement to keep a record of all who attend each service, should there be a need to trace anyone as part of the medical track and trace process. This is vital to be able to track and trace any possible future contacts. These details ought to be recorded and kept for the time being for reference as we may be asked for them, should there be a sudden spike or local infection outbreak.

In Level 4 the MAXIMUM number of people who can attend MASS is 20. THIS IS ALSO reliant on the church having the SPACE to allow this number which is not always the case. EVERYONE attending MUST have an INDIVIDUAL BOOKING on the system. This includes Children Under 12.



Holy Mass registration is available on our Parish website: <https://stfdac.co.uk>

Online registration is preferable to process it immediately.

For more information or register by phone please call Edi McKinley Parish Priest on 07909112630.

NOTICE - WEEKLY COLLECTION: As we are unable in the current situation, to hand round the church collection basket, it has been placed on the table at the back of the church for your donations.
Thank you for your generosity.

DONATE

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the from the Prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nation's come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense, and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13

R./ Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Sion praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has blessed the children within you.

R./ Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command.

R./ Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees.

R./ Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Ephesians.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.

Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

*And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'*

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where

the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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THE DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE, by Bishop William Nolan

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, if slogans could change the world then the world would indeed be a better place. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic we heard the slogan: Build Back Better. Expressing the desire that, when we come out of this, we do not want to go back to the way things used to be, but we want to make the world a better place. Many charitable organisations prefer the slogan: A Just and Green Recovery. A reminder that, for a better world to be achieved, all people need to be treated justly and fairly. "Green", of course, reminds us that the environmental crisis we faced before Covid still remains to be dealt with. In order to overcome the coronavirus, we have had to make changes to our lifestyle which a year ago we would not have thought possible. Now, as we work for a better future, we have to recognise that the way we have lived our life in the past has to change, if we are to see that people are treated with justice and that the world, we live in is treated with care. As we begin a new year and as we celebrate the day of prayer for justice and peace, we need to ask ourselves: how prepared are we to make the changes necessary to our own lifestyle? Otherwise, our desire for a better world remains but a wish. Society cannot live the way it lived before and expect that the hungry will be fed, that the homeless will be housed, that refugees will be welcomed, that weapons of war will be put aside, that grievances will be settled by discussion, and that peoples and nations will live in peace. And, of course, the world, our common home, cannot continue to be exploited and polluted without a care for tomorrow.

Today is a day of prayer, for we need to pray. For the better world begins in each of our hearts. May God touch our hearts and deepen our love for the brother and sister we do not know and have not met, yet who needs our help. May God help us appreciate the gift of creation that he has given us. A gift to be shared by all God's children, whether in this generation or in generations to come. Many people in Scotland are engaged in the work of justice and peace because they recognise that to change the world for the better is not a solo effort -we need to work together. We need to encourage others, including those who govern our country, to be concerned for the welfare of all our brothers and sisters and to be committed to look after our common home. We need to encourage by our word, but above all by our example, so that together we do build that better, just and green world. With my prayers and best wishes for peace and justice in the coming year,

+ William Nolan

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THE INFORMATION OF THE DEATH OF OUR PARRISHIONER: MRS LILLY McCrORY (31 Dec. 2020).

Funeral Mass is scheduled here in St Joseph, on Thursday, January 14th, 2021, at 10.00am.

We commend you, Dear Lilly McCrory



to almighty God, and entrust you to your Creator. May you rest in the arms of the Lord who formed you from the dust of the earth. May holy Mary, the angels and all the saints welcome you now that you have gone forth from this life. May Christ who was crucified for you, bring you freedom and peace. May Christ who died for you admit you into his garden of paradise. May Christ, the true Shepherd, embrace you as one of his flock. May you see your Redeemer face to face, and enjoy the vision of God, forever.

PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

I commend you for your prayer **Fr James R. McCruden** whose second anniversary was on 30th December 2020. *Anniversary Mass for Fr Jim will be offered on coming Sunday, January 10, at 11.30am.*

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.