

ST FILLAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

25th April 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ESTER - B

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.

WHO CARES? - THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



The image of the good shepherd is the image of a person who cares. He is not like the other, "who has no concern." He takes the time to get to know others, and he cares so much that he will even give his life for others.

We belong to a church populated by caring individuals who give their lives for others: priests and nuns martyred in El Salvador; missionaries struggling in the remotest parts of the world; peace activists challenging the consciences of nations; sisters caring lovingly for the sick and dying.

What would happen if all of us cared, really cared, about our brothers and sisters who are hungry, homeless, helpless, mistreated, victimized, suffering, unemployed, impoverished, threatened, rejected? What would happen if all of us became good shepherds and cared?

Wouldn't the consequences be monumental if everyone in the Christian community became a good shepherd?

No one is permitted to disregard the plight of his brothers living in dire poverty, enmeshed in ignorance and tormented by insecurity (Saint Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, 1967:74).

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GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE - UPDATE

The government has issued new DRAFT guidance on the numbers able to attend church services based on a number of factors and a review of the Risk Assessment criteria which still includes the 2-meter distancing requirement. The 2-metre distance is **not required** between members of the same household or extended household group, or between a carer and the person assisted by the carer. **Children who require their own seat or are 5 years and over are to be included in the calculation.** Therefore, children of 4 years and under do not need to be included in the calculation. We have reviewed the risk assessment based on this new guidance which is expected to be confirmed on the 26th of April and have concluded that the **MAXIMUM** we will be able accept in **Doune is still 50, Callander is now 30.** This still includes wearing of face masks (*unless medically unable to do so*) use of hand sanitiser on entering the church, spacing at communion etc.

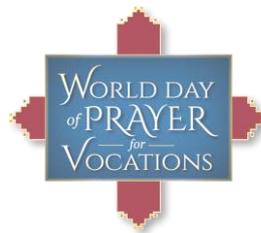
SUNDAY'S HOLY MASS ON SATURDAY

As previously was announced from the **8th May till 29th September** Parishioners and our Guests will have the opportunity to participate **each Saturday in the Vigil Sunday Mass at 5:30pm.** In Month of May, after Mass, we will recite the Litany of Loretto. **Registration is required through the Parish web site: stfdac.co.uk.**

PLEASE REMEMBER ANNE GUTHRIE

Can you please remember **Anne Guthrie** in your prayers. Anne who was a regular at St. Joseph's until around the start of the Pandemic, **is currently in FVRH Larbert** after sustaining a fall in her home when she broke her hip. However, she also had a fall whilst in hospital and fractured her wrist and her shoulder.

We pray that Anne's injuries will heal quickly and that she will be able to return home soon.



FAMILY CONNECTION

The Good Shepherd makes sacrifices for the sheep not because it is required, but because it is a choice. That sounds a lot like parenting and the dynamics of a healthy family life.

Parents choose to make sacrifices for their children out of love, not obligation. Christian parents' model and invite their children to choose to make sacrifices for other family members and for other people, acting out of love rather than obligation. When you gather as a family, invite each family member to consider the attitude that permeates their participation in family life.

Read a common examen, such as any of the following: *Do we do family chores cheerfully and without having to be asked multiple times? Do we gladly share with others? Do we willingly contribute to the family good when asked?*

Read aloud today's Gospel, John 10:11-18. ♦ Discuss together how the example of the Good Shepherd might inspire your family life. ♦ Invite each family member to make a renewed commitment to one action/attitude to focus on in the upcoming week that show that we will choose to follow the example of the Good Shepherd. *Pray together that we will be able to honour our commitment.*

PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, / teach me true generosity. / Teach me to serve you as you deserve. / To give without counting the cost, / to fight heedless of wounds, / to labour without seeking rest, / to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward / save the knowledge that I have done your will. / Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Two metaphors in today's readings describe Jesus. Peter, drawing upon the words of the psalmist, calls Jesus the cornerstone. He is the foundation of our Christian faith, the one who conquered death and brought salvation to the world. In the Gospel, Jesus identifies himself as **the Good Shepherd**. He leads and cares for his sheep, even sheep outside the fold, eventually laying down his life for them, for us. *Let us reflect on how Jesus is our cornerstone and our shepherd.*

FIRST READING

Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

The Word of God. – *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my Saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my Saviour. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Psalm text from The Psalms: A New Translation © 1963 The Grail (England) published by HarperCollins. Version 1 – issued 13 Dec 2020.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the First Letter of Saint John.

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of God. – *Thanks be to God.*

GOSEL ACCLAMATION

J 10:14

R. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

R. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

GOSPEL

J 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
– *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord. – *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

The Scripture readings are taken from The Jerusalem Bible © 1985 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd. and Doubleday and Co. Ltd.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Introduction: *Saint John tells us that we may be called children of God, so we turn now to our heavenly Father with our needs and concerns, assured that we will be heard.*

- For the Church, that we may always look to Christ as the cornerstone of our faith, our world, and our lives as we live out the gospel he preached, *let us pray to the Lord.*
- For bishops and pastors and all who shepherd the Church through the challenges and difficulties of the twenty-first century, that they may exercise good judgment and wisdom as they care for their flock, *let us pray to the Lord.*
- For increased respect for all of God's creation, that we may treat the earth and all that is on it with love and care, *let us pray to the Lord.*
- That we may all be attentive to the voice of the Good Shepherd calling us to be shepherds of the flock through ordained or lay ministry, *let us pray to the Lord.*
- For those who have wandered away from the flock, for those who have been hurt, for those who cannot find a way back, that they may come to know the Good Shepherd through our outreach and compassion, *let us pray to the Lord.*
- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, *let us pray to the Lord.*

Conclusion: *Loving Father, we are your children, each of us a sacred part of your family. Guide us in right paths as you listen to the prayers we make through your Son, our Good Shepherd and Saviour.*