

# ST FILLAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Dunkeld Diocese, Scottish Charity No: SC001810

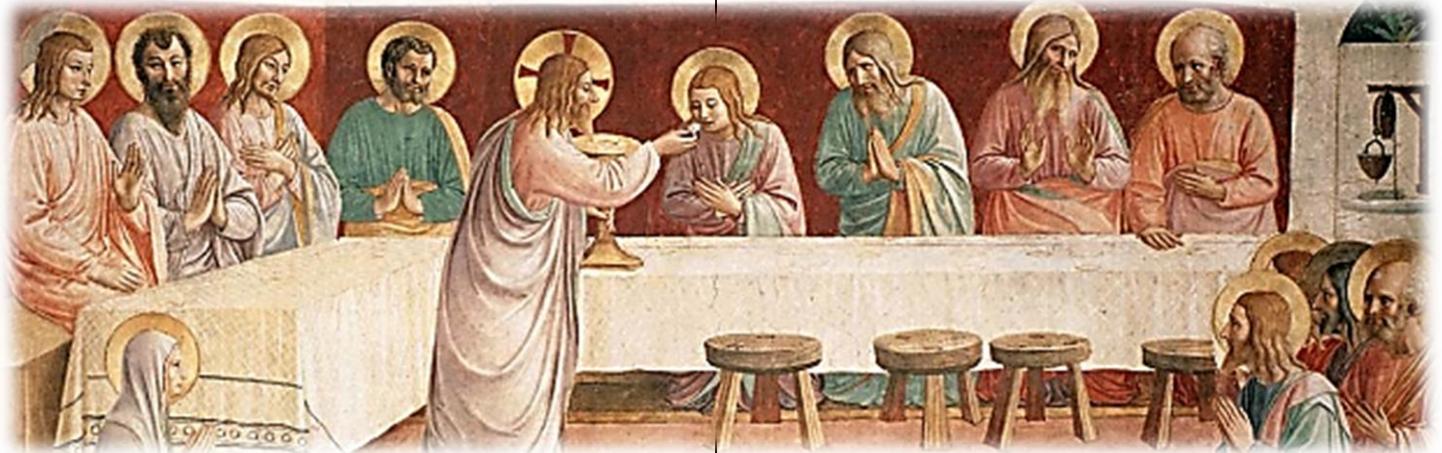
Website: [stfdac.co.uk](http://stfdac.co.uk)

Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time - 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](mailto:parishpriest@stfdac.co.uk) for further information.



### THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

#### Basic questions and answers

God reveals his truth to us in ways that we can understand through the gift of faith and the grace of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We are thus enabled to understand at least in some measure what would otherwise remain unknown to us, though we can never completely comprehend the mystery of God. To foster such a deepening of faith, we present this text to respond to questions that commonly arise regarding the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We offer this text to assist you to assure your hope and enrich your understanding of this mystery of the faith.

#### DOES THE BREAD CEASE TO BE BREAD AND THE WINE CEASE TO BE WINE?

Yes. In order for the whole Christ to be present—body, blood, soul, and divinity—the bread and wine cannot remain, but must give way so that his glorified Body and Blood may be present. Thus, in the Eucharist the bread ceases to be bread in substance, and becomes the Body of Christ, while the wine ceases to be wine in substance, and becomes the Blood of Christ. As St. Thomas Aquinas observed, Christ is not quoted as saying, "This bread is my body," but "This is my body" (*Summa Theologiae*, III q. 78, a. 5).

#### IS IT FITTING THAT CHRIST'S BODY AND BLOOD BECOME PRESENT IN THE EUCHARIST UNDER THE APPEARANCES OF BREAD AND WINE?

Yes, for this way of being present corresponds perfectly to the sacramental celebration of the Eucharist. Jesus Christ gives himself to us in a form that employs the symbolism inherent in eating bread and drinking wine. Furthermore, being present under the appearances of bread and wine, Christ gives himself to us in a form that is appropriate for human eating and drinking. Also, this kind of presence corresponds to the virtue of faith, for the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ cannot be detected or discerned by any way other than faith. That is why St. Bonaventure affirmed:

"There is no difficulty over Christ's being present in the sacrament as in a sign; the great difficulty is in the fact that He is really in the sacrament, as He is in heaven. And so believing this is especially meritorious" (*In IV Sent.*, dist. X, P. I, art. un., qu. I). On the authority of God who reveals himself to us, by faith we believe that which cannot be grasped by our human faculties (cf. *Catechism*, no. 1381).

#### PRAYER:

I ADORE Thee profoundly, O my Jesus, in Thy sacramental form; I acknowledge Thee to be true God and true Man, and by this act of adoration I intend to atone for the coldness of so many Christians who pass before Thy churches and sometimes before the very Tabernacle in which Thou art pleased to remain at all hours with loving impatience to give Thyself to Thy faithful people, and do not so much as bend the knee before Thee, and who, by their indifference proclaim that they grow weary of this heavenly manna, like the people of Israel in the wilderness. I offer Thee in reparation for this grievous negligence, the Most Precious Blood which Thou didst shed from Thy five wounds, and especially from Thy sacred Side, and entering therein, I repeat a thousand times with true recollection of spirit:

O Sacrament most holy! O Sacrament divine!  
All praise and all thanksgiving  
be every moment Thine.

Our Father..., Hail Mary..., Glory Be...

#### DEAR FRIENDS

I will be on holiday from Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July until 29<sup>th</sup> August. There will be no weekday Masses during this time.

The Saturday Evening Vigil Mass in Callander and Sunday Masses in Doune and Callander will be as normal, booked via the web site.

In an emergency, please contact:  
Fr Willy Brandon at (01786) 824 022.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Speaking the word of God can be tough. God warns Ezekiel that he will need to speak out against a stubborn and rebellious people. Jesus meets with opposition when preaching in his hometown. Saint Paul speaks of the hardships he faces. Speaking out on behalf of our faith can be as difficult for us now as it was for them then. But we know, like Paul, that we have the power of Christ dwelling within us. As we listen to God's word, let us pray for the resolve we need to give witness to our faith.

### FIRST READING

Ezekiel 2:2-5

#### A reading from the Book of Prophet Ezekiel.

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

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

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122(123)

#### R./: Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy

To you I lift up my eyes who are enthroned in heaven; as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters. (R./)

As the eyes of a maid are on the hands of her mistress, so are our eyes on the Lord, our God, till he have pity on us. (R./)

Have pity on us, O Lord, have pity on us, for we are more than sated with contempt; our souls are more than sated with the mockery of the arrogant, with the contempt of the proud. (R./)

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

### SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

#### A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So, I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives.*

Alleluia, alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-6

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

– *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus went to his hometown and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in

the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

**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.

### FAMILY CONNECTION

Our family plays an important role in shaping us and forming our self-identity. In family life, we find a safe place to discover who we are and who God calls us to be.

But sometimes the influences from outside our family can make us unrecognizable to those who know us best. These outside influences can lead us away from God, or they can lead us toward a deeper relationship with God. In today's Gospel, we see that the people of Nazareth could not recognize Jesus as the Son of God.

They could know him only as the son of Mary. We hope that through our family life we will be encouraged to filter the many influences on our lives through the lens of faith so that we will become the person that God calls us to be. As you gather as a family, talk about the people and events that are influencing members of your family.

Acknowledge that many of these people and events are positive influences, helping us be better people and leading us to a deeper relationship with God. Also acknowledge, however, that there are negative influences in our lives that risk pulling us away from God. Observe that Jesus was a person who allowed his relationship with God to be the most important thing in his life.

This led many people to have faith in him as the Son of God. However, not everyone could recognize this about Jesus. Read today's Gospel, Mark 6:1-6. Ask: Who does not recognize Jesus as God's Son in this Gospel? (*some of his kinfolk in Nazareth*)

Observe that because of the people's lack of faith, Jesus could not perform many miracles in Nazareth. Conclude by praying together that our families will continue to help us follow God in our lives. **Pray together the Prayer for Vocations.**

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God, in Baptism you called me by name and made me a member of your people, the Church.

Help all your people  
to know their vocation in life,  
and to respond by living a life of holiness.

For your greater glory and for the service  
of your people, raise up dedicated and  
generous leaders who will serve as  
sisters, priests, brothers, deacons,  
and lay ministers.

Send your Spirit to guide and strengthen me  
that I may serve your people following  
the example of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
in whose name I offer this prayer.

Amen.