



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

St. Joseph's Church (Callander) and St Fillan's and St Alphonsus' Church (Doune).

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

If you feel that some form of communication or support network could be very useful to parishioners, especially those who are house-bound and vulnerable, please contact Fr. Les by phone at 01877 330 702 or by email at [stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk).

29 September 2024

## TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



In today's Gospel (Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48), we see the disciples attempting to limit who can act in Jesus' name, only to be gently corrected by Jesus Himself. His response is a powerful reminder that the work of God is not confined to a select few but open to all who act with love, charity, and compassion.

This passage challenges us to be more open and accepting of others, even when they do not belong to our particular circle or share the same traditions.

The Spirit works in ways we may not expect, through people we may not fully understand. In our parish, this calls us to an attitude of welcome and cooperation, recognizing the good that can come from the diversity of gifts and talents present among us.

It is also an invitation to take stock of our own actions and words. Jesus' words about causing others to stumble remind us of the profound responsibility we bear as His followers. Are we encouraging others in their faith journey, or are we setting up unnecessary barriers? Do our lives reflect the love of Christ, or are we quick to criticize and exclude?

As we move forward in the coming week, let us remember that every small gesture of kindness, every prayer, every word of encouragement, contributes to building up the Kingdom of God. Let us strive to see Christ in others and allow His Spirit to work through us, wherever we are, and with whomever we encounter.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Moses' loyal lieutenant Joshua and Jesus' beloved disciple John each protest that seemingly undeserving people are acting in the Lord's name. Moses and Jesus both respond by basically saying that the spirit blows where it will, and we humans cannot bottle it in. We also hear both James and Jesus warn us of the consequences of sin. *May we heed their warnings as we take comfort in the Holy Spirit's presence within us, guiding us in the right ways.*



## Potluck Luncheon

*We are eagerly anticipating our first Parish Pot Luck Lunch, which will take place this Sunday, 29th September, following the 11:30am Mass. A heartfelt thank you to everyone participating in this wonderful event!*

## OCTOBER THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY



October is a special time in the Church as we dedicate this month to the Holy Rosary, a prayer deeply woven into the life of our faith.

Through the Rosary, we contemplate the mysteries of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, while seeking the intercession of His Blessed Mother, Mary. The Rosary invites us to reflect on the great events of our salvation, guiding us through moments of joy, sorrow, glory, and light.

Each decade allows us to walk alongside Mary as she leads us to her Son, helping us to meditate on His love and the plan of salvation. In these challenging times, the Rosary offers us peace, strength, and comfort, as we turn to Our Lady with our prayers and intentions.

**We invite all parishioners to join us for communal Rosary prayer throughout October.**

**In DOUNE, the Rosary will begin at 9:15am, 30 minutes before the 9:45am Holy Mass, and in CALLANDER at 11:00am, 30 minutes before the 11:30am Holy Mass.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather as a community and strengthen our faith, asking for Our Lady's intercession and protection.

Let us, together, embrace this devotion and allow the Rosary to draw us ever closer to Christ.

**Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us!**

### JOYFUL MYSTERIES

Luke 1:28-35,38 – The angel Gabriel announces the Incarnation to Mary.

Luke 1:39-45 – Mary visits Elizabeth in her time of need.

Luke 2:6-12 – Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

Luke 2:25-32 – Mary and Joseph present Jesus in the Temple.

Luke 2:41-4 – Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple.

### LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

Matthew 3:13-17 – The Baptism of the Lord.

John 2:1-11 – The Wedding Feast at Cana.

Mark 1:15, 2:3-12 – Jesus announces the coming of the Kingdom and forgives sins.

Matthew 17:1-8 – Jesus is transfigured, dazzling white, on Mount Tabor.

Matthew 26:26-32 – The Institution of the Eucharist.

### SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Luke 22:39-46 – Jesus prays in Gethsemane on the night before His death.

Mark 15:6-15 – Christ is scourged by the soldiers at Pilate's command.

John 19:1-8 – Soldiers weave a crown of thorns and shove it into Christ's head.

John 19:16-22 – The Carrying of the Cross.

John 19:25-30 – The Crucifixion.

### GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Matthew 28:1-8 – Jesus' Resurrection.

Acts 1:8-11 – Christ ascends into Heaven.

Acts 2:1-6, 38-41 – The Descent of the Holy Spirit on Mary and the Apostles.

Revelation 12:1-3, 13-18 – The Assumption.

Revelation 12:1-5 – Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and earth.

## MEDJUGORJE : PAPAL CONSENT "NIHIL OBSTAT"

### The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a



Note regarding the spiritual phenomena associated with Medjugorje, offering a thorough analysis based on updated norms for discerning alleged supernatural events.

The document stresses that, while there are no moral judgments made about the individuals involved in the apparitions, the spiritual fruits associated with Medjugorje, such as conversions, vocations, and deeper faith practices, are notable and widespread. The positive outcomes of the Medjugorje experience are highlighted, particularly in promoting healthy religious practice in line with Church tradition. Many people have reported conversions, renewed participation in the sacraments, and a deeper commitment to faith. Medjugorje has also become a centre for intense pastoral activity, prayer, and pilgrimage.

While the Note acknowledges positive elements of the messages from Medjugorje, it also highlights the presence of certain inconsistencies or imprecise expressions, especially in some of the messages.

The Dicastery reminds readers that not every aspect of these spiritual phenomena is free from human misunderstanding or error. The Note stresses the importance of listening to the messages of conversion, peace, and the call to deepen one's relationship with God. However, it also warns against excessive focus on the extraordinary aspects of the apparitions, urging believers to prioritize Scripture and the core tenets of the Gospel.

The document calls for a discerning and careful approach to Medjugorje, emphasizing that while there are beautiful and positive spiritual fruits, these should not overshadow the need for prudence.

In the context of the Dicastery's Note regarding Medjugorje, **Nihil obstat** signifies that the Church acknowledges there is nothing in the spiritual phenomena or messages associated with Medjugorje that directly contradicts Catholic doctrine or poses harm to the faithful. It permits the faithful to participate in public worship and embrace the spiritual benefits tied to Medjugorje in a cautious and discerning manner.

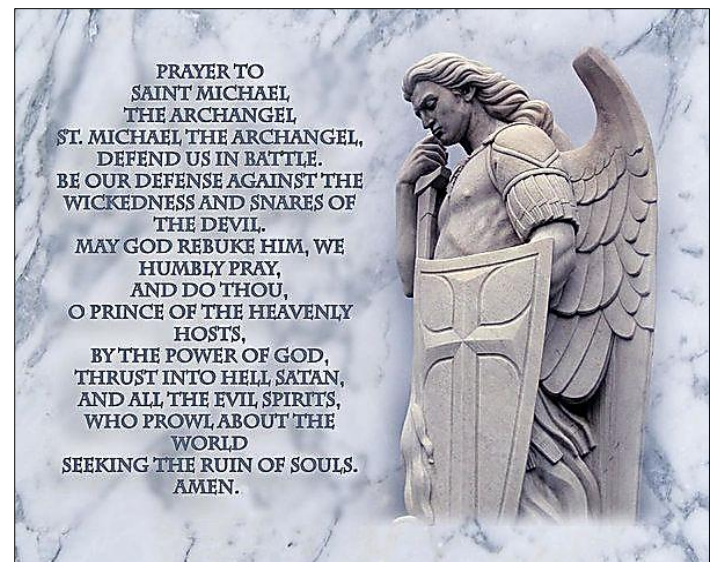
The Dicastery concludes by granting a **Nihil obstat**—an approval allowing public worship and participation in the spiritual proposals of Medjugorje, without declaring the supernatural nature of the events.

It encourages Church authorities to promote pastoral care related to the spiritual experience while remaining attentive to any potential abuses.



**The faithful are reminded that pilgrimages to Medjugorje should be centred on encountering Mary, the Queen of Peace, and deepening their relationship with Christ.**

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## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

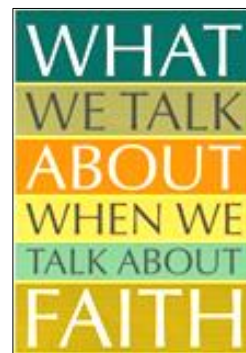
“Despite all attempts to deny, conceal, gloss over or relativize the issue, the signs of climate change are here and increasingly evident.

No one can ignore the fact that in recent years we have witnessed extreme weather phenomena, frequent periods of unusual heat, drought and other cries of protest on the part of the earth that are only a few palpable expressions of a silent disease that affects everyone. [...] I ask everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful.”

**His Holiness Pope Francis,**  
Bishop of Rome, Roman Catholic Church



## FAMILY CONNECTION



As you gather as a family, observe that there are things in our lives that nurture our faith and things that can hinder it.

Talk about some of the things that nurture our faith—healthy family relationships, healthy friendships, good literature, and so on. Name some of the things that might be an obstacle to faith—unhealthy relationships, scandals, and so on.

Observe that Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel that we are to do everything we can to help one another have faith in Jesus and do all that we can to avoid creating obstacles that might hinder another person's faith. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48.

Conclude by praying together that we will be a family that helps each other grow in faith. *Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 19, or the Lord's Prayer.*