

Help is needed with gardening and grass-cutting in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth. If you can help please have a word as soon as possible with Gerry Rodgers or Liz Robertson - many thanks!

St. James' 100 Club Winners (February, 2025) - £50: Maureen Foster (7), £10: Maz Thorn (70), Maite Bowstead (50), Bob Corrieri (51), Betty Chilvers (60). A gentle reminder that subscriptions that are still outstanding should be paid a.s.a.p. in order to remain in the draw - thank you!

The Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (SCSSA) want to keep everyone within the Catholic Church up to date with what is happening in Safeguarding. They do this in two ways, via their Safeguarding Matters newsletter which is issued every 3-4 months. Also SCSSA new communications issued as and when. The latest issue of the Newsletter was 3rd February and is available on the SCSSA website scssa.org.uk, click on the three parallel lines top right and go down to 'informing' and click on that, and you can scroll down and click on the yellow box. A copy is also put in the lobby at Church. This issue has information about last year's 'Annual Evaluation' carried out in April, along with information from the Annual Conference in November and one or two other articles.

News from Our Lady's Primary School, Perth

Our Lady's RCPS Shelter

Sometime ago, the children of Our Lady's Primary asked for a shelter for their playground to support their outdoor learning. We first started fundraising for this in 2019 and have managed to raise £6342.66 so far as a school community. Unfortunately, we would need at least double this amount for the shelter to go ahead. We have applied to the Guildry, a parent is currently applying to the East Coast Local Community Benefit Fund and we will continue our own fundraising efforts. We are wondering if any of the Parish Community had any suggestions on funding our project or if anyone would be able to contribute to our efforts. Any help would be greatly appreciated! (Thanks to those who have already given some help).

Our Lady's Primary School in Perth would love to foster even stronger links with the parish communities of both churches and are hoping that some parishioners might like to share their skills and talents with our young people at school and promote a bit of 'inter-generational learning'. If you can share your skills with board games, stitching, sewing, knitting, or any other crafts they would be most grateful. You would be working, accompanied by a member of staff, with a small group of children passing on some of your own skills to them. Call the school on **01738 477570** if you can help. Thank you!

Suggested Calendar of Social Events for St. James', Kinross 2025/26

Following on from the meeting we had the other week, here are our proposals:

- Day out at cinema - "Conclave" - Tuesday 4th March - please speak to Jane Porteous for more details.
- Parish Social in the hall - (Pot Luck Supper & Music) - TBC but maybe after Easter 2025 (anytime from 21st April onwards)
- Visit to the Japanese Gardens - **Wednesday 21st May, 2025**, (make own way there) leaving after morning Mass on Wednesday and tea/coffee, approx.. time of departure from St. James' 11.30a.m. - get lunch there at the café.
- Family Visit to Craigtoun Park - **Sunday 15th June, 2025**, coach organised from outside the church, depart 11.00/11.30a.m. and return 5.00p.m., packed lunch. (need to put out list to get idea of numbers)
- Parish BBQ in the grounds of St. James' - **Sunday 17th August, 2025** - 2.00-5.00p.m.
- Day Trip away to Beamish Open Air Museum, County Durham - **Monday 15th September, 2025**, departing 8.00a.m. from St. James', returning 9.00p.m. approx. (need to put out list to get idea of numbers)
- St. Andrew's Day Get-Together - **Saturday 22nd November, 2025**, from 10.00a.m. to 12.30p.m., a coffee morning with sale of work - in the church hall.
- Christmas Buffet & Carols - **Friday 12th December, 2025**, 7.00 for 7.30p.m., in the church hall.
- Burns Supper - in the church hall at St. James', on **Friday 30th January, 2026**, 7.00 for 7.30p.m.

Thanks to Our Lady's Fundraising Group for holding a Bingo Tea for parish funds. Well done to those who won, and thanks also to all who supported this event. Details of the funds raised will be in the next newsletter.

Bishop Andrew will be visiting the parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes' and St. James' and saying all the Masses (which I will concelebrate with him) on the 5th Sunday of Lent, that is: Saturday 5th April and Sunday 6th April. He is systematically visiting parishes throughout his diocese.

Parish Newsletter

Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth &
St. James', Kinross

In the Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Preparation for Baptism - Parish Lessons

Deacon Des has very kindly agreed to run the baptismal preparation meetings for both parishes. Therefore, anyone wishing to have a child baptised must now contact him on his e-mail address - desconnors@brcdt.org - in order to make the necessary arrangements for lessons. There will be set times for the baptismal lessons, they will be held once monthly, and will be a requirement for baptism in the parish. Even if parents have already approached me about Baptism for their children they must also contact Deacon Des and make arrangements for the lessons. God bless, Fr. Martin

Prayer for the Day of Prayer for survivors of abuse (Friday 7th March)

Dear Lord, by the power of your Cross and Resurrection bring healing and strength where there is pain and vulnerability, and may all who suffer as a result of abuse by members of the Church encounter true Christian charity, deep understanding, and wise accompaniment on their journey towards healing and wholeness. Amen.

**Pancake Teas after 9.00a.m. Mass today in St. James', and
11.00a.m. Mass today in Our Lady's. All welcome!**

Contact details:

Parish Priest - Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Des Connors (e-mail: desconnors@brcdt.org)

Our Lady of Lourdes', 42 Struan Road, Perth PH1 2JP, Telephone: 01738 626979,

E-Mail: ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

St. James', 5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW, Telephone: 01577 863329,

E-Mail: stjames@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

Parish Mobile Number: 07540534480

Our Lady of Lourdes' Website: ourladyoflourdes@perth.church

St. James' Website: www.catholickinross.com

Office Hours for the Parish Secretary (Dianne Mitchell): Thursday 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon

(Phone 01738 626979 only in order to speak to the Parish Secretary)

Parish Secretary's E-Mail addresses: ololadmin@dunkelldioecese.org.uk or stjamesadmin@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators' E-Mail for Our Lady's (Marie Stuart & Dianne Mitchell):
ololpsc@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for St. James' (Maureen Foster): stjamespsc@dunkelldioecese.org.uk
& **Mobile Number** (St. James'): 03330 382386 (Option 5)

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (John Smith): safeguardingadvisor@dunkelldioecese.org.uk or tel. 01382 225453

Or www.dunkelldioecese.co.uk/safeguarding

Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency: www.scssa.org.uk

Telephone Number for the Diocesan Curial Offices: 01382 225453

Dunkeld Diocesan Website: www.dunkelldioecese.co.uk

Times of Holy Mass, Confessions, etc.

Please note changes in the usual timetable and extra devotions for Lent

(extra time for Adoration, Stations of the Cross)

Monday 3rd March - No Public Mass - Catechism Class in St. James' church hall from after school until 4.30p.m. Prayer Group in St. James', Kinross, from 7.30 - 9.15p.m.

Tuesday 4th March - *Tuesday of the 8th Week in Ordinary Time* - Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth. Clergy Meeting at 11.00a.m. in Our Lady's church hall, Perth. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 3.00-4.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross (Deacon Des)

Wednesday 5th March - *Ash Wednesday* - Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth (Whole School Mass - all are welcome). Holy Mass at 6.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross. Holy Mass at 8.00p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth.

Thursday 6th March - *Thursday after Ash Wednesday* - Stations of the Cross at 9.30a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, followed by Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions from 6.00-7.00p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth.

Friday 7th March - *Friday after Ash Wednesday* - Stations of the Cross (we pray the Stations today for the intentions of all survivors of abuse) at 9.30a.m. followed by Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. in St. James', Kinross. (Planning Meeting with Deacon Des after Holy Mass)

Saturday 8th March - *Vigil Mass of the 1st Sunday of Lent - Year C* - Confessions in Our Lady's from 3.45-4.45p.m., followed by the Vigil Mass at 5.00p.m. Vigil Mass in St. James', Kinross, at 7.00p.m. followed by an opportunity for Confession after Mass.

Sunday 9th March - *Mass of the 1st Sunday of Lent - Year C* - Holy Mass in St. James', Kinross, at 9.00a.m., Holy Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, at 11.00a.m. *These Sunday Masses will begin with the Litany of Saints rather than an opening hymn. My suggestion is that with this in mind the Children's Liturgy begins 5 minutes earlier than Mass, i.e. children to gather in the halls with leaders at 8.55a.m. and 10.55a.m. respectively.* Stations of the Cross at 3.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross (Deacon Des), Stations of the Cross at 3.00p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth (Fr. Martin)

Monday 10th March - No Public Mass - Catechism Class in St. James' church hall from after school until 4.30p.m. (First Confessions of children in St. James' Catechism Class at 3.30p.m. - please pray for these children who are preparing for the Sacraments). Prayer Group in St. James', Kinross, from 7.30 - 9.15p.m.

Tuesday 11th March - *Tuesday of the 1st Week of Lent* - Stations of the Cross at 9.30a.m. followed by Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth. Tea and Coffee in the church hall after Holy Mass. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 3.00-4.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross (Deacon Des).

Wednesday 12th March - *Wednesday of the 1st Week of Lent* - Stations of the Cross at 9.30a.m. in St. James', Kinross, followed by Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. Tea & Coffee in the church hall after Holy Mass. (Church cleaning afterwards - new volunteers always welcome). Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions from 6.00-7.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross.

Thursday 13th March - *Thursday of the 1st Week of Lent* - Stations of the Cross at 9.30a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, from 6.00-7.00p.m., concluding with Benediction. (Alice's 13th birthday :-) woof, woof!)

Friday 14th March - *Friday of the 1st Week of Lent* - Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m. in St. James', Kinross, followed by Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.

Saturday 15th March - *Vigil Mass of the 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year C* - Confessions in Our Lady's from 3.45-4.45p.m., followed by the Vigil Mass at 5.00p.m. Vigil Mass in St. James', Kinross, at 7.00p.m. followed by an opportunity for Confession after Mass.

Sunday 16th March - *Mass of the 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year C* - Holy Mass in St. James', Kinross, at 9.00a.m., Holy Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth, at 11.00a.m. Stations of the Cross at 3.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross (Deacon Des), Stations of the Cross at 3.00p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth (Fr. Martin)

Readings for the weekend of 1st / 2nd March, 2025 - 8th Sunday Ord. Time - Yr C

A reading from the Book of Sirach 27:4-7

'Do not praise a man before you hear him reason.'

Psalm 92(91)

Response: It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.

A reading from the 1st Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 15:54-58

'He gives us the victory through Jesus Christ.'

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 6:39-45

'Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.'

Readings for the weekend of 8th / 9th March, 2025 - 1st Sunday in Lent - Year C

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the chosen people.

Psalm 91(90)

Response: Be with me, O LORD, in my distress.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith of believers in Christ.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13

'Jesus was led by the spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil.'

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.