

St John the Baptist's, Perth

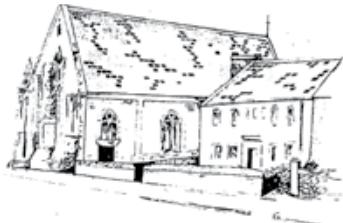
SUNDAY MASS in St JOHN'S
6.30pm (*Saturday Vigil*)
& on Sunday
9am, 11am, 6.30pm

WEEKDAYS
Monday-Saturday
at 10am, Tuesday 7pm

MSZA ŚW.
PO POLSKU
Niedziela 5pm
Pojednania 4.15pm

RECONCILIATION
in St John's
Saturday
5-6pm

Priests: Very Rev. Martin Monsignor Drysdale STL VG, St John's Presbytery, 20 Melville Street, Perth, PH1 5PY (01738 622241)
and Rev. Bogdan Palka SDS 16 Melville Street Perth PH1 5PY (01738 564182)
Permanent Deacons: Rev. Len Moir (01738 451677) and Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (01783 636589)



7th Sunday of Easter Year A 28th May 2017

welcome
to all
our
visitors

Happy Easter - L-Għid it-tajjeb - Wesołego Alleluja! - Maligayang pasko ng pagkabuhay - Buona Pasqua - Joyeuses Pâques - Христос възкрес - Χριστός ανέστη! - Frohe Ostern - ḡħu ojje kuaile - Veselé prežtie Beannachtaí na Cásca - Paște Fericit - Pasg Hapus - Boa Páscoa - Mshilo Qom! Shariouth Qom!

LOOK UP AND GO OUT

"No sooner had He said this than He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight."

The apostles asked Jesus: "Lord, are you going to restore the rule to Israel now?" (Acts 1:6) They were interested in knowing the time Jesus would restore the kingdom. Jesus responded: "The exact time it is not yours to know" (Acts 1:7). Then Jesus proceeded to bring up what He was interested in — not so much the time but the persons responsible for restoring the kingdom. The apostles had assumed Jesus would do the restoring. Jesus shocked them by asserting that they were to do the job. Before the apostles could try to shift the responsibility back onto Jesus, He ascended, leaving the apostles "holding

the bag," that is, having the responsibility of making disciples of all the nations (see Mt 28:19). However, Jesus did not leave His Church responsible but powerless. He promised us the Spirit's power (Acts 1:8) and His presence "always, until the end of the world!" (Mt 28:20)

Jesus' Ascension means that we, the members of the Church, take up where Jesus has left off. The responsibility for evangelizing the world is ours; the power of the Holy Spirit is ours; and the privilege of living and dying for His kingdom is ours. Because He has gone up, we must go out. Go now.



Teas after
the 11am
Mass on Sunday
and 10am Mass
on Tuesdays



Prayers

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Kathleen Cassidy, Ian MacDonald, Rab McKenzie, Mary O'Rourke, Ian Heggie, Danny Smith, Annie McNeela, Helen Mackle, Mary Connelly, Isobel Kirkham, James Burns and Hugh Lee and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.



Congratulations to the new head boy (Albert Krawowski) and head girl (Louise Ford) at St John's Academy - and the whole senior leadership team

For this Sunday's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

I am sure I shall see
the Lord's goodness,
in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Instruct me Lord, in your way:
on an even path lead me.

Czas zamkniętych drzwi



Chrystus odszedł. Pożegnanie było krótkie. W uszach uczniów brzmiało polecenie: „Idąc na cały świat nauczajcie wszystkie narody”. Trzeba było podjąć to wezwanie. Za zamkniętymi drzwiami wieczernika w Jerozolimie niewielka wspólnota, wychowywana przez Mistra z Nazaretu trwała na modlitwie. W bliskim kontakcie z Bogiem przygotowuje się do wyjścia w świat. Gdy wędrowali za Mistrem niejednokrotnie brakowało im czasu i sił na modlitwę. Zmęczeni spali. Sam Mistrz przeznaczał swe noce na rozmowę z Ojcem, ale oni w tej modlitwie nie uczestniczyli. Wielokrotnie słuchali pouczeń na temat modlitwy, a teraz nadal czekają czas odkrywania jej mocy. Póki Chrystus był z nimi, szereg spraw mogli załatwić z Nim w zwyczajnej rozmowie. Modlitwę zastępowało w dużej mierze obcowanie z Chrystusem. Teraz, gdy Go zabrakło, wspólnie złączyły swe serca w nasłuchiwaniu tego, co Bóg chce im powiedzieć. Zdawali sobie sprawę z trudu i wielkości zadania, jakie mieli wykonać. Znali też słabość swoich ludzkich sił niezdolnych do podjęcia tak wielkiego dzieła. Wiedzieli

jak niechętnie świat jest nastawiony na przyjęcie dobrej nowiny, jak wielkie kłody rzuca się pod nogi tych, którzy ją głoszą. Dobrze znali dzieje swego Mistra. Dokładnie rozwalały ostatnie tygodnie Jego życia, kiedy osaczony przez przeciwników potrafił wytrwać w objawieniu miłości aż do swej śmierci. Byli świadomi, do czego się zabierają i jak się skończy dla każdego z nich głoszenie Ewangelii. Szukali więc dodatkowych sił u Boga. Trwali na modlitwie. Zamknięte drzwi odcinały ich od świata. Wiedzieli, że jeśli wyjdą, odwrota już nie będzie. Za progiem wieczernika trzeba trwać w dawaniu świadectwa Jezusowi nawet w obliczu męczeńskiej śmierci. Dopiero w tej sytuacji zaczęli odkrywać czym jest modlitwa. Doskonaliły ją pod opieką Matki Jezusa. Ona umiała się modlić. Jej życie było nieustanną modlitwą. W wieczerniku z radością uczyła apostołów tej trudnej, a jakże ważnej sztuki. Po dziesięciu dniach Bóg wypełnił ich serca swoim Duchem. Poczuły się wówczas mocni, odważni, mądrzy. A kiedy się stało, otwarli drzwi. Wyszli, by głosić dobrą nowinę

i dawać świadectwo o Zmartwychwstałym Jezusie. I w naszym życiu bywają chwile podejmowania zadań przerastających nasze możliwości. Wtedy trzeba umieć zamknąć drzwi i trwać na modlitwie. Trzeba otworzyć serce dla Boga i czekać na Jego dary uzupełniające nasze ludzkie siły i uzdalniające nas do podjęcia zadań, jakie On zleca. Człowiek wierzący, jeśli mu zależy na dobrym wykonaniu życiowego powołania, musi odkrywać wartość modlitwy. Jeśli to uczyni, chwile trudne przeżyje zawsze w sposób twórczy. Dotyczy to decyzji zawarcia małżeństwa, czasem ratowania go przed rozpadem, decyzji przyjęcia poczętego dziecka, wyboru zawodu, zmiany miejsca pracy lub zamieszkania, zgody na nieuleczalną chorobę czy inne bolesne doświadczenie. Wówczas tak długo należy trwać na modlitwie, dopóki Jego moc nie uzdolni nas do podjęcia trudnych zadań. Warto też w takich sytuacjach poprosić kogoś z bliskich, by razem z nami trwały na modlitwie. Razem znacznie łatwiej trwać i łatwiej podjąć mądrą decyzję.

Sunday reflection

Spowiedź i

Msza św.

W każdą Niedzielę jest możliwość skorzystania z Sakramentu Po-kutu od godziny 4:15 PM. Zapraszamy do regularnej spowiedzi św. i do pełnego uczestnictwa we Mszy św. Msza św. o godzinie 5pm.

Miesiąc

Czerwiec

Miesiąc czerwiec, który wkrótce rozpoczniemy to kolejny miesiąc, który w naszej Polskiej tradycji jest zakończony jako miesiąc poświęcony Najświętszemu Sercu Pana Jezusa. Jest to szczególny czas w którym dziękujemy Bożemu Sercu za wszystkie Pierwsze Komunie naszych dzieci, za przyjęte Sakramenty Bierzmowania naszej młodzieży, za Sakramenty Kapłaństwa udzielone naszym diakonom i za wiele innych łask, których Serce Jezusowe nieustannie udziela nam i naszym rodzinom. Nie zapomnijmy o tym darze naszej wdzięczności i odmawiamy w tym pięknym miesiącu Litannie ku czci NSPJ wynagradzając jednocześnie Bożemu Sercu wszystkie zniewagi i oziebłości której doznaje od grzesznej ludzkości.

Serce Jezusa, hojne dla wszystkich, którzy Cię wzywają – módl się za nami!

Słowa

wdzięczności

Przez cały miesiąc Maj nasza polska wspólnota była odpowiedzialna za dekorowanie kościoła. Kończąc ten miesiąc pragnę wyrazić słowa wdzięczności tym kilkunastu osobom, które pomogły nam przy zakupie większej ilości kwiatów i złożyły na ten cel swoje ofiary, nadto szczególnie słowa podziękowania należą się nam paniom, które z wielką gracją i niezmiernie uroczo ułożyły te bukiety. Do tych Pań zaliczają się Panie: Teresa Jabłońska, Justyna Jabłońska, Małgorzata Wypasek i Aneta Klag. Jeszcze raz szczerze słowa wdzięczności. Niech ich przykład będzie pewnym wyrzutem sumienia dla innych kobiet, że z tak wielkiej polskiej wspólnoty tylko ta mała grupka potrafiła poświęcić się swój czas i talenty dla kościoła.

Studium Biblijne - Jak żyć słowem Bożym?

Jeśli pragniesz zgłębić tajemnice Pisma św. i nauczyć się żyć Słowem Bożym, weź udział w naszych spotkaniach na rozwądzaniu Pisma św. Naucz się odkrywać Boga w słowach Bożych (św. Grzegorz Wielki), bo przez Ewangielę sam Chrystus przemawia do Ciebie. Wszystkich zainteresowanych tymi spotkaniami proszę o kontakt – Diakon Krzysztof Jabłoński. Nr telefonu 01783 636589.

Kalendarz

Liturgiczny

W tym tygodniu w liturgii Kościoła wspominać będziemy:

W środę –

Święto Nawiedzenia Najświętszej Maryi Panny

W czwartek –

Św. Justyna, męczennika

W sobotę –

Świętych męczenników Karola Lwangi i Towarzyszy

Collections

Many thanks for your generosity. Last Sunday's income was: Collection £1479.73; SCIAF - £5; Papers £6.34 and Church Shop - £40.

Special

collection

This Sunday is World Communications Sunday and there is a special collection for the Apostolate of Communications and the spread of the Gospel using the media and today's channels of technological outreach.

Union of Catholic Mothers



Next meeting is on Tuesday 6th June, Laughter Therapy. A reminder for all members attending the Dunkeld Serra Mass on Tuesday 30th May, please meet at St. John's at 6.15pm for transport.

All bookings for the Church Hall, and rooms, should be made using the dedicated phone line
07549 605007
only within these times:
Monday 7-9pm
Wednesday 12noon-2pm
Friday 11am-12noon

Please respect others who use the hall and kitchen - by leaving it clean and tidy at all times.

First Holy Communion

The children will be celebrating their First Holy Communion next weekend, on Sunday 4th June, at 1pm.

Please keep them in your prayers as they receive the gift of Christ's Body and Blood.

Coffee and Craft Evening

Thanks to all who supported the Brownie's Coffee and Craft Evening which raised £300 - so, together with matched funding from AVIVA, it is hoped that as much as £600 will be sent to the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund to support those working to alleviate world poverty.

Our Lady Statue

Following restoration, the Statue of Our Lady in the church grounds will be rededicated during 11am Mass on today - a fitting end to our month of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Italian Classes

Weekly Italian classes continue on Saturdays in St John's Middle Hall on from 4.15-6pm.

Italian Association

The Italian Association Monthly Meeting will take place on **SUNDAY 28th May at 2pm PROMPT** - in the Conference Room at St Mary's, Kinnoull - followed at 3pm by Mass in Italian and the Annual May Procession - ending with the Crowning of the Statue of Our Lady. All parishioners are welcome.

Rosary will be recited in Italian in St John's on Saturdays during May, at 2pm.

Lunch Club

The Lunch Club meets on Monday from 12-1pm. All welcome

Catholic Papers

Catholic newspapers, the Scottish Catholic Observer, Catholic Herald, Catholic Times etc are available in the church porch - please take copies and share them with the wider community.

A Parishioner led Rosary meditating on

The Mysteries of Light

*with
accompanying music by
St John's Church Choir*

**Tuesday
7pm, 30th May**

All are welcome to join us in this great prayer to Our Lady

Parish Shop

*Open after
Sunday Mass*

Parish Library

*Borrow from
our extensive
range*



ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN HOSPITAL? DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS IN HOSPITAL?

Name _____ Hospital _____ Ward _____

Please complete/ tear off and return with your collection - or hand to the priest after Mass

Communications Sunday Message from Pope Francis

Access to the media – thanks to technological progress – makes it possible for countless people to share news instantly and spread it widely. That news may be good or bad, true or false. The early Christians compared the human mind to a constantly grinding millstone; it is up to the miller to determine what it will grind: good wheat or worthless weeds. Our minds are always “grinding”, but it is up to us to choose what to feed them (cf. ST JOHN CASSIAN, Epistle to Leontius).

I wish to address this message to all those who, whether in their professional work or personal relationships, are like that mill, daily “grinding out” information with the aim of providing rich fare for those with whom they communicate. I would like to encourage everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that reject prejudice towards others and foster a culture of encounter, helping all of us to view the world around us with realism and trust.

I am convinced that we have to break the vicious circle of anxiety and stem the spiral of fear resulting from a constant focus on “bad news” (wars, terrorism, scandals and all sorts of human failure). This has nothing to do with spreading misinformation that would ignore the tragedy of human suffering, nor is it about a naive optimism blind to the scandal of evil. Rather, I propose that all of us work at overcoming that feeling of growing discontent and resignation that can at times generate apathy, fear or the idea that evil has no limits. Moreover, in a communications industry which thinks that good news does not sell, and where the tragedy of human suffering and the mystery of evil easily turn into entertainment, there is always the temptation

that our consciences can be dulled or slip into pessimism.

I would like, then, to contribute to the search for an open and creative style of communication that never seeks to glamourize evil but instead to concentrate on solutions and to inspire a positive and responsible approach on the part of its recipients. I ask everyone to offer the people of our time storylines that are at heart “good news”.

Good news

Life is not simply a bare succession of events, but a history, a story waiting to be told through the choice of an interpretative lens that can select and gather the most relevant data. In and of itself, reality has no one clear meaning. Everything depends on the way we look at things, on the lens we use to view them. If we change that lens, reality itself appears different. So how can we begin to “read” reality through the right lens?

For us Christians, that lens can only be the good news, beginning with the Good News par excellence: “the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God” (Mk 1:1). With these words, Saint Mark opens his Gospel not by relating “good news” about Jesus, but rather the good news that is Jesus himself. Indeed, reading the pages of his Gospel, we learn that its title corresponds to its content and, above all else, this content is the very person of Jesus.

This good news – Jesus himself – is not good because it has nothing to do with suffering, but rather because suffering itself becomes part of a bigger picture. It is seen as an integral part of Jesus’ love for the Father and for all mankind. In Christ, God has shown his solidarity with every human situation. He has told us that we are not

As has become the tradition, on the Feast of St Francis de Sales the Holy Father publishes a Message for World Communications Day, celebrated on the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This year's theme is “'Fear not, for I am with you' (Is 43:5) Communicating Hope and Trust in our Time”.

alone, for we have a Father who is constantly mindful of his children. “Fear not, for I am with you” (Is 43:5): these are the comforting words of a God who is immersed in the history of his people. In his beloved Son, this divine promise – “I am with you” – embraces all our weakness, even to dying our death. In Christ, even darkness and death become a point of encounter with Light and Life. Hope is born, a hope accessible to everyone, at the very crossroads where life meets the bitterness of failure. That hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts (cf. Rom 5:5) and makes new life blossom, like a shoot that springs up from the fallen seed. Seen in this light, every new tragedy that occurs in the world’s history can also become a setting for good news, inasmuch as love can find a way to draw near and to raise up sympathetic hearts, resolute faces and hands ready to build anew.

Confidence in the seed of the Kingdom

To introduce his disciples and the crowds to this Gospel mindset and to give them the right “lens” needed to see and embrace the love that dies and rises, Jesus uses parables. He frequently compares the Kingdom of God to a seed that releases its potential for life precisely when it falls to the earth and dies (cf. Mk 4:1-34). This use of images and metaphors to convey the quiet power of the Kingdom does not detract from its importance and urgency; rather, it is a merciful way of making space for the listener to

freely accept and appropriate that power. It is also a most effective way to express the immense dignity of the Paschal mystery, leaving it to images, rather than concepts, to communicate the paradoxical beauty of new life in Christ. In that life, hardship and the cross do not obstruct, but bring about God’s salvation; weakness proves stronger than any human power; and failure can be the prelude to the fulfilment of all things in love. This is how hope in the Kingdom of God matures and deepens: it is “as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow” (Mk 4:26-27).

The Kingdom of God is already present in our midst, like a seed that is easily overlooked, yet silently takes root. Those to whom the Holy Spirit grants keen vision can see it blossoming. They do not let themselves be robbed of the joy of the Kingdom by the weeds that spring up all about.

The horizons of the Spirit

Our hope based on the good news which is Jesus himself makes us lift up our eyes to contemplate the Lord in the liturgical celebration of the Ascension. Even though the Lord may now appear more distant, the horizons of hope expand all the more. In Christ, who brings our human nature to heaven, every man and woman can now freely “enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through

his flesh” (Heb 10:19-20). By “the power of the Holy Spirit” we can be witnesses and “communicators” of a new and redeemed humanity “even to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:7 8).

Confidence in the seed of God’s Kingdom and in the mystery of Easter should also shape the way we communicate. This confidence enables us to carry out our work – in all the different ways that communication takes place nowadays – with the conviction that it is possible to recognize and highlight the good news present in every story and in the face of each person.

Those who, in faith, entrust themselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit come to realize how God is present and at work in every moment of our lives and history, patiently bringing to pass a history of salvation. Hope is the thread with which this sacred history is woven, and its weaver is none other than the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. Hope is the humblest of virtues, for it remains hidden in the recesses of life; yet it is like the yeast that leavens all the dough. We nurture it by reading ever anew the Gospel, “reprinted” in so many editions in the lives of the saints who became icons of God’s love in this world. Today too, the Spirit continues to sow in us a desire for the Kingdom, thanks to all those who, drawing inspiration from the Good News amid the dramatic events of our time, shine like beacons in the darkness of this world, shedding light along the way and opening ever new paths of confidence and hope.