

St John the Baptist's, Perth

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

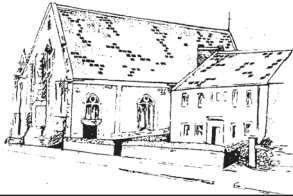
WEEKDAYS
Monday-Saturday
at 10am, Tuesday 7pm

MSZA ŚW.
PO POLSKU
Niedziela 5pm
Pojednania 4.15pm

RECONCILIATION
in St John's
Saturday
5-6pm

Priests: Very Rev. Steven Canon Mulholland MA STL VE, St John's Presbytery, 20 Melville Street, Perth, PH1 5PY (01738 259371)
and Rev. Bogdan Palka SDS 16 Melville Street Perth PH1 5PY (01738 564182)

Permanent Deacons: Rev. Len Moir (01738 451677) and Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (07851 735590)



31st Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B 4th November 2018

Indulgences and Purgatory

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ

Benedict XVI in his Apostolic Exhortation on the Eucharist writes as follows: *truly spiritual, life-changing worship is before all else the joy-filled discovery of love at work in the hearts of those who accept the Lord's gift, abandon themselves to him and thus find true freedom. The moral transformation implicit in the new worship instituted by Christ is a heartfelt yearning to respond to the Lord's love with one's whole being while remaining ever conscious of one's own weakness. This is clearly reflected in the Gospel story of Zacchaeus (cf. Lk 19:1-10). After welcoming Jesus to his home, the tax collector is completely changed... The moral urgency born of welcoming Jesus into our lives is the fruit of gratitude for having experienced the Lord's unmerited closeness (Sacramentum Caritatis 82).*

It is in this perspective that Benedict XVI has called upon us to rediscover two much-neglected practices of Catholic piety: indulgences and prayers for the holy souls in Purgatory. In this month of November, which is especially dedicated to prayer for the faithful departed, it is fitting that we heed his words. Why do these doctrines matter? They matter because of certain truths of human nature and of the way God's grace acts upon our

humanity. Yes, indeed, the forgiveness of God is absolutely free, a gift of pure grace; and yet, the grace of God does not always immediately cancel the personal, spiritual, and social effects of sin.

Zacchaeus is aware that he is pardoned, and yet he fulfils the demand of the Law of Moses, which demanded fourfold restitution for the theft of goods essential for another's livelihood; and Zacchaeus does not stop even there, for he gives half



of his goods to the poor. It is then, when repentance is fruitful, that the Lord says that salvation—that is, Jesus himself—has come to Zacchaeus's house. Indulgences are based on this same understanding of what true conversion entails; indulgences heal the after-effects of sin that has already been repented and confessed. Like Zacchaeus, we, too, need to do penance.

In view of Benedict's call to us to rediscover indulgences, I make this simple suggestion: try to go more frequently to confession, perhaps once a month or once every couple of months. When you go to confession, make a mental intention to receive all the indulgences attached to any prayers or spiritual exercises that appeal to you, such as the rosary or the prayerful reading

continued on back page

“Remember, Lord, your servants who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. Grant to them and to all who sleep in Christ, a place of light and peace.”

Welcome
to our
visitors



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

**PLEASE NOTE
THE NEW PARISH
PHONE NUMBER
01738 259371**

**Priests for
Scotland
A LIFE
WORTH
LIVING**

*Fr Michael Carrie
Diocesan Office,
24-28, Lawside Rd
DD3 6XY, Dundee.
01382 225453*

Prayers

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Recently Dead: Brian Longhurst.

Anniversaries: Manus Ward, Rita Boner, John Earaker and all the names of our November Lists

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

Warunek szczęścia na ziemi

Jeśli człowiekowi dobrze się powodzi na ziemi, zwykle uważa on, że nie potrzebuje Boga. To jedna z tajemnic wpisanych w dzieje Izraela i Kościoła. Dobrobyt oddala od Boga. Ludzie szybko ulegają złudzeniu, że są samowystarczalni. Ta odrobina szczęścia wydaje się im nie do utracenia. Budują swój świat sami i nie szukają innych wartości, bo to, co posiadają, wystarcza im. Tymczasem warunkiem szczęścia na ziemi nie jest dobrobyt, ale miłość Boga ponad wszystko i liczenie się z Nim, co świadczy o posiadaniu bojaźni Pańskiej. Jeśli tego zabraknie, szczęście doczesne przys-

ka jak mydlana bańka. Mamy na to codziennie wiele dowodów. Żyjemy w świecie sukcesów, które tworzą iluzję samowystarczalności. Dziś już dochodzi do głosu mniemanie, że wszystko, cokolwiek ludzie zechcą mieć, wcześniej czy później potrafią zdobyć. Bóg jest już niepotrzebny. Takie jest środowisko, w którym żyjemy, nie tylko spoglądając na ekran telewizora czy komputera. Tak myślących ludzi spotykamy w rodzinie, w sąsiedztwie, wśród kolegów, w pracy. Znamy ich imiona. Trzeba sobie jasno odpowiedzieć na pytanie, ilu ze znanych nam ludzi potrzebuje

Boga. Należy znać ich imiona i sporządzić ich listę. Raz w roku trzeba ją przegłądnąć i albo uzupełnić, gdy spotykamy nowych ludzi żyjących w bojaźni Boga, albo skreślić imiona tych, którzy bojaźń tracą. Groźno ludzi potrzebujących Boga winno być naszym środowiskiem. Trzeba zabiegać o kontakt z nimi, bo jeśli liczą się z Bogiem, to i na nich można liczyć. Takie środowisko pomaga w utrzymaniu harmonii miłości Boga i ludzi, szczęścia doczesnego i wiecznego.

Sunday Reflection

Listopad - Msze za zmarłych

Nasz katechizm katolicki wyliczając „Uczynki miłosierne co do duszy” jako ostatni uczynek miłosierdzia wylicza: „Modlić się za żywych i zmarłych”. Tak więc modlitwa za zmarłych to nasz ludzki obowiązek, to nasze chrześcijańskie zadanie. Miesiąc listopad jest tym miesiącem, kiedy to oddajemy cześć naszym drogim zmarłym, kiedy przywołujemy ich w naszej pamięci i ciągle chcemy z serca im podziękować za to wszystko co dla nas uczynili będąc częścią naszego ziemskiego życia. Są to często nasi rodzice, rodzeństwo, nasi kochani dziadkowie, czy sąsiedzi, przyjaciele, a może nasi pełni poświęcenia nauczyciele czy księża z rodzinnej parafii. Nawet trudno ich wszystkich wyliczyć. My ciągle jeszcze mamy wobec nich tak wielki dług wdzięczności za wszystko co dzisiaj dzięki nim posiadamy, jakimi jesteśmy ludźmi. Niech ten zbliżający się miesiąc listopad będzie naszym

czasem, aby im za to wszystko podziękować. Tego długu często nawet nie potrafimy spłacić w całości, bo nasze życie jest za krótkie. Dlatego najpiękniejszym darem wdzięczności dla nich wszystkich będzie nasza modlitwa i ofiara Mszy św., która jest takim bukietem duchowych róż. Nie mamy innej możliwości jak tylko poprzez ten duchowy dar pomóc im w osiągnięciu nieba i bycia z Bogiem w wieczności. Nasza parafia jak co roku będzie ofiarować przez cały miesiąc listopad 30 Mszy św. za zmarłych poleconych w waszych „wypominkach”. Prosimy o zabranie ze sobą kart „wypominkowych”, wypisanie na nich imion i nazwisk Waszych drogich zmarłych, włożenie tych kart do koperty, oraz zwrócenie ich do jednego z księży przed 2 listopada. Karty na „wypominki” znajdują się w przedświątku kościoła. Wieczny odpoczynek racz im dać Panie!

November - Holy Souls

Kalendarz Liturgiczny

W tym tygodniu w kalendarzu liturgicznym wspominać będziemy:

W czwartek – Wspomnienie błogosławionego John Duns Scotusa, prezbitera.

W piątek – Święto poświęcenia Bazyliki Laterańskiej

W sobotę – Wspomnienie św. Leona Wielkiego, papieża i doktora Kościoła

Różaniec za Zmarłych

Od drugiej niedzieli listopada będziemy kontynuować odmawianie Różańca pół godziny przed Mszą św. tj. o godz. 4:30pm w intencji wszystkich naszych drogich zmarłych poleconych na kartach wypominkowych. Serdecznie zapraszam do udziału w tej modlitwie. Pomóżmy naszym zmarłym w Czyśćcu cierpiącym by i nam kiedyś ktoś mógł pomóc.

Rosary - before Sunday Mass



100 Rocznica Odzyskania Przez Polskę Niepodległości

11-go Listopada w niedzielę przypada 100 rocznica odzyskania przez Polskę Niepodległości. Nasze główne świętowanie, wraz z Mszą św. za Ojczyznę będziemy celebrować w Station Hotel w Perth. O godz. 12:00pm rozpoczniemy Mszą św. za naszą Ojczyznę, następnie będzie poczęstunek i akademie szkolna przygotowana przez dzieci z Centrum Edukacyjnego „Bajka” po czym jak przystało na taką rocznicę będzie tort urodzinowy i wspólne gry i zabawy dla dzieci.

W imieniu Centrum Edukacyjnego „Bajka”, Rady Rodziców i moim własnym serdecznie zapraszamy do wspólnego celebrowania tej jakże podniosłej dla każdego Polaka uroczystości.

Humor na niedzielę

Rozmawiają dwie koleżanki: Strasznie się wczoraj z mężem pokłóciłam. I co, ciche dni? Nie, wiągrę mu do zupy wrzuciłam. No i...? Oj, jak biegał, jak przepraszał...

Sunday humour

Bal „Wszystkich Świętych”

Dziękuję wszystkim dzieciom i ich rodzicom za przygotowanie strojów swoim pociechom i za udział w tym wspaniałym i religijnym wydarzeniu, które pozwala kształtować fundamenty wiary wśród najmłodszych uczniów Chrystusa. Wyrazy podziękowania kieruję też do samych organizatorów i pomysłodawców: D o m o w e m u Kościołowi, Harcerzom i Harcerkom, oraz Chórowi Dziecięcemu „Śpiewające Aniołki” wraz z ich opiekunami. To był Wasz kolejny sukces i wspaniałe świadectwo naszej wiary. Zdjęcia z Balu można oglądać na naszej parafialnej stronie internetowej.

All Saints Ball - thank you

Dekorowanie Kościoła

W miesiącu październiku Polska wspólnota parafialna była odpowiedzialna za dekoracje naszej świątyni. Serdeczne podziękowania należą się naszym Paniom, które z prawdziwym artystycznym kunsztem i gracją dekorowały nasze ołtarze. Dlatego ślemy serdeczne wyrazy wdzięczności Paniom: Renacie Król, Magdalenie Krakowiak, Teresie Jabłońskiej, Marlenie Szafran, Ewelinie Jakubczyk, Agnieszce Zachariasz, Magdalenie Sroka, Asi Kula, Sylwii Krużyńskiej i Elżbiecie Szafran za ich zaangażowanie, czas i pomoc w imieniu nas wszystkich. Wyrazy wdzięczności również dla tych z Państwa, którzy wsparliście nasz finansowo by można było zakupić więcej kwiatów na nasze ołtarze. Wszystkim Wam z serca dziękuję i niech dobry Bóg wam to wynagrodzi! Thank you

Liturgia dziecięca

W każdą pierwszą niedzielę miesiąca jest liturgia Mszy św. dla dzieci. Najbliższa Msza św. dla dzieci będzie 2 grudnia 2018 r. o godz. 4pm. Serdecznie zapraszamy wszystkie dzieci!

Childrens' Liturgy

Collections

Last Sunday's income was: St John's - £1373.95; Votive Candles - £109.73; Catholic Papers - £6.30; Church Shop - £26.80; SCIAF - £5 and for the Special Collection - £1810.06. Thank you for your generosity.

Lunch Club

The Lunch Club continues on Mondays from 12noon-1pm. All welcome - for a soup and a roll - just £2.

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.



Union of Catholic Mothers

Tuesday 6th, - following the 7pm Mass - the Rosary, and an evening to All Saints. Please bring along your favourite Prayers to the saints.

Faith Sharing Groups

Our Advent Faith Sharing Group material is organised into three sessions. The first session will be during the Week beginning 25th November - and then runs for the following two weeks, ending during the week beginning 10th December.

Would leaders please organise their own sessions as usual and send Deacon Len a note of your dates, times, and numbers able to attend.

Materials will be available for group leaders shortly and at that time Deacon Len will be in touch with you.

All are more than welcome to join a House Group. If you would like to join please speak to Deacon Len and he can help you find a group near to home - and at a time that suits you best.

Childrens' Liturgy

Children's Liturgy continues on Sundays, at the 9am Mass in St John's.

Readers

Our Readers play a huge role. They come from all walks of life, representing the diversity of our parish. New readers are always welcome and we are currently looking for people who are able to read especially at the Vigil Mass and Sunday Evening Mass.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass

We do not have a sufficient number of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The Precious Blood will be offered at all Masses and we are looking to recruit more help.

Please consider our pleas for help and talk to Canon Mulholland or Mary Lou Fisher.

Would existing Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please volunteer for the gaps in the existing rota which can be amended at the back of the Church.

CATH

CATH (Churches Action for the Homeless) is organizing a Sleep Out to highlight the plight of the homeless in Perth and to raise funds. The Sleep Out will take place outside St John's Kirk on Wednesday 21st November 2018 from 8pm to 6am. CATH is looking for teams of 5/6 people, with each team being encouraged to raise £250 by way of sponsorship. Should you be interested in helping, further details sponsorship forms etc can be obtained from Andrea Pullar (01738 633077 or 07802 326300).

NOVEMBER is the MONTH of the HOLY SOULS

At this time of the year we remember our dead in a special way.

If you would like to have your loved ones prayed for in the Masses here in November, please pick up a November List and return it as soon as possible.

All Souls Indulgences

An indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from the first to the eighth of November; on other days of the year it is partial.

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who on the day dedicated to the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed [November 2 {as well as on the Sunday preceding or following, and on All Saints' Day}] piously visit a church. In visiting the church, it is required that one Our Father and the Creed be recited. To acquire a plenary indulgence, it is necessary also to fulfil the following three conditions: sacramental Confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intention of the Holy Father.

The three conditions may be fulfilled several days before or after the performance of the visit; it is, however, fitting that communion be received and the prayer for the intention of the Holy Father be said on the same day as the visit. The condition of praying for the intention of the Holy Father is fully satisfied by reciting one Our Father and one Hail Mary. A plenary indulgence can be acquired only once in the course of the day.

Thank you for the flowers

Sincere thanks are due once again to the ladies of the Polish Community for the lovely floral arrangements that graced the church during October. They have been much admired. We appreciate your generosity in the sharing of your time and talents.

Italian Association

Monday 5th November - Mass for the Holy Souls in St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow.

Wednesday 5th December - Pitlochry Festival Theatre - The Wizard of Oz.

Thursday 6th December Italian Film Night *La Strada* - Perth Theatre - 7pm

Wednesday 12th December - Christmas Dance - McDiarmid Park.

Master of Ceremonies

A Master of Ceremonies in the Catholic Church was originally "an official of the Papal Court responsible for the proper and smooth conduct of the elegant and elaborate rituals involving the Pope and the sacred liturgy."

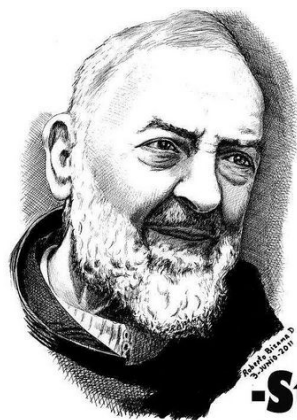
The primary role of the Master of Ceremonies (MC) is to assist in organizing the Mass and directing all liturgical movement so it flows with the proper decorum. This is a vibrant, exciting and rewarding ministry. MC's are required to have organizational skills, be able to give and take directions and work well with children (Altar Servers). For more information or to volunteer for this rôle please contact Canon Mulholland.

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

There are Hospital Visit Request Cards available at the back of the church - and pens.

Please complete the card and hand it to a Pass Keeper

Indulgences and Purgatory



**We must
empty
Purgatory
with our
prayers.
-St. Padre Pio**

of Scripture or a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. And then do one of these in a spirit of recollection and gratitude. It's easiest to do one of these spiritual exercises or devotions right in the church, when you go to confession. And in this way, without any legalistic misunderstandings, you will have gained the indulgence.

The purpose of indulgences is the healing of the effects of already-forgiven sin within the body of Christ; it's not at all like putting a coin in a slot so that grace will come out, as in a sort of spiritual vending machine. The doctrine of Purgatory is based on the same principle as indulgences. Imagine, then, someone who was penitent like Zachaeus but who in his

earthly life had not yet made the desired reparation for the temporal effects of his forgiven sins. Purgatory allows this to happen and allows us to assist this final purification with our own prayers and indulgences.

The holy souls in purgatory are not experiencing a different or additional cleansing, but only the final effects of the one cleansing in the blood of Christ, since nothing unclean shall enter heaven (Rev. 21:27). Purgatory is not a temporary hell. Hell is the absence of God's love, and Purgatory is the presence of God's purifying and transforming love. So, hell and Purgatory are utterly different in nature. The "fire" of Purgatory is the living flame of

God's love that makes us fit to receive vision of God in heaven. And what Catholic dogma calls the "purifying pains" or Purgatory are not pain in the sense of some sort of torture; rather, these pains are more like the pain of letting go at last of those things that stand in the way of perfect union with God. Or perhaps they are like the "pain" of having to change in order to adapt to a new situation, a change we desire and need and yet may find difficult for a time. Or, better yet, we can think of these purifying pains as the pain of being delayed in attaining the union with the Saviour for whom the holy souls long.

As we pray for the living, that as members of Christ's body they may become holy, so we pray for those who have died in Christ, that their holiness may be perfected in the Saviour whom they have followed and loved. Let us then respond to Benedict's call to pray for the holy souls, who in turn will intercede for us in heaven. For our salvation is not the salvation of isolated and disembodied souls but rather a transformation in Christ's image that takes place within the body of Christ. Let our use of indulgences and our prayers for the holy souls then be seen, not as a burden, but as the spiritual fruitfulness of grateful hearts, so that we can truly say, "Today salvation has come to this house."

*With every blessing
Canon Mulholland*

In your prayers

We are all in mourning for the 11 precious souls whose lives were cut short so brutally last Sabbath while at prayer at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

A Hebrew poem inspired by Deuteronomy 20:19: 'Ki Haadam Etz Hasadeh' - 'For the human is like the tree in a field' states:

*'Like the human, the tree grows too;
Like the tree, the human is chopped down
Like the tree he strives upwards;
Like the human, it burns in fire.'*

But like the tree, the human links heaven and earth and this is what those who were murdered in Squirrel Hill will be remembered for most: their good deeds towards others - to their own community and families but also to other communities. Their kindness and love to the stranger. They connected the divine to the world.



Poland's 100th Anniversary - an invitation to the parish

Sunday 11th November marks a very special event in Polish history - the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining its Independence. Celebrations will take place at the Station Hotel, starting with Holy Mass at 12 o'clock, and followed by a small buffet and a performance prepared by children from Education Centre - Bajka CIC.

After that, as with any major celebrations, we will have a very special birthday cake followed by lots of games prepared especially for our children. On behalf of Bajka, Parent Council, Fr Bogdan and myself we would like to invite you to celebrate with us this very important event in Polish history. (Marcin Rudzki, Director Bajka CIC)



*Perth Friends of Bydgoszcz invite you
to a Recital of Polish Music celebrating
Poland regaining its Independence
Wednesday 14th November
7.30pm, in St John's Kirk
Programme - F. Chopin, I.J. Paderewski,
K. Szymanowski and F. Liszt (Hungary)*

Soloist Anna Debowska
Adults £10; Children -free.

Discover us @StJohnRCPerth

MUSIC

31st Sunday of Year B

Opening - Hymn 143
Dear Lord and Father

Psalm - Hymn 178
For the fruits of his creation

Gospel Acclamation - Hymn 32

Offertory - Hymn 398
Love divine

Closing - Hymn 252
Help, Lord the souls