

St John the Baptist Catholic Church-The Mother Church of Perth

Canon Mulholland: St John's Presbytery, 20 Melville Street. Perth PH1 5PY 01738 259371

Sunday 04th May 2025-3rd Sunday of Easter Year C

Psalm Response: I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.

Refreshments in hall after 11am Sunday Mass

RECENT DEATHS: James Raymond Rioux, Joseph Lummy, Nonie Farrell
& Dan Noonan

ANNIVERSARIES: Alice M^cLoughlin Bro Malachy Kelly, Dorothy Parr, John Maguire,
Ian M^cKenna, Dominic O'Neill & Catherine Crawford

Animae omnium fidelium defunctorum, per misericordiam Dei, requiescant in pace.

Award-winning satirical comedy *The Screwtape Letters* is the most critically acclaimed production of C.S Lewis' masterpiece. Nigel Forde's "sparkling script" and David Robinson's "impressive Screwtape" (The Stage) bring to life Lewis' classic book, which has sold millions of copies worldwide. The story is set in Professor Screwtape's study in the timeless dominion of Hell. The play follows Screwtape's attempts to train his junior devils, including his protégé Wormwood, in the fine art of temptation. It remains faithful to the original text, characters and themes created by Lewis and holds three Edinburgh Fringe Sell-Out Show Awards. Perth Festival of the Arts is hosting a theatrical performance of *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis on Friday 30th May in St Matthew's Church, 7.30pm. To book a ticket (£17) **as part of a group from the parish**, see sign-up sheet or speak to Helen Band (choir director at the 11am Mass).

MONDAY 05th May-6pm

TUESDAY 06th-10am *followed by refreshments in hall*

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament & Confessions from 6pm-6.45pm
& 7pm Mass

Wednesday 07th-No Mass & Thursday 08th May-HMP Perth

Friday 09th-10am

Saturday 10th- Wedding of Sunny D'Cruze & Katie-Ann Welling-12.30pm

Lord Jesus Christ, by entrusting to **St. Peter** and his successors the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, Thou didst established the office of the papacy. Grant to Thy Church, we beseech Thee, a pope who, in his dedication to the Sacred Tradition of the Church, will seek to govern the Church according to the Deposit of Faith and for the salvation of souls. Immaculate Mary, Mother of the Church and **Queen of Confessors**, we consecrate to thee the conclave and the election of the Holy Father. Blessed Mother, look not upon our sinfulness or upon the infidelity of many Catholics who do not accept the teaching of thy Son, but upon the Church, which is the spotless Bride of thy Son, so that we do not get the leader we deserve, but a Holy Father who will guide the Church for the glory and honour of thy Son. **Amen**

Sunday Masses: Saturday 4.00pm (Anticipatory Sunday Mass) 9.00am, 11.00am & 6.30 pm

SCN SC00810

www.stjohns-perth.org.uk

stjohn@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last year we alerted you to a Bill in the Scottish Parliament to introduce assisted suicide for citizens in Scotland aged sixteen and over. We urged you to contact your MSPs, asking them to reject this dangerous proposal which devalues human life in itself and puts our most vulnerable brothers and sisters under terrible pressure to take their lives prematurely. We advised you to encourage your MSPs to champion the improvement of palliative care instead across Scotland. Thankfully, many of you wrote to or met your MSPs to express your concerns and it has influenced a number of them to oppose the bill. Now we are reaching another critical stage in the process where two bills, one before the Westminster parliament and the other before the Holyrood parliament, are coming up for their next voting stage in the coming weeks. So, the Bishops of Scotland are calling the Catholic community to a Day of Prayer today, Sunday 4th May: to pray for our parliamentarians to cast their vote to care and not to kill; and to pray for Catholics across Scotland to reach out to their MSPs and MPs to urge them to work to improve palliative care and reject assisted suicide. Assisted suicide, allows the state to provide the means of killing our brothers and sisters. Not only is this wrong in itself but it takes us down a dangerous spiral that inevitably harms the most vulnerable members of our society, by which we mean the elderly, the disabled and those who struggle with mental health; all those, in fact, who cannot stand up for themselves. One of the tests of good law is that it ensures our weakest citizens can feel safe. This law does the opposite and frightens the most vulnerable all around us. When vulnerable people, including the elderly and disabled, express concerns about being a burden, the appropriate response is not to suggest that they have a duty to die. Rather, it is to commit ourselves to meeting their needs and providing the care and compassion they need to help them live. Until now, we have trusted our doctors without question to be on the side of our life, health and wellbeing. It is wrong to think of them asking our loved ones if they would be better off dead. Introducing killing as medical treatment would, at a stroke, end all confidence in our treasured doctor patient relationship. At a time when suicide is on the rise in Scotland and we are doing our best to reduce it, what message are we sending when we say that suicide is the right choice provided it is overseen by a doctor? Laws like this normalise suicide and, with it, the false idea that some people's lives are beyond hope. We all feel compassion for those who are terminally ill and dying and are perhaps in fear of a painful death. Our desire for better palliative care is about ensuring those at the final stages of life feel valued, treated with compassion, given the benefit of modern pain relief and helped feel some peace at the end. We owe a common responsibility to each other, especially to those who are weak, ill and dying. Legalising assisted suicide amounts to a rejection of this shared duty. Focussing the energies of both parliaments on improving palliative care, which is underfunded and inaccessible to many, is the right and the better way to go. We invite you to join us in praying at today's Masses and in your personal and family prayers for the defeat of assisted suicide, the safety of the vulnerable and the dignity of life. **Yours devotedly in Christ, + Bishop John Keenan, President, Bishop of Paisley.** The Scottish Parliament is expected to vote on assisted suicide in the coming weeks. Please scan the QR code or visit <https://carenotkilling.scot/> to email your MSPs in a few easy clicks!



A new diocesan youth initiative – the Dunkeld Youth Association – will be launched by Bishop Andrew at the Cathedral during the 6pm Mass on Sunday 25th May, and thereafter at a social event in the Cathedral Hall. The age group is 18-30 years.

Sunday Masses 4.00pm Anticipatory Sunday Mass (on Saturday)
9.00am/11.00am/6.30 pm

SCN SC00810

www.stjohns-perth.org.uk

stjohn@dunkelldiocese.org.uk