

the busy days ahead. Christmas pies will be served in the hall after the service. ALL WELCOME

Christmas Hamper Raffle Appeal

Please add your name to the raffle list at the back of the church and help us raise **£240** for a Rainwater Harvester to provide clean, safe water for people who have difficulty walking many miles to collect water. The raffle will be drawn at the Carol Service On Thursday 18 December. Cost £1 per number.

St Ninian's SVdP Christmas Appeal

There is a "Giving Tree" at the back of the church as usual at this time of year.

We ask that parishioners take a label from the tree and return a Christmas Present in support of St Ninians primary school children. The school would really love every child to go home with a £1.25 Cadbury's small selection box from Tesco; so if anyone wanted to donate one that would be greatly appreciated! Can all gifts be returned to the church as soon as possible, the last weekend, will be the 14th of December. Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Singing At Roxburghe

You are invited to come along, sing a few carols and bring some Christmas cheer to the patients of Roxburghe House on Friday 12 December from 1.30-3pm. All are welcome! Please let me know if you are able to Journey Together with us. Maureen Ruddy 07766886080

Thank you from St Ninian's Head Teacher

A huge thank you to everyone who handed in donations for our bingo night and I hope the parishioners who came, enjoyed themselves. We made almost £800 which is fabulous and will go towards our school trip to Perth theatre - costing over £3000!

CHURCH CLEANING The church cleaning is on wednesday 3rd December immediately after the morning mass

ST NINIAN OFFERTORY:

Off: £384.07, GAid; £218.00, TOTAL : £602.07

ST JOSEPH'S Justice & Peace (Dilexi Te)

It is important for us to realise that the story of the Good Samaritan remains timely even today. "If I encounter a person sleeping outdoors on a cold night, I can view him or her as an annoyance, an idler, an obstacle in my path, a troubling sight, a problem for politicians to sort out, or even a piece of refuse cluttering a public space. Or I can respond with faith and charity, and see in this person a human being with dignity identical to my own, a creature infinitely loved by the Father, an image of God, a brother or sister redeemed by Jesus Christ. That is what it is to be a Christian!"

Dilexi Te On Love for the Poor

{Pope Leo X1V}

ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 23/11/25

Loose Plate £110 Gift Aid Envelopes £213
Standing Orders £353 Maintenance Fund £10
Additional Offertories £16 TOTAL OFFERTORIES £702

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

ST JOSEPH'S - SCIAF CHRISTMAS GIFT STALL 2025 - STARTS TODAY!!!

BARGAIN GIFTS - BARGAIN PRICES - JUST LOOK AND BUY

We have loads and loads of unused gifts that have been donated and all the monies raised is for a great cause - SCIAF, the Scottish member of the worldwide Catholic charity Caritas. The Gift Stall will be held after Mass today and again on Sunday 7 December. There is a collection box in the church porch where you can put any further donations, which must be **brand new and in its original packaging please**. Come and support SCIAF today and next Sunday - and do some bargain Christmas shopping! Many thanks for all your support. *Maggie Newell*

ST JOSEPH'S - 200 CLUB 2026: It's time for annual subscription renewal. Each number is £25 per annum and can be paid (in instalments if you wish) in cash or by cheque payable to 'TRS RC ST JOSEPHS 1'. £2 per number each month January-November and £3 December is also an option. **This year**, you can also pay your annual £25 subscription by BACS to Account Number 0074 7101 Sort Code 80-73-31. Please add reference '200 Club'. Numbers are entered into our monthly draw with prizes of £100 and £25. In the December Christmas draw there are 3 prizes - £200, £100 and £50. Numbers are available so see me if you wish to join or have a new or additional number. Thanks for all your support - *Linda Gow*.

ST JOSEPH'S - CAROL SINGALONG: This will be held on Tuesday 9 December, in the church porch, at 7.00pm. There will be a mixture of traditional Christmas carols and other seasonal Christmas songs. Refreshments will be served. This event is joyous so if you are planning to come, please add your name/s to the list on the porch desk.

ST JOSEPH'S - CARD AND GIFT STALL: Don't forget to support our card and gift stall in the porch. 2026 Advent calendars, calendars and diaries are available as well as Christmas cards, Christmas gifts, rosaries and all types of other cards and gifts. All proceeds go to the church maintenance fund.

ST JOSEPH'S - INSTEAD OF A CHRISTMAS CARD.....As Christmas once again draws near, the Justice & Peace group asks that instead of leaving individual Christmas cards for fellow parishioners at the back of the church that you put your greeting in the newsletter. The process is quite simple. Write your greeting and put it in an envelope along with your donation and hand it to either myself or any member of our group. It will then be put in the newsletter for all the Sundays leading up to Christmas. All proceeds will then be sent to either SCIAF or one of the other excellent charities that we support.

Example: James and Jennie Black - Wish you all the Peace and Joy of Christmas.

Welcome to St Ninian's RC Church, Menziesshill St Joseph's RC Church, Wilkie's Lane

Rev Fr. Michael Ngobili: 07895262123

stninians@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

stjosephdundee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Postal address: St. Ninian's Church, 173 Dickson Avenue, Menziesshill DD2 4DA, St Joseph's Church, 42 Wilkie's Lane, Dundee DD1 5HR

Dunkeld Diocese Charity Number SC001810



Our Sunday Masses:

Vigil Mass: 5.00pm in St Ninian's RC Church

Sunday Mass:

9.30am in St. Ninian's RC Church

11am in St Joseph's RC Church

Daily Masses

St Ninian's RC Church:

Tuesday; 6pm

Wednesday; 10am

Friday; 10am.

St Joseph's RC Church:

Wednesday; 6pm

Thursday; 10am

Saturday; 10am

Holy Days of Obligation:

Vigil Mass: 5.00pm in St Ninian's RC Church

Day Masses:

Morning: As announced.

St Joseph: 6pm

EXPOSITION;

Saturday; 10.30am to 11am in St Joseph's Church

Friday; 10.30am to 11am in St. Ninian's Church

Birthday Celebrations; 3rd Sunday of the month

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession

St Ninian; Saturday 4.15 to 4.45pm.

St. Joseph; Saturday 10.30am.

Sunday 30 November 2025

1st Sunday of Advent •

Liturgical Colour: Violet. Year: A(II).

Readings at Mass

First reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of the Kingdom of God.

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Sion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122(121):1-2. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R. cf. 1

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray,
'May they prosper, those who love you.'
May peace abide in your walls,
and security be in your towers.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, 'Peace upon you.'
For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will seek good things for you.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

Second reading

Romans 13:11-14a

‘Salvation is nearer to us now.’

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 85(84):8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, O LORD, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake so that you may be ready.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

Bidding Prayers

Priest:

Brothers and sisters, as we begin a new liturgical year and enter this holy season of Advent, let us watch for the Lord’s coming with hope and confidence. Trusting in God’s love, we bring our prayers before him.

1. For the Church: That the Church throughout the world may joyfully embrace this season of watchful expectation, and—guided by the Holy Spirit—lead all people toward the light of Christ’s Kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

2. For peace and justice in the world: That leaders of nations may set aside division and pride, working instead for peace, reconciliation, and the protection of the vulnerable, especially in places torn by conflict.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

3. For all Christians beginning the Advent journey:

That we may cast aside the works of darkness, renew our hearts in prayer, and be ready to meet Christ when

he comes in glory.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

4. For the poor and those in need

For the homeless, the unemployed, refugees, and all who suffer hardship at this time: may they find comfort, support, and practical help through the generosity of Christians.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

5. For the sick and those who carry heavy burdens

For the elderly, the lonely, and all who struggle with illness of mind or body: may the Lord’s healing presence bring them strength, peace, and hope.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

6. For our parish community

That we may grow in holiness, deepen our love for the Eucharist, and be renewed in our mission to welcome, serve, and witness to the Gospel.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

7. We pray that during Advent we may grow more alert to how God cares for the created world, and that we may find ways to do our part heal its wounds. **Lord, in your mercy:** Hear our prayer.

8. For the faithful departed

For all who have died, especially those recently deceased and the souls we remember in our hearts: may they be welcomed into the eternal kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Priest:

God our Father, hear the prayers we make as we begin this season of hope. Strengthen us as we prepare for the coming of your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Reflection on the Readings

As we begin Advent, today’s readings call us to wakefulness and hope. In Isaiah, the prophet sees a vision of the “last days,” when all nations stream to the mountain of the Lord. There, God will teach peace; swords will be beaten into ploughshares, and nations will no longer wage war. This is a vision of a radically new world, grounded in God’s justice and reconciliation. In the second reading, St Paul reminds us: “our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.” Advent is not just about looking back to Bethlehem, but a call to live in the urgency of now. Paul urges us to cast off the “works of darkness” and put on Christ, to live honourably, in the light.

The Gospel from Matthew echoes this vigilance. Jesus warns us that his coming, like in Noah’s time, will surprise us. We must stay alert, because we do not

know the hour. This is not to fuel fear, but to inspire readiness.

So what does this mean for us in practical terms? First, we pray for peace, for ourselves, for our communities, for a world too often torn apart by conflict. Second, we live ethically: to “walk in his paths,” as Isaiah says, means shaping our daily choices by the peaceable way of Christ. Finally, we stay spiritually awake: Advent is our time to deepen our awareness that God is coming in mystery, in grace, in judgment, and, one day, in fullness.

May this Advent season rouse us from spiritual sleep, sharpen our longing for God’s kingdom, and embolden us to live as people of the light. Amen.

December Feasts and Memorials

Monday 1; Saint Andrew (Apostle) Solemnity

Wed 3; St Francis Xavier, Priest

Monday 8; Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the BVM

Sat 13; Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

Tue 23; Commemoration of St John of Kety, Priest

Thurs 25: Christmas Day Solemnity

Fri 26: St. Stephen the first Martyr (Feast)

Sat 27: Saint John Apostle & Evangelist (Feast)

Sun 28: The Holy Family

Pray for the Sick

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital – Sally Helen Hamm and Dominic Roberts-Brown, Margret MacPhail, Bill Buttars, Paul Walker, Bishop Stephen Robson, May McGeary, Catherine Reid, Kathleen Wilson, Lusia, Brian Murphy, Lizzie Ward, Monsignor Basil O’Sullivan, Betty Saunders Pamela Herron, Maureen Walker, George Adam, Elinor Crighton, Fletcher Ditchburn, Margaret Forsyth, Bill Martin, Peter Angus, Fr Malcolm Hutchison, Alister McGregor, Mary Clark, Bella Shaw, Angela Keith, Cecilia McCarten, Alan Newell, Albert Soave, Bethany Williamson, Irene McKay, Saul Sangster, Rena Samson, Gillian Donnelly, Margaret Beck, Tony Beck, Anya Behl, Andrew Fyffe, Lyn Fyffe, Lisa Gillespie, Gerard Halliday and Margaret McDonagh. **May they feel the healing power of Christ, in body and in spirit.**

Pray for the Dead

Please pray for those who have died and gone before us in faith - for the souls of Norah Gibson, Cathie Walker, Jane Moncur, Brenda Blandford, Morag Walker, Veronica Duncan, who has died recently, and for Margaret Kane, Francis Coyle, Jean Millar, Mary Welsh, Lisbeth Pennycook, Maureen Curtis, Isabella McBride and Bill Forsyth, whose anniversaries occur around this time. We also remember and pray for all those on our parish November lists. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

Announcements

1. SEASON OF ADVENT



As we enter the holy season of Advent today and the new month of December, I encourage us to begin with renewed hearts. **Spiritually**, let us slow down and make room for God. Advent invites us to pray more intentionally, reflect on Scripture, and watch for the quiet ways Christ comes into our lives. Small moments of silence can open our hearts to His presence.

Morally, this is a time to prepare the way of the Lord by examining

our lives. Let us forgive those who have hurt us, seek reconciliation, choose honesty, and practise kindness. Every good choice we make becomes a step closer to Christ.

Psychologically, December can be busy and overwhelming, so I urge you to care for your inner peace. Rest well, avoid unnecessary stress, and protect your mental space. A peaceful mind helps us welcome the Lord with joy. May this season renew every part of our lives.

2. GROUPS FORM

Thanks to everyone who has completely filled and submitted the groups form. It was a large response from both parishes. I will soon begin to meet the different groups. So expect any moment now a text message with details of the meeting. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY: There will be a 2nd Collection for POOR MISSION FUND next Sunday 7th Dec 2025 Please give your support – thanks.

CHANGES IN MASS TIMES: Mass in St Ninian on Tuesday 2nd December is 5.30pm and the mass in St Joseph on Wednesday 3rd December is 5.30pm to accommodate the schools reconciliation services on these days which takes place at 6pm

ST NINIAN

Eco News

As we begin Advent, why not each week choose one small action that helps care for God’s creation? These gentle weekly steps are a lovely way to reflect, prepare and make a positive difference during this special season.

Advent Eco-Activity Week 1: Gift thoughtfully.

Consider giving gifts that are kinder to the planet, such as homemade treats, experiences, rather than ‘things or items made locally and sustainably. Agreeing to have a family Secret Santa means you don’t have to buy for everyone and helps create less waste. Better still, consider a SCIAF Real Gift which brings joy to your loved ones whilst providing real support to those who need it most. <https://shop.sciaf.org.uk>

Annual Advent Service: St Ninian’s Wednesday 3 December 7pm

Let’s all come together in the presence of our God of Love to find peace and joy-filled hope ready to face for