

but if you are looking to ring the changes, **use** natural decorations like dried orange slices, pinecones, or cinnamon sticks. Do avoid buying tinsel as it is non-recyclable.

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

St Ninian's Family Carol Service Come, bring the whole family and sing out with joy at our Annual Family Carol Service on **Thursday 18 December at 6pm**. 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 Ninian's 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.

ST NINIAN OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**Offertory: £303.55 GA: £226.00 C/Candy: £96.52
TOTAL: £626.07**

ST JOSEPH

ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 30/11/25

**Loose Plate £162 Gift Aid Envelopes £186
Standing Orders £353 Maintenance Fund £10
Additional Offertories £25 TOTAL OFFERTORIES
£736**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please try to give a little more each week to help St Jo's.

ST JOSEPH'S - SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY There is a 2nd Collection this Sunday 7 December for the POOR MISSION FUND. Please give your support – thanks.

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

LAST CHANCE FOR 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. Come and support SCIAF

today - 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.**

ST JOSEPH'S – EAGLES WINGS WINTER WARMERS:

Our annual appeal is still on-going and so necessary as support for homeless men and women. If you have any serviceable winter clothes, coats, jackets, shoes, boots, hats, scarves, gloves and toiletries – all are required. Box in the porch. Many thanks.

ST JOSEPH'S – JUSTICE & PEACE ADVENT SERVICE – SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER

Our annual Advent Service for peace in the Holy Land will take place on Sunday 14 December at 3.00pm at St Joseph. Please try to make the time to come along to this peaceful and prayerful service.

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

Rev Fr. Michael Ngobili: 07895262123

stninians@dunkelddioocese.org.uk

stjosephdundee@dunkelddioocese.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 7 December 2025

2nd Sunday of Advent •

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

Readings at Mass

First reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

'With righteousness he shall judge the poor.'

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. 7

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

May his name endure for ever,
his name continue like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blest in him,
all nations shall call him blessed.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

Second reading

Romans 15:4-9

Christ saves humanity.

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."'

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Bidding Prayers

Priest:

My dear brothers and sisters, as we continue our Advent journey of hope and preparation, let us bring our prayers before the Lord who is ever near to all who call upon Him.

1. For the Church

We pray for Pope Leo, all the bishops, the priests and deacons, May they continue to guide God's people with wisdom, courage, and compassion during this holy season.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

2. For peace in our world

We pray for all nations torn by war, division, or injustice. May the Lord guide leaders towards pathways of reconciliation, dialogue, and lasting peace.

Lord hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

3. For creation and our common home

We pray that we may come to realise that **all of nature is interconnected within the universe**, and may we vow to **respect the unique life forces of every creature that is God's creation.**

Lord hear us

Lord, graciously hear us

4. For families and communities

We pray for our families, our parish community, and all who gather this day. May this Advent be a time of healing, forgiveness, and renewed love.

Lord hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

5. For the sick and those who suffer

We pray for all who carry burdens of illness, loneliness, or grief. May God's comfort and strength surround them.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

6. For the faithful departed

We remember our loved ones who have died, and all souls gone before us marked with the sign of faith. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Lord hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest:

Heavenly Father, hear the prayers we place before You. As we prepare for the coming of Your Son, fill our hearts

with hope, peace, and renewed faith. We make these prayers through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reflection on the Readings

Beloved in Christ, the message of this Second Sunday of Advent is clear: **prepare the way of the Lord.** Isaiah proclaims comfort to God's people, announcing that every valley shall be filled and every mountain made low. This is not just a geographical image; it is a spiritual call. The valleys of fear, guilt, and discouragement in our hearts must be lifted up. The mountains of pride, anger, and unforgiveness must be humbled. Advent is God's gentle invitation to allow His grace to reshape the landscape of our souls.

St. Peter reminds us that with the Lord, time is not measured the way we measure it. God is patient, not wanting anyone to be lost but all to come to repentance. This season, therefore, is a gift, an opportunity to return, to reconcile, to renew our commitment to holiness as we await a new heaven and a new earth.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist stands as the voice crying in the wilderness. His life itself was a sermon of simplicity, truth, and repentance. He points us to Christ, the One mightier than all our weaknesses.

As we journey through Advent, let us prepare our hearts with repentance, humility, and hope, so that Christ may find in us a home worthy of His coming.

Pray for the Sick

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital – Stuart Findlay, Sally Helen Hamm and Dominic Roberts-Brown, Margret MacPhail, Bill Buttars, Paul Walker, Bishop Stephen Robson, May McGeary, Catherine Reid, 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, 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 Liz Ashwood, Alister McGregor, who has died recently, and for Alex Johnstone, Jack Lindsay, Mary Coyle and Dorothy Mathieson, whose anniversaries occur around this time., **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

Announcements

1. 2nd COLLECTION

There is a 2nd Collection for POOR MISSION FUND today. Please give your support – thanks.



2. J&P ADVENT SERVICE

Our annual service for Peace in the Holyland and the World will take place on Sunday 14 December at 3pm. The service will consist of hymns, readings, communal prayer and Benediction. It should last for approximately 35 minutes. If for some reason you cannot make it for the service, then between 2 and 3 o'clock we will be having readings and playing some

contemplative music. Arrive and leave as you please. I know that this is a very busy time of the year but please try to find time to come along and escape from the hustle and bustle which goes hand in hand with the preparation for Christmas, the day of Our Lord's birth.

Jack Smith

EVENTS FOR THE SEASON

DATE	FUNCTION	TIME	VENUE
8/12/2025	Mass of the Immaculate conception to be celebrated by Bishop Francis Dougan	6pm	St Joseph
14/12/2025	J & P Advent Service and adoration	3pm	St. Joseph
18/12/2025	Carol Service	6pm	St Ninian
22/12/2025	St Ninian Primary School Mass	10am	St Ninian
24/12/2025	Christmas Eve mass	5pm	St Ninian
	Carol service	7pm	St. Joseph
	Christmas Eve mass	7.30pm	St Joseph
25/12/2025	Christmas Mass	9.30am	St. Ninian
	Christmas Mass	11am	St Joseph
01/01/2026	New Year Mass	9.30am	St Ninian
		11am	St Joseph

ST NINIAN: Advent Eco-Activity Week: Real tree or artificial?

Consider which one is best for you. If you already have an artificial one, then re-use it! If you prefer a real one, remember to compost it after Christmas and don't leave it for the binmen to collect. Reuse last year's baubles,