

from 50p for the smallest items, upwards at your discretion for larger ones. Anything raised would be most gratefully appreciated.

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.

Children's Liturgy will finish for the holidays on 21st December and return on 12th January. Wishing all the children and their families a very happy Christmas!

200 CLUB Winner 08/12/2025 is No 64 I Mylles

ST JOSEPH

ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 7/12/25

Loose Plate £142 Gift Aid Envelopes £243
Standing Orders £353 Maintenance Fund £10
Additional Offertories £31 TOTAL OFFERTORIES £779

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2nd Collection last Sunday – Poor Mission Fund £104.20

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

ST JOSEPH'S - 200 CLUB 2026 Please remember to renew your subscription for 2026! It's the big Christmas Draw next Sunday 21 December with 3 prizes - £200, £100 and £50. Best of luck to everyone. Thanks for all your support - *Linda Gow*.

ST JOSEPH'S - CAROL SINGALONG So sorry that this event had to be cancelled due to the windy and wet weather on Tuesday night. At least everyone was dry and safe!

ST JOSEPH'S - CLARSACH/HARP CHRISTMAS MUSIC RECITAL A special music event on Monday 15 December from 2.00pm to 4.00pm in St Joseph's porch when pupils of Mary Veal will be performing a programme of Christmas music. Come along for a magical event and support this musical group.

CECILIAN CHOIR'S ANNUAL CAROL FESTIVAL - SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER The Annual Festival of Carols by the Cecilian Choir will be held in St Andrew's Cathedral on the Fourth Sunday of Advent - 21 December - at 3.00pm. This is a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas so do try to come along.

ST JOSEPH'S - CHRISTMAS GREENERY DECORATION We will be decorating our church and altars with greenery on **Tuesday 16 December**. If you can help with providing some of the greenery, please bring it on the day or leave at the garden back gate if the church is closed. We will be starting at **2.00pm** and would welcome your help (and company) on the day. Many thanks - *Monica Veal*.

ST JOSEPH'S - INSTEAD OF A CHRISTMAS CARD.....Christmas messages appear this Sunday and next so...you still have time. You can email your message direct to john.sinclair9@hotmail.co.uk and your message will go in the newsletter on Sunday 21 December! All proceeds will be sent to either SCIAF or one of the other excellent charities that we support. Thanks.

ST JOSEPH'S - CHRISTMAS GREETINGS IN SUPPORT OF SCIAF

- Jack and Pat Smith and family - wish all parishioners and friends at St Joseph's a Happy and Holy Christmas and all good wishes for good health in the New Year.
- To all parishioners - Peace and Joy over the Christmas period - Linda Gow.
- Christmas Greetings to all parishioners and friends at St Joseph's and may you all have a Happy New Year - Betty Page.
- Nick Marra wishes Father Michael and all parishioners a very happy Christmas and a New Year of peace and prosperity.
- Pat & Peter Esgate wish all of the parishioners of St Joseph's a Holy and Merry Christmas, with Best Wishes for the coming New Year.
- To all at St Joseph's Church - thank you for keeping me in your prayers and wishing you all a Merry Christmas. Lisa Gillespie xx.
- Alan & Maggie Newell wish everyone at St Joseph's a blessed Christmas and a happy 2026.
- Wishing you and all those close to you a very Happy Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and hope for a world at peace. With much love - Roz, Paul and Taylor family.
- Wishing Father Michael, Deacon Ron, Mrs Wylie and all parishioners and friends - Merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2026 - Irene Blaney.
- Elinor Crighton and family wish all friends and parishioners at St Joseph's a joyous Christmas.
- Margaret Forsyth would like to wish Father Michael, friends and congregation of St Joseph's a very Happy Christmas and healthy 2026. I would also thank you for all your prayers during this year.
- John and Margaret Sinclair send Christmas greetings to all friends and parishioners at this joyous time of the year.
- Merry Christmas to Parishioners and friends and may God bless you in the year ahead with peace and happiness - Albert and Cathie Soave.

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.

Do You Know?

that the Sign of the Cross

1. declares our faith in the **Trinity** - "In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).
2. reminds us of Christ's **saving Cross** - "We proclaim Christ crucified" (1 Corinthians 1:23).
3. according to The Church's teaching is a **sacramental** that brings grace and protection (CCC 1668).

- Have you made the sign of the cross today?
- Have you taught your child how to make the sign of the cross?

Sunday 14 December 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent •

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

Readings at Mass

First reading

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

'God himself will come and save you.'

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who have an anxious heart,

'Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Sion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146(145):6c-7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R Matthew 5:3

Come, Lord, and save us.

or: Alleluia.

It is the LORD who preserves fidelity for ever, who does justice to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the LORD who sets prisoners free.

Come, Lord, and save us.

or: Alleluia.

The LORD who opens the eyes of the blind,
the LORD who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the LORD who loves the just,
the LORD who protects the stranger.

Come, Lord, and save us.
or: Alleluia.

The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The LORD will reign for ever,
your God, O Sion, from age to age.

Come, Lord, and save us.
or: Alleluia.

Second reading
James 5:7-10

‘Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.’

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.
Alleluia.

Gospel
Matthew 11:2-11

‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’

And Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.’

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft

clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ‘What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”

‘Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.’

Bidding Prayers

Priest:

My brothers and sisters, on this Gaudete Sunday, as we rejoice in the nearness of Christ, let us place our prayers before God with trust and hope.

1. For the Church

That the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, may continue to proclaim the joyful message of salvation and bring hope to all who long for God’s mercy.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

2. For our world

For peace wherever there is conflict, for justice wherever people are oppressed, and for wise leadership among nations as they work for harmony and unity.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

3. Eco-Prayer

We pray that we will come to realise our call as messengers of “good news to the poor” by reflecting on our own blessings and better using them to help alleviate their suffering, including that caused by climate change.**

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

4. For our parish community

That in this season of Advent, we may prepare our hearts with sincerity, grow in holiness, and become true witnesses of Christ’s joy to all we meet.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

5. For the sick and the suffering

For those who struggle with illness, loneliness, anxiety, or any form of hardship: may God’s healing grace comfort them and bring them strength.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

6. For those who have died

That our departed brothers and sisters may rejoice forever in the presence of the Lord who is close to the broken-hearted.

Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us

Priest:

God our Father, you are near to all who call upon you. Hear our prayers and grant us the grace to prepare joyfully for the coming of your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Reflection on the Readings Signs of the God Who Comes

On this Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete Sunday*, the Church invites us to rejoice because God is drawing near with power and tenderness. The first reading from Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of renewal: deserts blooming, weak hands strengthened, fearful hearts calmed. This is the promise of a God who enters our dryness and brings life where hope seems lost.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist, imprisoned and unsure, sends a question to Jesus: “*Are you the one who is to come?*” Jesus responds not with theories but with signs; the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, and the poor receive good news. God’s presence is recognised by the transformation it brings.

As we journey through Advent, we are called to look for these signs in our own lives: moments of healing, reconciliation, generosity, and renewed strength. Let us open our hearts so Christ may continue His saving work in us and through us.

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, 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, Margaret Mackie, 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 Morag Walker, Alister McGregor, who has died recently, and for the souls of Wendy Davis, Canon Augustine Klein, Fay Sinclair, Tom Brown, Fr Ned Durkin, George Veal, Fr Andrew Walls, Catherine Hill, Honor Conway and Davey Taylor, whose anniversaries occur around this time., **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

Announcements

1. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Those born in december will be celebrated and prayed for on Christmas day. God bless you all



ST NINIAN

St Ninian’s Family Carol Service Thursday 18 December at 6pm

Come, bring the whole family and sing out with joy at our Annual Family Carol Service on **Thursday 18 December at 6pm.** All Welcome!

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
25/12/2025	Christmas Eve mass	7.30pm	St Joseph
	Christmas Mass	9.30am	St. Ninian
01/01/2026	Christmas Mass	11am	St Joseph
	New Year Mass	9.30am	St Ninian
		11am	St Joseph

Gift a Poinsettia

Why not gift a red or white poinsettia - large or small - to brighten our altar at Christmas? You can leave your gift a Father Michael’s door during the week or bring to church next weekend. Thank you.

Advent Eco-Activity Week 3: Wrap sustainably

Consider using plain brown paper as your Christmas wrapping. It’s recyclable, affordable and easy to decorate with twine, ribbon, or sprigs of greenery. It’s a simple change that reduces the use of non-recyclable glitter-covered plastic-coated wrapping and helps us honour God’s creation through thoughtful choices.

*Fundraising for all-girls school in Pakistan *

There is a basket of hand made items at the back of the church containing notebooks, small scrapbooks, embellishments, gift tags, recipe notebooks etc which would be excellent stocking fillers whilst helping a charity abroad. Suggested donation per item would be