

Tea and coffee will be available from 10.am. Please come along, if you can, and find out how SCIAF hopes to assist our poor brothers and sisters in Ethiopia during the coming years. Michael Hamilton, a SCIAF outreach officer, will also take us through the resources available for our use during Lent. These talks are **open to all members of our parish congregation** not only members of our Justice and Peace group. If the time of these talks are not suitable for you, and you would like to attend the meetings in future years, please let me know and I will do my best to arrange a time which would suit more parishioners.

Many thanks (Jack Smith)

#### ALPHA UK: MISSION AND EVANGELISATION

Alpha in a Catholic Context: opportunity for Mission and Evangelisation

Alpha UK will be delivering an introductory training session at St. James', Kinross on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026 (approx. timings 10.00-15.15h).

If you would like to know a little more about Alpha and sample how it works, or you are already considering running Alpha in your parish, there is the opportunity for every parish to send somebody to attend this session at St. James'.

Please let Paul Allaker know by Friday 20th February if you, or somebody from your parish, will be attending ([paul.allaker@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:paul.allaker@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)). Thank you!

#### HELLO EVERYONE

You will be having a detailed summary of the outcome of the combined PPC meeting of St Ninian and St Joseph Parishes in the next week's newsletter. Thank you.

#### ST JOSEPH

#### ST JOSEPH'S – PETER ANGUS R.I.P.

The funeral arrangements are as follows:

Reception of Remains on Monday 2 February at 5.00pm.

Requiem Mass on Tuesday 3 February at 10.00am.

Interment at Balgay Cemetery, arriving Glamis Road entrance around 11.00am.

#### FRANK CARRIE R.I.P.

The funeral arrangements are as follows:

Requiem Mass on Thursday 5 February at 11.45. This will be held in **St Mary, The Immaculate Conception RC Church, Lochee**, followed thereafter by Interment at Birkhill Cemetery at 1.00pm.

#### ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 25/1/26

Loose Plate £161 Gift Aid Envelopes £247  
Standing Orders £353 Maintenance Fund £10  
Additional Offertories £19 TOTAL OFFERTORIES £790

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

#### ST JOSEPH'S - HOME BAKING - SOCIAL GROUP

Our first Home Baking Event 2026 will be held this Sunday, 1 February, after the Sunday Mass. Please support by purchasing some of our delicious food goodies today. Many thanks – *Margaret Sinclair*.

#### St. Joseph PPC MEETING

This is to remind us of the PPC meeting which will hold on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2026 at 6.30pm in the church. Please we request for more volunteers into the PPC. You are welcome.

#### ST NINIAN

#### ST NINIAN - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 25/1/26

Loose Plate £279.10 Gift Aid Envelopes £212.50 200 CLUB £211.65 TOTAL OFFERTORIES £703.25

#### AFTEENNOON TEA SUCCESS

Thank you to the 15 people who joined us for a lovely afternoon tea on Thursday. Thank you to Fr Emmanuel for your company who even won a prize at the raffle. All proceeds are for charitable causes and for the upkeep of CC's. The next tea will be served on Thursday 26 February. Please support CC's by signing up at the back of the church.

#### Church Cleaning

Church cleaning will take place on Wednesday 4 February after morning Mass at 10.30am. All welcome to help.

#### THE VISION GROUP

The St Ninian's Vision Group will meet in the hall on Wednesday 11 February at 7pm to consider and decide how best to consult all parishioners about their 'dreams' for the parish as we journey to become a synodal parish. Where everyone's voice is heard and listened to.

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

Rev Fr. Michael Ngobili: +441382669966

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.

#### EXPOSITION;

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

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

Birthday Celebrations; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession

St Ninian; Saturday 4.15 to 4.45pm.

St. Joseph; Saturday 10.30am.

## Do You Know?

#### Why Catholics call their priests "FATHER" ?

Catholics call their priests "Father" because the priest shares in **spiritual fatherhood**, not biological fatherhood. In Scripture, spiritual leaders are called fathers because they generate life in faith. St. Paul writes, "I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel" (1 Corinthians 4:15). Priests likewise give spiritual life through preaching, Baptism, the Eucharist, and reconciliation.

Jesus' words "call no one on earth your father" (Matthew 23:9) condemn pride and authority that replaces God, not legitimate spiritual titles: since Scripture itself uses the term positively (Read Acts 7:2; Romans 4:16).

The church teaching affirms this role: priests act in **persona Christi** (in the person of Christ), who reveals God as Father (Catechism of the Catholic Church, §1548). Calling a priest "Father" acknowledges his pastoral care, authority, and responsibility to guide the faithful as a spiritual parent.

Sunday 1 February 2026

#### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

#### Readings at Mass

#### First reading

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

'I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly.'

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the LORD.

I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD, those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

#### Responsorial Psalm

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

Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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.

Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*  
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.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*  
or: *Alleluia*.

## Second reading

### 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

#### ‘God chose what is weak in the world.’

Consider your calling, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption; so that, as it is written, ‘Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.’

## Gospel Acclamation

### Matthew 5:12a

Alleluia, alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad,  
for your reward is great in heaven.  
Alleluia.

## Gospel

### Matthew 5:1-12a

#### ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit.’

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute

you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.’

## BIDDING PRAYERS

### Celebrant:

My brothers and sisters, trusting in God who calls us and strengthens us even when His word challenges us, let us present our needs and the needs of the world before Him.

### 1. For the Church

That the Church, called like the prophets of old, may courageously proclaim the truth of the Gospel, even when it is difficult or unpopular, and remain faithful to Christ in word and action.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 2. For the Pope, Bishops, and Clergy

That the Pope, Bishops, and all priests and deacons may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to preach God’s word with wisdom, humility, and love, never fearing rejection or misunderstanding.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 3. For Leaders of Nations

That leaders of nations may govern with justice, compassion, and integrity, defending human dignity, promoting peace, and protecting the vulnerable, especially the poor and the voiceless.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 4. For Those Who Face Rejection or Persecution

That all who are rejected, ridiculed, or persecuted because of their faith, beliefs, or commitment to truth may find strength in God’s presence and hope in His promises.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 5. For the Sick and Suffering

That the sick, the elderly, and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit may experience God’s healing touch, and may be comforted by the care and love of others.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 6. For Families and Young People

That families may grow in faith, love, and mutual respect, and that young people may discover the courage to

follow God’s call in their lives, trusting that He is always with them.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 7. For Our Parish Community

That we may never reject God’s word when it challenges us, but instead allow it to transform our hearts, deepen our faith, and shape the way we live each day.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 8. For our common home:

God of creation, help us courageously protect the earth you entrust to us, living true love through care for creation and responsibility toward future generations

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### 9. For the Faithful Departed

That all who have died, especially those known to us : **Rhoda Robertson, Peter Angus, May Macintosh, Jim Lee, Frank Esposito**, may be welcomed into the fullness of God’s kingdom, where every tear is wiped away and joy has no end.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

### Celebrant:

God of mercy and faithfulness, you know our needs even before we ask. Hear the prayers we offer with trust and grant them according to your will, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Reflection on the Readings

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”**

This opening line of the Beatitudes is not just a gentle introduction; it is the key that unlocks everything else Jesus will say.

To be *poor in spirit* does not mean lacking intelligence, ambition, or confidence. It means knowing the truth about ourselves before God: that we do not save ourselves, we do not control everything, and we do not possess life as an achievement. The poor in spirit are those who stand before God empty-handed, trusting not in their strength but in His mercy.

This is exactly the people Zephaniah speaks about: “a *humble and lowly people who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord.*” God does not build His kingdom on pride, power, or noise, but on humility, quiet faithfulness, and trust. The remnant who remain are not perfect, but they are honest. They do not pretend to be self-sufficient.

Jesus’ Beatitudes turn the world upside down because they reveal God’s logic. The world says, “Blessed are the strong, the loud, the successful.” Jesus says, “Blessed are those who know they need God.” And why? Because only the poor in spirit have room for the kingdom of heaven.

The Beatitudes are not ideals for a few saints; they are a description of the heart God can work with. When we stop pretending we are self-made and learn to rely on God, the kingdom is already breaking into our lives.

So, as listeners of the Word today, we are invited to make a clear and practical response. We are called to choose humility over pride, trust over self-reliance, and dependence on God over the illusion of control. To be *poor in spirit* is not a weakness to hide, but a doorway to grace. It means praying honestly, living simply, treating others gently, and allowing God to be God in our lives. If we open our hearts in this way, the Word we have heard will not remain on the page or in our ears; it will take flesh in our daily choices. Then the Beatitudes will no longer be just words Jesus spoke on a hillside, but a life we begin to live, quietly, faithfully, and joyfully, because the kingdom of heaven is already among 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, Bishop Stephen Robson, May McGeary, Catherine Reid, Lusia, Brian Murphy, Lizzie Ward, Monsignor Basil O’Sullivan, Betty Saunders Pamela Herron, Maureen Walker, Kevin Veal, Margaret Mackie, Elinor Crighton, Fletcher Ditchburn, Margaret Forsyth, Bill Martin, 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 Iain Madill, George Adam, Caroline Price, William Martin, John Walker, Frank Carrie and Peter Angus, who have died recently, and for the souls of Rhoda Robertson, Jim Lee, May McIntosh, Frank Esposito, James Flynn, Margaret Gethins, John Gunning, Seamus Mannion, Susan Tate, Ledice da Cruz Welsh, Guiseppina Carena, Stuart Penfold, Anthony Smith, May Oakley, Anna Berry, Anne Downie and Norma Davis, whose anniversaries occur around this time . **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**

## Announcements

### Lenten Preparation Talks 2026



St. Joseph’s Parish will be hosting this years SCIAF Lenten Preparation Talks on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of February starting at 10.30am