

and supported with raffle prizes and with serving the refreshments. Thank you all so very much!

### ST JOSEPH'S – MOIRA CARDOSI

May we take this opportunity to thank Moira for agreeing to step in and provide the music for our Sunday Masses, whilst Kevin Veal has been recovering from his recent operation. We are all so grateful Moira, and we thank you for playing for us each week.

### SCIAF APPEAL 2026 Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

#### RESTORE LIFE-SAVING AID

This Lent, SCIAF invites you to stand with the world's poorest communities as UK aid faces further devastating international aid cuts. Life-saving support is now under threat, including clean water provision, sanitation, healthcare, and recovery for families affected by conflict and climate change. As people of faith, we are called to act against injustice.

#### Please keep filling your WEE BOX.

To find out more about this year's Ethiopia appeal, please visit [sciaf.org.uk/weebox](http://sciaf.org.uk/weebox) or call 0141 354 555

#### Stations of the Cross(JDPC)

The Justice and Peace Group will be having their annual Stations of the Cross and Prayer service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm. Please join us as we journey with the Lord towards Calvary, where he offers himself up to his Father for the sins of the world. The service will conclude with readings and prayers for peace and justice in this very discordant world. **Jack Smith**

### ST NINIANS

#### Synodal Pastoral Council Meeting

All existing members of the PPC and those who are interested in joining the council are invited to the PPC meeting in the Church Hall on Wednesday 11 March at 7pm

### ST NINIAN'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION – SUNDAY 15/02/26

OFF; £293.80, GA; £249.00, ECL; £86.90, GA; £89.00

TOTAL: £718.70

### 200 CLUB WINNERS

15/02/2026 IS 74 C. COWIESON

22/02/2026 IS 70 L. HUNTER

The Vision Group consulted us last week to find out the direction we think the Holy Spirit might be leading our parish community. The group will meet this coming Wednesday 4 March at 7pm in the church hall to collate your responses and suggest a Vision Statement for St Ninian's which will be finalised by the New Pastoral

Council when they meet and subsequently shared with the whole parish.

### Eco News : The Big Plastic Count : 9-15 March

The Big Plastic Count is launching again in March-and there's still time to sign up.

While many of us carefully wash and sort our recycling, recent findings show that only a small proportion of plastic is actually recycled. Since 2022, the amount of household plastic being burned has risen from 46% to 58%, with much of the rest sent to landfill or overseas. With more incinerators being built, it's more important than ever to take part and make our voices heard. Let's sign up again as an **Eco Congregation** and be part of the change. <http://thebigplasticcount.com>

Thank you. *Margret MacPhail*

### "Faithful Stewardship: Honouring Jim Hampton's Service to Creation and Community"

Jim Hampton has been invited to become a member of The Bishops' Conference Care of Creation group which looks at various issues under the banner of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*. Over a number of years Jim's expertise and knowledge on energy matters and the success of St. Ninian's Parish with Eco-Congregation Scotland's Gold Award will prove invaluable to the group as Catholic parishes are encouraged and supported to find ways to reduce their carbon footprint, install clean energy saving systems and work together to become 'Eco-Congregations'.

Secondly, we gratefully acknowledge Jim's generous support in helping the parish acquire a new Xerox multifunction printer. His kindness enhances our ministry, improves communication, and serves our community with greater efficiency and care.

Thirdly, we thank Jim for securing grants enabling additional solar panels, making our parish greener. Installation begins this week: truly the Lords work, with Jim as his generous instrument.

### Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026: Places Available

The Dunkeld Lourdes Pilgrimage for 2026 is from 15-22 July flying out from Glasgow airport. The pilgrimage is a wonderful experience with each participant benefitting greatly from taking part. We have a dedicated medical team who assist those pilgrims who would be unable to complete the pilgrimage without support. This year they have some places available and if you or anyone you know would like to join us please contact [dunkeld@pobox.com](mailto:dunkeld@pobox.com) or phone Ruth Anne on 07801 2237443

### Thank You

A huge thank you to all our bakers for the amazing response to our Cake and Candy stall last weekend. The amount raised was just over £113. The next baking stall will be on 25 and 26 April.

## 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](mailto:stninians@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

[stjosephdundee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto: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.

# May I ask?

## Why do I feel far from God when I pray?

Feeling distant in prayer is a common spiritual experience. In Scripture, even faithful people cried out in dryness: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1), words Jesus Himself prayed (Matthew 27:46). Prayer is not always about feelings but faith (2 Corinthians 5:7). The Church teaches that dryness can purify love, drawing us to seek God for who He is, not for consolations (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2731). Saints like St. John of the Cross call this the "dark night," a time of deeper growth. God may seem silent, yet He remains near (Isaiah 41:10).

Sunday 1 March 2026

### 2nd Sunday of Lent •

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

### Readings at Mass

#### First reading

#### Genesis 12:1-4a

#### The call of Abram, the father of the People of God.

In those days: The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

#### Responsorial Psalm

#### Ps 33(32):4-5. 18-19. 20, 22. R 5b

May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O LORD.

The word of the LORD is upright,  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The LORD loves justice and right,  
and his merciful love fills the earth.

May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O LORD.

Yes, the LORD's eyes are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their soul from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O LORD.

Our soul is waiting for the LORD.  
He is our help and our shield.  
May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O LORD.

May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O LORD.

## Second reading

### 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

#### God calls and enlightens us.

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.  
From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:  
'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.  
Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

#### Gospel

### Matthew 17:1-9

#### 'His face shone like the sun.'

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.' And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

#### BIDDING PRAYERS

*Priest: Let us gather together, ready to follow Christ, at this time of Lenten penance and renewal.*

We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Leo, our bishops and the priests of our parish community, that they will lead us with joy in following the Lord in his glory.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

That this Lent we will deepen our faith through our fasting, our prayer, and our service to those in need.

**Lord in your mercy,**

## Hear our prayer

That we may be firm in our resolve this Lent to resist temptation.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

As we hear the Gospel account of the Transfiguration, may we, like the apostles, be convinced of the divinity of Christ.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

That as we contemplate the glory of Christ revealed in the Transfiguration, we may recognise God's presence in the beauty of creation and be strengthened to protect the earth, our common home.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

On this, St David's Day, patron saint of Wales, we remember the people of Wales, especially the sick and the vulnerable.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

On the fourth anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, we commit to you the suffering people of that country. We also remember other places torn by strife, especially Israel and Gaza, Yemen and Sudan.

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

We pray for those in our parish communities who are sick, especially Irene McKay, Cecilia McCarten

**Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who have recently died including Rena Samson, and those whose anniversaries are at this time,

Kathleen Douglas, Jean Cameron, Kathleen Rice, Annie McShane, Kevin Kane, Fr John Mackay and Fernando Soave

**Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer**

We ask Mary, our Mother, to intercede on our behalf: **Hail Mary ...**

Let us pray for our own intentions in silence.

*Priest: God Our Father, hear these petitions which your people place before you. We make all our prayers through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*

#### Reflection on the Readings

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Word of God speaks to us about **journey, trust, and transformation**. In Genesis, God called Abraham: "*Leave your country... and go to the land I will show you.*" Abraham did not know the destination, yet he walked in faith. Lent is our own journey into the unknown—away from sin and towards the life God promises.

St Paul, in the Second Letter to Timothy, reminds us that we are saved not by our own merits but by God's grace. He tells us not to be ashamed of the Gospel but to bear hardship for it. Lent invites us to let go of comfort and to follow Christ with courage.

Then in the Gospel, we witnessed the Transfiguration. The disciples saw Jesus in glory, yet this moment came just before the journey to the Cross. The message is clear: **there is no glory without sacrifice, no resurrection without the cross.**

Like Abraham, we are called to move. Like the disciples, we are called to listen: "*This is my beloved Son—listen to him.*" This Lent, may prayer, fasting, and charity lead us up the mountain, so that our lives may be transformed and we may share in Christ's glory.

#### Pray for the Sick

Please pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital – Margaret Mackie, Elinor Crighton, Fletcher Ditchburn, Margaret Forsyth, Bill Martin, Mary Clark, Bella Shaw, Angela Keith, Cecilia McCarten, Alan Newell, Albert Soave, Bethany Williamson, Irene McKay, Saul Sangster, 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 May Tully and Rena Samson(who died recently), Annie McShane, Kevin Kane, Fr John Mackay and Fernando Soave, whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May God grant them, and the souls of all the faithful departed, eternal rest.**



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Ninian Wednesdays  
10:30am  
St Joseph Saturdays 10:30am

**Please Note: This week, our stations of the cross at St Ninians will be on Friday at 10.30am in place of our**

**adoration. This is to allow church cleaners to do their service this coming Wednesday at 10.30am.**

#### CANDIDATES FOR HOLY COMMUNION (TO JOIN ST NINIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL) on 6<sup>th</sup> of June

1. Jacob Wegorek
2. Alicja Ciepierska
3. Daria Ciepierska
4. Mary Joyce Chidimma Ani
5. Magnus

#### LENTEN RETREAT EXPERIENCE

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, Canon Kevin offers us the opportunity to delve into the gospel of St John with the arresting question "Will He come to the festival or not?" 10.15am start. Venue: St Mary Forebank Church Hall. We will finish by 2.15pm. Bring your pack lunch.

#### ST JOSEPH'S - OFFERTORY COLLECTION - SUNDAY 22/02/26

Loose Plate £85      Gift Aid Envelopes £213  
Standing Orders £353      Additional Offertories £24  
Maintenance Fund £20      Birthday Raffle  
(Maintenance) £573      TOTAL OFFERTORIES £1,268  
**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

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

#### ST JOSEPH'S - SURPRISE 'BIRTHDAY' RAFFLE - LAST SUNDAY

Salem's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration and 'Fix-It' Raffle raised **£573** which is a fantastic amount. The family would like to thank all parishioners, friends, visitors and invited guests for their love and support in helping to make this such a special day. Many thanks to Fr Michael and to the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to all those who assisted in the preparations