



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

*20th September 2020*

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

### ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE DEPARTMENT STORES

holds a sale and shoppers form a queue. The most ardent bargain hunters bring sleeping bags and queue overnight. Other shoppers arrive five minutes before the sale. When the store finally opens the doors the queue surges forward in a frenzy. Shoppers 'push in' from every direction greedy for the bargains. Does this make us cross? Of course it does and rightly so. The people who arrived first should get the bargains first. Most of us would agree that that is only fair. The problem comes when we try to use this same sense of 'justice' in earning a place in God's Kingdom. Surprise surprise! Gaining God's grace is not like queuing for bargains, neither has it got anything to do with how many more hours we have worked in a vineyard, nor has it got anything to do with measuring how many years we have served as disciples.

Once again we are reminded that things that count for so much in this world are turned upside down in God's world. We are taught not to think we are worth more as Christians than those who have found Christianity late in life. If we have lived life as God asks from the outset then we should simply count ourselves as lucky. For others, life's paths may have taken more difficult and painful twists.

The employer in today's parable pays his employees exactly the same amount regardless of the time they arrived at the vineyard. Jesus is telling us that there are no 'partial benefits' in God's kingdom. If we have earned a place in heaven we have earned a place, there won't be some places better than others. God's love is God's love. We are each promised the same measure of his grace.

"... So the last will be first and the first will be last." We would be foolish to expect some kind of pecking order at heaven's gates. We would be even more foolish to expect some kind of organised queuing system or loyalty cards for the longest serving. Those who arrive late should certainly not be regarded as somehow cheating the system. We must recognise God's generosity in giving a level field for all and emulate it. We must be happy for the latecomers, especially if we have played a part in attracting them by our shining example!

### The Parish Clergy

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Kevin Dow

#### Pastoral Assistant:

Rev Pat Carrigan  
(Permanent Deacon)



St Peter in Chains Church,  
Inverkeithing



Ss John & Columba's Church,  
Rosyth



Our Lady of Lourdes Church,  
Dunfermline



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

*My thoughts are not your thoughts*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on  
him, to our God who is rich in forgiveness, for my  
thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your  
ways – it is the Lord who speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways  
are above your ways, my thoughts above your  
thoughts.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

### Responsorial Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

*The Lord is close to all who call him.*

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts.

### Second reading Philipians 1:20-24,27

*Life to me is Christ; but death would bring me more*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my  
life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ,  
but then death would bring me something more; but  
then again, if living in this body means doing work  
which is having good results – I do not know what I  
should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want  
to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very  
much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body  
is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be  
unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

*The Word of the Lord.*

### Gospel Acclamation

cf.Ac16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

*Why be envious because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of  
heaven is like a landowner going out at day  
break to hire workers for his vineyard. He  
made an agreement with the workers for one  
denarius a day, and sent them to his  
vineyard. Going out at about the third hour  
he saw others standing idle in the market  
place and said to them, “You go to my  
vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.”  
So they went. At about the sixth hour and  
again at about the ninth hour, he went out  
and did the same. Then at about the eleventh  
hour he went out and found more men  
standing round, and he said to them, “Why  
have you been standing here idle all day?”  
“Because no one has hired us” they  
answered. He said to them, “You go into my  
vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of  
the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the  
workers and pay them their wages, starting  
with the last arrivals and ending with the  
first.” So those who were hired at about the  
eleventh hour came forward and received  
one denarius each. When the first came, they  
expected to get more, but they too received  
one denarius each. They took it, but  
grumbled at the landowner. “The men who  
came last” they said “have done only one  
hour, and you have treated them the same as  
us, though we have done a heavy day’s work  
in all the heat.” He answered one of them  
and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust  
to you; did we not agree on one denarius?  
Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay  
the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I  
no right to do what I like with my own? Why  
be envious because I am generous?” Thus the  
last will be first, and the first, last.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

## DEVOTIONAL LIFE & PRAYER

**The Month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrow:** The martyrdom of the Virgin is set forth both in the prophecy of Simeon and in the actual story of our Lord's passion. The holy old man said of the infant Jesus: *He has been established as a sign which will be contradicted.* He went on to say to Mary: *And your own heart will be pierced by a sword.*

Truly, O blessed Mother, a sword has pierced your heart. For only by passing through your heart could the sword enter the flesh of your Son. Indeed, after your Jesus – who belongs to everyone, but is especially yours – gave up his life, the cruel spear, which was not withheld from his lifeless body, tore open his side. Clearly it did not touch his soul and could not harm him, but it did pierce your heart. For surely his soul was no longer there, but yours could not be torn away. Thus the violence of sorrow has cut through your heart, and we rightly call you more than martyr, since the effect of compassion in you has gone beyond the endurance of physical suffering.

Or were those words, *Woman, behold your Son,* not more than a word to you, truly piercing your heart, cutting through to the division between soul and spirit? What an exchange! John is given

to you in place of Jesus, the servant in place of the Lord, the disciple in place of the master; the son of Zebedee replaces the Son of God, a mere man replaces God himself. How could these words not pierce your most loving heart, when the mere remembrance of them breaks ours, hearts of iron and stone though they are!

Do not be surprised, brothers, that Mary is said to be a martyr in spirit. Let him be surprised who does not remember the words of Paul, that one of the greatest crimes of the Gentiles was that they were without love. That was far from the heart of Mary; let it be far from her servants.

Perhaps someone will say: "Had she not known before that he would not die?" Undoubtedly. "Did she not expect him to rise again at once?" Surely. "And still she grieved over her crucified Son?" Intensely. Who are you and what is the source of your wisdom that you are more surprised at the compassion of Mary than at the passion of Mary's Son? For if he could die in body, could she not die with him in spirit? He died in body through a love greater than anyone had known. She died in spirit through a love unlike any other since his.

*From a Homily by St Bernard on Our Lady of Sorrows*

### **A Spiritual Communion for use when not able to receive our Lord physically:**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

***Sacrament of Reconciliation - if you wish to make an appointment with Fr Kevin to go to confession (with all necessary safeguards in place), please contact him at the presbytery or by email.***

**Parish Safeguarding Coordinators** Patricia Watt (PiC); Lisa Quinn (J&C); Jane Imrie & Margaret Hall (OLoL)

**Baptisms & Marriages** Arrangements for weddings (for which six months notice is required) and Baptisms should be made by appointment with one of the clergy.

**Sacrament of the Sick / Hospital Visitations** Those who require the Sacrament of the Sick at home should contact the Parish Office to arrange for Fr. Dow to visit. The Anointing of the Sick should ordinarily be arranged prior to any prolonged hospital visit. The Catholic Chaplain to the Victoria Hospital is Fr Gowans of St Marie's Kirkcaldy (Tel: 01592 592111). In cases of emergency where you or a family member require the pastoral assistance of the Catholic Chaplain (emergency cover is provided by the various priests in Fife) please request this from the nursing staff at the hospital. For patients in Queen Margaret Hospital please contact Fr Chris Heenan at St Margaret's (625611) **Please note that a patient/family request must be made before the clergy can visit.**

**Names for sick list** Names can only be added by the person themselves or by a member of the family. Please advise the Parish Office of any name to be added or removed.

**PLEASE  
REMEMBER IN  
YOUR PRAYERS  
THE SICK AND  
INFIRM**

Canon McAllister,  
Maureen McLeod,  
James Morris,  
Elaine McCormick,  
Sandra Graham,  
Ester Wren,  
Daniel Cornet,  
Ann-Marie Bevan,  
Patricia Phee,  
Angie Kempson,  
Margaret Lynch,  
Edith Bryant,  
Elizabeth McVay,  
Veronica Fogherty,  
David and Lynn  
Dean, Colin Reid,  
Martin Lacey,  
Sandra Christie,  
Eleanor Haggett,  
Susan Stevenson,  
Elizabeth Byrne,  
Catherine Steven  
and Jennifer Imrie  
*Our Lady, Mother  
of the sick—pray  
for them*

**OF YOUR  
CHARITY, PLEASE  
PRAY FOR THE  
RECENTLY  
DECEASED**

John Bonar of  
Dalgety Bay and  
Charles Moran of  
Rosyth, and all  
those who have  
died as a result of  
Covid-19 and all  
who have no one to  
pray for them

*Fidelium animae  
per misericordiam  
Dei requiescant in  
pace. Amen*



## MAKING A DONATION

During this time of Church closure, and no public Masses being celebrated, you have very little chance of supporting the ongoing mission of the parish and upkeep of our church buildings.

We thank you for all that you have contributed in the past, and if you are able to continue your support, which can also be Gift Aided, we would be eternally grateful. God bless.

Below are the details for the bank accounts for each church if you wish to make your donation directly into the bank account:

**St Peter in Chains—**  
RBS A/C No:  
00600297  
Sort Code: 833300

**Ss John & Columba's—**  
RBS A/C No:  
00114865  
Sort Code: 832339

**Our Lady of Lourdes—**  
RBS A/C No:  
00249131  
Sort Code: 833300



**The obligation to attend Mass remains suspended at this time**

## Public Worship

*As from the 15th July we have been able to open our 3 churches, following both the bishop's and the government guidelines.*

**We will only be able to continue to open our churches if enough parishioners volunteer to assist with the cleaning after each Mass...**

- You may attend any weekday Mass, instead of attending the Sunday one;
    - If you are shielding, it's important that you do not come out to Mass at all;
    - We will need to record your name and address when you attend Mass, in case you need to be traced;
    - We are not allowed more than 50 people in church.
    - Seating according to physical distancing rules. Currently, Rosyth would have a capacity of 30, Inverkeithing will also be about 30 and Dunfermline is 48. Households may sit together. **You will be guided to a seat by a passkeeper—you will not be able to sit where you normally do.**
  - **You are legally obliged to wear a face covering.** Exemptions are children under 5 and those with a condition such as asthma.
  - You will need to sanitise your hands on entering and leaving. This will be provided. Please
- avoid touching statues and other surfaces. If you wish to light votive candles, please place them in the basket provided for this purpose (*We ask you not to light the candles yourself, as your hands have flammable liquid on them...*)
  - There will be no music or singing, no readers, ministers of communion, altar servers or sacristans. Only the priest will be allowed in the sacristy and toilet facilities will not be available.
  - Mass will be celebrated without the Gloria or Creed and only one reading, psalm and the gospel.
  - Holy Communion (under the one species) will be distributed after the final blessing and people are asked to leave immediately.
  - For holy Communion, please keep your face covering in place when you receive Holy Communion, and then step to the side, remove mask, consume and replace mask.
  - Offertory donations may be placed in baskets as you leave the church at the end of Mass
  - There will be no Teas etc. after Mass.
    - We will suspend the Holy Hours to focus on Mass, until we can resume normal services.
    - The church will have to be cleaned after each Mass.
  - We will need a team of at least 2 pass keepers, and 2 or 3 cleaners for each Mass. Please consider volunteering your time and help make this all possible.
  - My thanks to those who are presently volunteering to clean the churches at the end of each period.

## COVID-19 & OUR

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## DO YOU KNOW.....

That within the Catholic Church we use the word 'vocation' in various ways, so let me clarify those different meanings as they apply significantly to Christian living. Everybody has a vocation and discovering that vocation is a key step on the journey of faith. Your vocation is not the same as your career or profession. However, there is an overlap between a vocation and a profession. A career or a profession is something that you have in order to support yourself and to contribute in some way to the good of the society. You don't need to believe in God to choose a career or a profession. A person can pick, choose and switch profession freely depending on his/her preferences, strengths or circumstances. A profession or a career always has a horizontal dimension.

When we talk about vocation, we introduce a vertical dimension in our life, which is God. It is no longer 'what do I prefer?' but rather 'What does God want me to be?' A vocation is not something that you can switch like a

profession or a career. "Vocation" must be understood in the context of baptism. Our Christian calling is the consequence and the challenge of our baptism. Through baptism, all of us are called by God to become disciples of Jesus. This is the way of holiness; it involves giving attention to the needs of others and to Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit and living as an active member of the Church. Holiness is the universal vocation of every person. It is the main road which converge to all the little paths that are particular vocations. The root meaning of vocation is calling and the first calling shared by all

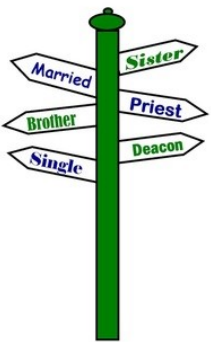
Christians is holiness as a member of the Church.

There are also, what are sometimes called, 'a vocation within a vocation.' This is where a person may have the feeling that they are called by God to a particular aspect of the main vocation that they have already answered. An example of which is when a priest feels called by God to go and exercise his priesthood in the Armed Forces.

A Priest has been called by God to the Sacred Priesthood of Jesus Christ, and as we know that is usually exercised in parish ministry, but some priests are called to other types of ministry. As well as the previous example, some are called to prison chaplaincy or to specialise in hospital chaplaincy.

Of course we also have the vocation to the Permanent Diaconate, as exercised by Deacon Pat and Deacon Damian in our own parish. These married men are living out one vocation (married life) and as part of that vocation, having felt the call of the 'vocation within a vocation' to serve as deacons. I say this is a vocation within a vocation, as the Church recognises the role of the deacon's wife and family in his ministry.

What is your vocation? God is calling you to something, but what?



**Mass Intentions** Please try to have any intention that is required to be said on a particular date in a month before hand. On occasion when a funeral takes place, the stated intention will be moved to the next available date.

**Bulletin Notices** All notices should be with Fr Kevin in Rosyth by Thursday morning for inclusion in the weekend bulletin

## NEWS & EVENTS

**Obligation to attend Mass:** The Bishop's have as yet not reinstated the obligation and so as we approach the colder weather, it may be good to remind ourselves that doors and windows of the churches must be kept open for air flow, and so we advise either dress for winter, or perhaps stay at home...

**Funeral Masses this week:** please note that due to government restrictions, the 2 funeral Masses this week are private and by invitation only. Please do not try to attend if the families have not asked you.

**Visits to the Sick:** unfortunately we have still not been given the go ahead to start visiting the sick and bringing Holy Communion to them as yet. I know that this is not ideal, but the clergy and lay ministers would not want to be the cause of spreading any infections from one house to the next. Obviously in cases of extreme nature, Fr Kevin will attend.

**Parish Groups:** currently remain suspended during this period also.

**St John's Primary School:** congratulations to Mrs Shona Munro on her recent appointment as our Head Teacher. Mrs Munro is a well known and loved member of the teaching staff, having previously been Principal Teacher. We wish her all the very best in her new appointment and may God bless her through the intercession of St John the Evangelist and St John Bosco.

**Parish First Holy Communion celebrations:** because of the on going pandemic and the closure of our churches, the scheduled celebrations have been provisionally moved to the following dates after consultation with the senior management teams in our parish schools: Our Lady of Lourdes Church (St Margaret's PS) - Saturday 7th November at 10am & 1130am & Ss John & Columba's Church (St John's PS) - Saturday 21st November at 10am. Due to the government restrictions, we are only allowed 50 people in church at a time, therefore in OLOL, we will hold 2 Masses. At each of the 3 Masses, there will be enough space for a child, plus 4 family members only. Further details will be made available nearer the time.

**Children's Sunday Newsletter:** Copy and paste this link into your web browser and it will take you to this week's edition of a newsletter designed especially for our younger members of the parish <https://thekidsbulletin.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/the-kids-bulletin-25th-sunday.pdf>

**Children's Liturgy material** for you to use at home with the children can be found here: <https://archedinburgh.org/wp-content/uploads/20thSep2020-25thSunOrdTimeYr-A-PDF.pdf>

### OUR VIRTUAL PARISH...

as you all know, whilst all public services, activities, clubs, etc are currently on hold. Public Masses have resumed, but with certain restrictions in place. We do not know when the government will allow us to resume everything as normal, and so please bear with us. Let us pray that the all clear may come soon, and that the virus does not claim anyone from our parish community.

During this trying time, whilst Masses are being celebrated with a smaller number of parishioners physically present in our churches, Fr Kevin will continue to celebrate Mass live from Rosyth and recorded in Inverkeithing to be later added to the parish Facebook Page. If there is a desire for the videos to be added to our Youtube channel, please advise that you would like this to happen.

All of these Masses and services are being 'live streamed' through the parish Facebook pages: "The Catholic Parish of the Most Holy Trinity" and "Most Holy Trinity Parish-Our Lady of Lourdes Church." If you have Facebook and you have not already 'liked' these pages (why wouldn't you have already?!), then please do so and keep in touch with the parish.

If you do not have Facebook, then please subscribe to our parish YouTube channel, where Masses are uploaded for you to view.





## DEACON PAT'S PONDERINGS



The Radio contributor to the programme on air stated that we are undergoing a modern Industrial Revolution and went on to point out how our working arrangements have changed since March of this year. The person who now delivers your parcel ordered online may be a multi-talented

individual, qualified to Degree level or has a Trade. A large percentage of us no longer have to make that daily commute by car, bus or train. We simply grab a coffee and wonder to that part of our home which we have designated as our work area and it doesn't matter anymore how we are dressed ... pyjamas are generally the winners!

Most of our National workforce are now looking to their future and considering how to secure their financial wellbeing and maintain a standard of life for themselves and their families in any way they can, especially now that the Furlough scheme is coming to an end.

Every job advertised is now pursued by many, many people. Equally folk are finding that they are applying for many posts. A news item recently highlighted the fact that a new Graduate applied for over 100 positions, sadly with no joy.

But the question has to be asked, is this a new phenomenon? As each of us entered the workplace market did, we get the first job we applied for and was it the Job of our dreams? It has to be suggested the answer is NO.

Older folk in our families and communities may remember their Fathers having to go out each morning to the area of the town where the Foremen and the Grieves would be taking men on for the day, and this was less than a century ago. Wages were paid on a daily basis and there was no guarantee of a shift the next day. It was all very much like the story we heard in today's Gospel... but, there is a twist!

Here we have an employer who requires to enlarge his workforce on an hourly basis to get the work done. How he responds to the people he hired is at the heart of this parable.

A lot of folk are surprised at this story. They think it unfair to give the same reward to everyone, without taking into account the amount of labour

or the sacrifices of everyone.

It certainly looks like Jesus wanted to shock us and take apart the idea that we cling to; that we have merits that God must recognise.

Really? Pay closer attention. It wasn't individual labourers that were hired but it was groups of labourers. So, Jesus is making a comparison among these groups which represent either a nation or a social class and while some of them have long ago received the Word of God while others have only recently become believers.

Since the creation of Adam, God has been calling folk to come and work in His vineyard. Abraham and his descendants were called and put in charge of His work in the world and later Moses carried it forward.

With the coming of Christ, the Gospel was brought to other Nations that were until then pagan. They came into the Church and helped to shape Christianity. However, they developed a misconceived claim that they were owners of the kingdom of God and the Church.

Believe it or not, but to this day there are social groups and people who are absolutely amazed when the Church criticizes their demand for privileges and does not offer them the front seats in the Temple for these people always believed that the Church was their property.

Remember, in this parable, everyone is treated on equal terms and each receive their silver coin.

The joy of the moment is that God has reached out His hand to us all and brought us into the vineyard where our faith grows and, in the end, we receive our just reward.



## LITURGICAL TIMETABLE FOR COMING WEEK

<b>Sunday 20th September</b> <i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year (A)</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-
	<b>5.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-
<b>Monday 21st September</b> <i>Feast of St Matthew</i>	<b>No Mass</b>			
<b>Tuesday 22nd September</b> <i>in the 25th Week of the Year</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<i>Ss John &amp; Columba's</i>	<b>Funeral Mass</b>	<i>Charles Moran RIP</i>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Special Intention</i>
<b>Wednesday 23rd Sept</b> <i>Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<i>St Peter in Chains</i>	<b>Funeral Mass</b>	<i>John Bonar RIP</i>
<b>Thursday 24th September</b> <i>in the 25th Week of the Year</i>	<b>7.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>James Johnston RIP</i>
<b>Friday 25th September</b> <i>in the 25th Week of the Year</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	St Peter in Chains	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Maureen Duffin RIP</i>
<b>Saturday 26th September</b> <i>in the 25th Week of the Year</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-
	<b>5.00pm</b>	St Peter in Chains	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-
<b>Sunday 27th September</b> <i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year (A)</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-
	<b>5.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	-



### The Catholic Parish of The Most Holy Trinity



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Dunfermline  
KY11 4QZ

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01383 412084 (Presbytery)

E-mail: [admin@catholicswfife.com](mailto:admin@catholicswfife.com)

Website: [www.catholicswfife.com](http://www.catholicswfife.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicswfife/>



*The Most Holy Trinity is a parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh.  
A Charity registered in Scotland Number SC008540*