



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

*8th November 2020*

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

WE CAN NAG OUR CHILDREN ENDLESSLY ABOUT  
HOMEWORK,

buy them every book and piece of equipment they might conceivably need and pack their school bags every night, but at the end of the day we can't go to school and do the work for them. At exam time we can borrow essays and pick each other's brains, but at the end of the day no one can sit the exam for us. A job interview looms and we run round seeking help and advice, but the final preparations have to be ours and ours alone. It seems there are certain things for which we alone must take responsibility.

In today's gospel, five wise bridesmaids and five foolish bridesmaids take their lamps and await the arrival of the groom. The groom is delayed, and by the time he arrives, the foolish bridesmaids have run out of oil and are forced to ask the wise bridesmaids for a loan. "No," reply the wise bridesmaids, "there will not be enough for you and for us." It might seem as though the wise bridesmaids were being a little less than generous, but this isn't a lesson in sharing. The lesson teaches us that there are some kinds of oil we just can't borrow or give away.

The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who waste their lives forever accepting mediocrity. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who save their good intentions up for 'tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow'. The foolish bridesmaids stand for those who imagine that good deeds are the responsibility of others. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all of us who think there is plenty of time left to fill up on our spiritual reserves.

What would it cost to fill up our spiritual reserves right now? Perhaps not as much as we might think! No one is suggesting that we all rush off and become Trappist Monks, but at the same time, how much less mediocre our lives would become if we got into the very good habit of living each and every day as though it was our last.

### 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

**Wisdom 6:12-16**

#### **Wisdom is found by those who look for her**

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.  
By those who love her she is readily seen,  
and found by those who look for her.  
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she  
makes herself known to them.  
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;  
you will find her sitting at your gates.  
Even to think about her is understanding fully  
grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will  
quickly leave you.  
She herself walks about looking for those who  
are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to  
them as they go, in every thought of theirs com-  
ing to meet them.  
*The word of the Lord.*

### Responsorial Psalm

**62(63):2-8**

*For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

### Second reading

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

#### **Do not grieve about those who have died in Jesus**

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.  
*The word of the Lord.*

### Gospel Acclamation

**Mt24:42 44**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Stay awake and stand ready,  
because you do not know the hour  
when the Son of Man is coming.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

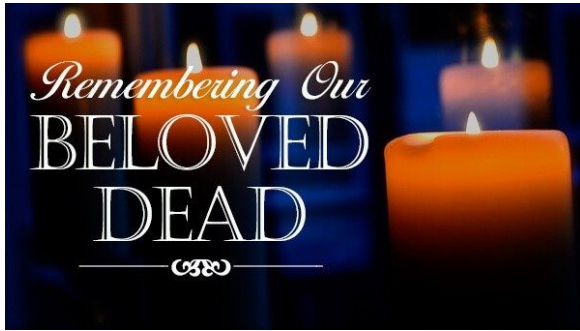
**Matthew 25:1-13**

#### **The wise and foolish virgins**

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

## DEVOTIONAL LIFE & PRAYER



### November is the Month of the Holy Souls

This Sunday we'll enter the month of November, the month in which the Church prays for all who are in the purifying fires of Purgatory, waiting for the day when they will join the company of the saints in heaven. The celebration of Mass is the highest means the Church can provide for charity for the dead, but we can also relieve their sufferings through our prayers, sufferings and penances. We can also help the Poor Souls by doing acts and prayers that have indulgences attached to them. There are many indulgences, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, which can be obtained during the month of November.

#### The Holy Souls Masses:

During November we offer Masses for the dead. If you would like to enrol a loved one on the Parish November Mass List, they will have Mass offered for them, they will be included in the

Masses for the Holy Souls, and they will be prayed for (collectively) during the Intercessions every day. Holy Souls Mass offering envelopes are available in all three churches this week or so. Please return Mass offerings to Fr Kevin.

**November Lists:** Please collect a sheet from one of our churches and fill in the names of all whom you wish to be remembered in prayer during our Holy Souls Mass in this month of November, and return them to the burse/basket at the front of the altar.

#### Cemetery Sunday:

Unfortunately we will not be able to carry out our annual commemoration and blessing of the local graves due to government restrictions brought on by the global pandemic, but we would still encourage you to make a visit to your family graves and pray for the souls of your loved ones.

*"It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed of their sins."*  
2 Maccabees 12:46

*"Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."*

### 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.**

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

Canon McAllister,  
James Lynch,  
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

William Davidson  
RIP 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
- 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.
- 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

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...*)



## News from the Archbishop:

### Parish Catechists: Launch New Sacramental Resources

Are you involved in sacramental preparation (Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) of children in your parish? You are most welcome to attend an event to launch the new sacramental workbooks and materials. The zoom event takes place on **Saturday 28 November at 2pm**. A link for the event will be sent to you upon registration. To register, please email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO at [SrMirjam.Hugens@staned.org.uk](mailto:SrMirjam.Hugens@staned.org.uk)

### Scottish Interfaith Week 2020

**Ask Me Anything** shows. Young people from eight different faiths have been answering questions about their faith sent in by school pupils from across Scotland. The shows will be premiered during Scottish Interfaith Week on our Scottish Interfaith Week YouTube channel at the following link: <https://bit.ly/367l5k4> The shows will be available to view from 9am on each of the days as outlined below and will remain on the channel to watch any time.

- 9th November - Jewish and Sikh
- 10th November - Buddhist and Hindu
- 11th November - Baha'i and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- 12th November - Muslim
- 13th November - Catholic and Protestant



**EXPLORE THE FAITH**  
(FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR COUCH) ☕

**DIPLOMA IN CATECHETICS | ONE YEAR ONLINE COURSE**

Grab your laptop. Put the kettle on. Then join people across the Archdiocese each week to learn and share **our Catholic Faith.**

**EACH THURSDAY 7:30PM ON ZOOM**  
BEGINS JANUARY 2021 | COST £100

For further details and to register contact Sr Anna Marie McGuan, Diocesan Catechetical Advisor. Email: [sranna.marie@staned.org.uk](mailto:sranna.marie@staned.org.uk)

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST ANDREWS & EDINBURGH | COMMISSION FOR CATECHETICS

**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.

**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 and watch online...

### **SSVP St John & St Columba/St Peter in Chains Christmas Appeal**

Obviously Christmas is going to look a lot different this year but now more than ever people need our assistance. Due to the current restrictions we do not intend on making up hampers, as in previous years, so we will not be collecting donations of non perishable foods. However we will be trying to help people with their gas, Electricity and food vouchers but can only do this with your help and your donations will be greatly appreciated. Donations can left in our collection boxes as you enter the church, in person to James Meade, David Hunter or any member of the SSVP or if online to our Clydesdale bank account Sort Code 82-67-25 Acc No 80453899 Account Name SSVP AE02042 If you need any further information please call Fiona Meade on 07709261584, thank you for your help.

**OLOL SSVP:** Due to the pandemic and the Church being closed for so long, we have had no financial donations. With Christmas approaching, and many families in need, we have to decide if we can afford to offer support. If you can afford to help, the SSVP would be very grateful. There is a collection box on exit from the churches. If you prefer to make an online donation our details for OLOL SSVP are :- Sort Code :- 80-08-09 Account Number :- 06002932. Bank of Scotland

**AFRICA PROJECT:** Due to the pandemic and the lack of finances, It has been decided that the SSVP can no longer fund the Africa Project. We would like to thank all parishioners who have knitted, provided materials for and made donations to the Project over the last seven years.

**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.

**Children's Sunday Newsletter:** Copy and paste this link into your web browser and it will take you to this weeks edition of a newsletter designed especially for our younger members of the parish <https://thekidsbulletin.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/the-kids-bulletin-32nd-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/8Nov2020-32ndSunOrdtimeYrAPDF.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. 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



We live in an amazing technological world where everything is available at the flick of a switch. We have lights in every room and terrific gadgets in the kitchen, the blender, the mixer and the microwave oven together with the all-important fridge and freezer. The lounge was

normally the family entertainment centre with the large television and whatever type of system there is to listen to music. That's changed nowadays as we have televisions and smart speakers in every room and Alexa or the artificial intelligence of your choice to let the family converse with each other while they are all in different rooms. There is the ability to play games with people from all over the globe via our games console and we have the luxury of central heating, generally set on a timer, and washing machines to do our laundry.

What a wonderful computerised world we live in with Smart Phones in hand.

Bang! There goes the power and the electricity is off. Suddenly we are plunged into darkness and confusion. There is no communication and we are isolated in our own little island of bewilderment.

The questions are immediate and urgent. Where are the candles, the torches? We must have light! Light is our number one priority. If we cannot see, it seems, we cannot function. We go into panic mode and it takes some time to start reacting in a logical way. We can figure things out and repair or improvise gaining the facility to cook and have heating. We are surviving.

Then the candles burn out and the batteries in the torch dies. Darkness reigns supreme!

Trouble is that most folk are not prepared for that Power Cut, or winter snows or the present pandemic. They know they are in a difficult position but do nothing about it and rely on good neighbours to help them out. What do they do when the good neighbour is no longer there?

In the Gospel today we read of a marriage celebration set in the tradition of the time and the bridesmaids wait to escort the Groom to the ceremony. Great joy and fun abound but it

wouldn't be a wedding if someone wasn't late. The day draws on and darkness approaches.

The bridesmaids grow drowsy and fall asleep. The lamps lit for the approach of the Groom burn on wastefully.

The alarm is sounded... the Groom approaches in the darkness but some of the lamps have gone out. The wise girls have a reserve of oil while the others have none. Some lamps are kept alight, others flicker and die.

Making sure you have a reserve of oil or in this age batteries, is to ensure we have the means to persevere in our vocation.

There is an argument that Matthew has placed this parable in his Gospel for the benefit of the first Christians, for having waited for the return of Christ they saw nothing was happening and were downhearted. Mistake!

Being prepared for things in our life is wise and will lead us to a form of fidelity, especially in our faith. Jesus speaks to the believers of all times, 'Yes' he is saying, fidelity and preparation can be burdensome: "I didn't know to what I was committing myself".

There lies the magnificence of fidelity. It cannot be known in advance; saying yes to God and taking His hand is a jump into the unknown. Only through perseverance can we find ourselves, and remain faithful to God.

Our Lord demands faithfulness and perseverance from the people he has drawn to himself: this is the way we save a world that seeks truth everywhere but does not know to which Lord to commit to or surrender.

Remember that famous slogan from a wonderful youth movement... Be Prepared!



## LITURGICAL TIMETABLE FOR COMING WEEK

<b>Sunday 8th November</b> <i>Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	<b>11.00am</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	<b>5.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Holy Souls</i>
<b>Monday 9th November</b> <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	<b>No Mass</b>			-
<b>Tuesday 10th November</b> <i>Memorial of St Leo the Great</i>	<b>7.00pm</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	Archie Buchan RIP
<b>Wednesday 11th November</b> <i>Memorial of St Martin of Tours</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	St Peter in Chains	<b>Holy Mass</b>	Canon Niall Hayes RIP
<b>Thursday 12th November</b> <i>Memorial of St Josaphat</i>	<b>7.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	Fr Hugh Purcell RIP
<b>Friday 13th November</b> <i>in the 32nd Week of the Year</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	St Peter in Chains	<b>Holy Mass</b>	Alasdair Aitken RIP
<b>Saturday 14th November</b> <i>Vigil of 33rd Sunday of the Year</i>	<b>5.00pm</b>	St Peter in Chains	<b>Holy Mass</b>	Fr Hugh Purcell RIP
<b>Sunday 15th November</b> <i>Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	Ss John & Columba's	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	<b>11.00am</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	<b>5.00pm</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<i>Holy Souls</i>



### The Catholic Parish of The Most Holy Trinity



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