

Advent Retreat with Holy Family (Luke 3:15-17)

Courtesy to Rev Tigi Abraham CST

Mother Mary (Gospel of Luke 1:26-38)

1. God likes us as we are

Lord comes to us in our normal circumstances, our God is God of small things. He likes to come to our brokenness, our weakness, injuries or wounds. These are all windows for the grace to come into our lives. Holiness is not something extraordinary, it is to be in an ordinary situation with extraordinary love. This is where humility comes in. Humility is the acknowledgement of myself as nothing before God. It is the readiness to acknowledge that everything in life is Grace.

2. Total submission to the will of the Father

Mother Mary said 'Yes' to the will of God. This 'Yes' Requires courage. This brings in a huge responsibility. For Mary, Faith is not just a bunch of propositions, but it is an attitude of relationship. Come what may in my life, Mary accepted everything as the will of God, the Father. I must run away from my homeland; my husband would have his concerns about me! I am ready to accept everything as the will of the Father. We want ourselves to make the centre of our story, however Mary made God the centre of her story. She let her projects go and made significant space for the projects of God in her life. All that we have and all that we are we owe to God.

3. Her life of faith was more of doing than speaking

Mary's life was a life of less words. But Mother Mary has been seen very active in three important incidences of Jesus' life: His flight to Egypt and his childhood; His first public ministry in the wedding at Cana; and His sacrifice on the cross. Here it is also important the suffering life of Mary. Lots of suffering came into Mary's life. Mary's life was a life of cross from the manger to the Calvary.

5. She let others before her

Mary gave Joseph enough space he needed! Here love becomes other oriented. Mary sets off to a distant place to nurse to her cousin Elizabeth.

St Joseph (Matthew 1:18-21)

1. A Man of Dreams

Joseph is depicted as a man who dreams every time. What is dream? Dream is understood negatively in our terms, less connection with the reality. We all do daydreams. Dream is one who flies over time and space. In the Biblical language dream is the language of God. Joseph was a man who was always concerned about the things above more than the things of this world.

2. A Silent Man

He is one of the few characters in the Bible who never spoke. However, he always spoke with God. Whenever a crisis came to his life he discussed it with God and Joseph's every decision was God's decision as well.

3. Joseph was a Just Man

Justice is giving each one their due. In the Bible it is giving each one more than their due. Biblica justice goes beyond fairness and encompasses love and mercy. Joseph's actions reflect this holistic view of justice, where righteousness includes care for others' needs and circumstances. Even when he believed she might have been unfaithful, he chose a merciful path rather than exposing her to public disgrace or punishment.

DIOCESE OF DUNKELD

Scottish Charity No: -
SC001810



St Fergus'
94 Glenogil Terrace
FORFAR
Angus DD8 1NG

SUNDAY MASSES
Vigil Mass Saturday at 6.00pm

Sunday Mass 1115 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
Wednesday & Thursday @
10am.

Each Wednesday – Rosary
immediately after Mass
Last Wednesday of the month –
Rosary, Exposition of The
Blessed Sacrament and
Benediction immediately after
Mass.



St Anthony's
3 St Mary's Close
KIRRIEMUIR
Angus DD8 4GW

SUNDAY MASS
Sunday at 9-15

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Friday at 09.30am

Each Tuesday – Novena to St
Anthony immediately after Mass

1st Tuesday of the month.
Rosary and Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament immediately
after Mass.

Saturday 4.30pm – 5.30pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
or on request in Forfar

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF
ST FERGUS, FORFAR & ST ANTHONY, KIRRIEMUIR
E-mail: stfergusandstanthony@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Website: - <https://www.stfergusrc-forfar.org.uk>

PARISH PRIEST: - REV. FR. DIJO THOMAS CST
Tel No: 01307479715 Mobile: 07442 002494

Email:- durulel@gmail.com

PARISH DEACON: - REV. BERT MILLER

Items for Newsletter to: fergusandanthonynews@yahoo.com

22nd December
2024, 4th Sunday
of Advent Year C
Children's Liturgy
TBA

Second Collection
Today -

None

First Reading:

The Prophet Micah 5:2-5a

*From you shall come forth one who is to become
ruler in Israel*

Psalm 80

*Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth
and we shall be saved*

Second Reading:

Hebrews 10:5-10

Behold, I have come to do your will.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be
to me according to your word.*

Alleluia!

The Gospel

St Luke 1:39-45

*Why is this granted to me that the mother of my
Lord should come to me?*

Today - Readers and Bidding

Prayers:

9.15am Mass Irene Miller
11.15am Mass – Margaret Mitchell

Next Sunday 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent Year C

9.15am Mass – Anne Pender
11.15am Mass – Margaret Mitchell

Second Collection dates:

29/12/24 – Building Fund

Feast, Memorials, Holydays etc.

Wednesday – The Nativity of The Lord
– Solemnity.

Thursday – St Stephen – Feast

Friday – St John – Feast

Saturday – The Holy Innocents - Feast

MEMORARE

*REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled
to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you do I
come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise
not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.*

Offertories 15th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent Yr C

St Fergus Vigil Mass	£86.70
St Fergus Sunday Mass	£72.75
St Anthony Sunday Mass	£102.10
Total (1) =	£261.55
Donations Total (3) £	

Fundraising – Building Fund £

Total (4) £

Total Banked (1,2,3,4) = £478.25

Special Collections etc.

Building Fund Total(4) £	
Second Collection Forfar	£61.90
Second Collection Kirriemuir	£154.80
(Christmas Flowers)	
Tea/Coffee Forfar	£
Tea/Coffee Kirriemuir	£
Candles Kirriemuir	£
Candles Forfar	£
Flowers Kirriemuir	£
Flowers Forfar	£
Repository Forfar	£
Repository Kirriemuir	£
Missal Sales both Parishes	£
Other Monies Total (2) =	£216.70

Parish Safeguarding Please note that the Parish Safeguarders for Kirriemuir are Kaye Donaldson
and at Forfar Zofia Korabiowska-Smith.

*Could parents please make sure that any toys or books borrowed from the back
of the church are returned after Mass. Thank you.*

TEA, COFFEE & BISCUITS: available after both Sunday Masses. Why not come along for a natter and meet up with other visitors, friends and other parishioners alike. There are no strangers here, only friends who have never yet met. A rota list is available at both churches if you would like to assist in the provision of this facility. Donations gratefully accepted.

Gift Aid - Please Note the Gift Aid Scheme Is completely **CONFIDENTIAL**. It is a requirement of Law, that anyone who completes a **Gift Aid Form** must ensure that they pay tax sufficient to cover the donation. Offerings made under Gift Aid allows the church to claim 25p for every £1.00 donated from HMRC. The extra revenue greatly benefits our churches. If you wish to claim 'Gift Aid', then ask Father to register for Gift Aid and receive envelopes to use every week. Thank you.

Wednesday Masses

Rosary at St Fergus' is now practised every Wednesday. The Rosary, along with Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament & Benediction will continue to be practised at the last Wednesday of the month.



Please remember in your prayers those who are sick: Alex Moss, Gerry Quinn, Bruce & Aaron Durning, Irene Moore, Jim Robson, Charles Blackwell, Duncan Fisher, Eileen Morgan, Anne Simmonds, Andrzej Axenti, Annete Fraserburgh, Robin Mathew, Yvonne Cargill, John & Margaret Clowes, Tom Doyle, Doris Donnelly

The Beloved Recently Departed: Ann Gunning
and those whose anniversaries occur at this time (month of December) Mary Cormie; James Quinn; Les Hay; Helen Burns; Annie Black; Thomas Steele; Robert Black; Florence Findlater, Olive Weaving, Michael Kilcoyle, Michael McGuire, Anne Smith, Michael Connolly, Nora Piggot, Joseph Smith, Lena Duncan, Martin Quigley, Sister Joan Keitch
May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Donate by Phone

On the opposite page is a QR Code, with which it is possible to make occasional or regular offertories or donations direct to the Parishes bank account via the Diocese. A copy of the QR poster has been pinned to the notice boards at both parishes and in other places in the churches. This initiative has been very successful in the parishes where first introduced and hopefully will see success in ours. Thank you.

A Date for The Diary

The Dunkeld Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee, are delighted to announce that Bishop Andrew McKenzie will lead our 2025 pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 7th to 14th July 2025. For further information please email [-dunkeld@pobox.com](mailto:dunkeld@pobox.com) or phone 07801227443.

Sacramental Preparation

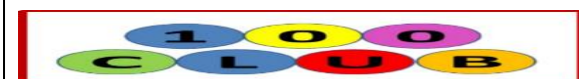
These classes commenced on Thursday 24th Oct , 4.45 to 5.45, and continue each Thursday at this time during term time until next Spring. Thank you, Angela and Karolina.

Children's Liturgy

Next dates are: December 8th. All children from age 4 are very welcome and if feeling a little nervous or shy, may be accompanied by an adult.

Health Walk

A number of parishioners have joined others on a short health walk (less than an hour's walk) around the nature reserve at Murton each month. It's an ideal opportunity to walk and chat with others and have a free cuppa afterwards in the cafe. Last month we met a swan on the pathway!, saw a multitude of geese on the loch and enjoyed seeing a red squirrel. If you would like to come along on Wed 18th Dec at 1015. See Nancy or Angela for more details (no obligation to come each month, all welcome!).



Results Week 6 – 15th December

(Drawn in this order)

£5 No. 81 Kathleen Cattanach; £10 No.58 Bert Miller(yes); £20 No.28 Anne Delaney

The draw is now made with wooden spheres rather than discs

Purchase of The Sunday Missal

The original cost of the Sunday Missal was set at £20, but due to volume purchase, the suppliers discounted the cost by £7.00. Most purchasers opted to donate the discount to the Building Fund – Thank you! The original order was for 40, but due to an error an extra 3 were supplied. A previous sum was submitted along with the donations to the Building Fund & recorded in the Newsletter. Though there is one payment outstanding, the latest collections have allowed a further £26 to be placed into the Building Fund. The sales money and donations will be shown in the Newsletter for January 5th, along with the December 29th 2nd collection for the Building Fund. There are 7 copies of the New Sunday Missal available for purchase, which incidentally has a better layout structure, allowing easier location of each Sunday throughout the 3 year cycle, and other aspects of the Holy Mass. **Thank you to Anne Cormie for managing the purchase and sales.**

Services and Masses for Christmas and New Year

Confession

Forfar 24/12 Tuesday from at 11.15am to 1.00pm
 Kirriemuir 24/12 Tuesday from at 4.30pm to 5.30pm

Sunday Mass 22/12

Vigil Holy Mass 6-00pm (Saturday 21/12 Forfar)
 Kirriemuir @ 9-15am
 Forfar @ 11-15am

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Kirriemuir 24/12 Tuesday:- Morning Holy Mass as usual @ 9.30am
 Kirriemuir 24/12 Tuesday@ 5-30pm Carols and Mass at 6-00pm
 Forfar 24/12 Tuesday @ 8-00pm Carols and Mass at 8-30pm

Christmas Day Mass

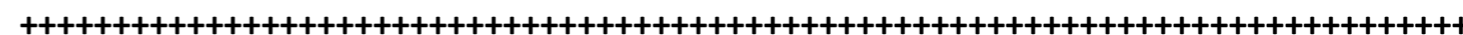
Kirriemuir 25/12 Wednesday @ 9-15am
 Forfar 25/12 Wednesday @ 11-15am

New Years Eve Adoration and Mass

Kirriemuir 31/12 Tuesday @ 9-30am

New Year's Day Masses

Forfar 01/01/2025 Wednesday @ 10-00am

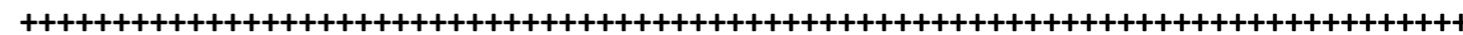


Don't Carry or Have Cash, But Wish to Make a Donation?

Scan this QR code with your phone to make a donation. As a UK taxpayer, you can also claim Gift Aid and we will be able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated



The Parishes of Ss Fergus and Anthony are members of a Designated Religious Charity, Scottish Charity Number SC001810



Geoff & AnneMarie Bray
 Wish all parishioners in Forfar and Kirriemuir a Joyous Christmas and a Good Healthy 2025

Margaret Walker
 wishes everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas, and a Good New Year.

Martin & Zofia (Zo),
 Wish you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas Have a wonderful and blessed 2025

Marjory & 'Charlie'
 Wish everyone 'All the Best' for Christmas and

Fr Dijo Thomas
 Merry Christmas & New Year

Apologies for errors in the Newsletter for 3rd Sunday of Advent, I had copied and pasted from the wrong copy. Hopefully all correct this week. Geoff