

Welcome to St. Bride's & St Anne's & St Thomas'

4th Sunday of Easter - 22nd April 2018

*"Good Shepherd Sunday" and World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Diocese of Dunkeld Charity Number SC001810

Parish Clergy

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Sunday Masses

**Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. in St. Bride's
Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Anne's
Mass at 10.45 a.m. in St. Thomas'
Mass at 11.30 a.m. in St. Bride's**

Sacrament of Reconciliation—

St. Thomas':

Monday 6.15 to 6.45 p.m.

St. Anne's:

on request before Sunday Mass

St. Bride's:

Saturday 4 to 4.30 p.m.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 23rd April

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Bride's:** 10.30 a.m. (Funeral
Mass for Josie Hackney RIP);

St. Thomas': 7 p.m.

Tuesday 24th April

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Thomas':** 10 a.m.

St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Wednesday 25th April *Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist*

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Thomas':** 10 a.m.;

St. Mary's Home: 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 26th April

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Thomas':** 10 a.m.;

St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Friday 27th April

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Thomas':** 10 a.m.;

St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 28th April

St. Bride's: 9.30 a.m.; **St. Thomas':** 10 a.m.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

This Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. To mark this there will be a Holy Hour for Vocations in **St. Joseph's, Wilkie's Lane, Dundee at 4 p.m.** Please come along and join us as we pray for vocations to the priesthood.

Please pray for those who are sick: Bishop Vincent Logan, Jane Higgins, George Hill, Eddie Lebida, Jessie Low, Alison Oakes, Debbie McArthur, George Kelbie, Cathie McLean, Ailsa McIntosh, James McDonald, John McKee, Laura Bennett, Robert Meikle, Cathie Walls, Duane Joseph, Father Luke Fong, Frank Osborne, Annie McCormack, Marie Fenton, William Docherty, Annie McKenzie, Helen Lukas, Joan and Mick Gartland, Janet Howie, Helen Blyth, Moira Fallone, Irene Burton, Rea Beattie, Norma McAra, Riley Johnston, Marion Jones, David Allardice, Adam Rennie, Margaret Spink, Tom Tait, Ina Stuart, Teresa Ritchie, Kim Scott, Gerard Lukas, Frances Toshney, Isabel Carroll, Peggy McGhee, Wendy Wilcox, Marjorie Robson (Bishop Stephen's mother), Vera Swifte, Craig and Kerry McFadyen, Father Jim McCruden, Father Andrew Clark, Carine Hill, Bernard Colvin, Sister Marie Claver LSP, Brian Duncan, Mgr. Kenneth McBride, Baby Emily Irvine, Richard Fish

those who have died recently: May Kinsella, Jim McPhee, David Reynolds

and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Maggie Munro, Katharine Sarson, Maggie Donnachie, Alan Lohead, Elizabeth Power, John Joseph Bennet, L. Goodwin, Gerald Farnan, Irena Kuraba, Marylis Chalmers, Canon Romeo Coia, John McCafferty, Catherine Docherty, Mary Grabham, Alfred Greig, Mary Ramsay, James Shannon, Margaret Malanaphy, George Bruce, Peter Moody, Margaret Cairns, Ena Christie, Helen Branney, Andrew Gillespie, Catherine Smith, Agnes McMahan, Catherine Gill, Alex Balmer, Donagh Walsh.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.



ROSARY ON THE COAST

On **Sunday 29th April**, Catholic communities around the British Isles will gather for "Rosary on the Coast". This initiative was inspired by similar events in Poland and Ireland. It is hoped that it will be an afternoon of

Pilgrimage and Prayer for the re-flourishing of our Faith, for the grace to build a culture of Life and for true Peace to reign in the hearts of all peoples & nations.

We will host a gathering in the garden behind St. Thomas' Church, Arbroath, beside the shrine to Our Lady. Bishop Stephen has confirmed that he will join us for the event. The proposed timetable for the afternoon is:

- 2.00-2.30pm: Gather at St. Thomas' garden**
- 2.45pm: Invocation of the Holy Spirit and Prayers of Protection**
- 2.50pm: Act of Contrition; Scripture Readings**
- 3.00pm: Glorious Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary**
- 3.30pm: Litany of Our Lady**
- 3.40pm: Prayer invoking St. Joseph**
- 3.50pm: Litany invoking Saints of the British Isles**

Please come along be part of this worthwhile event!

Many thanks for your continued generosity. The collections for last Sunday were: £679 in Monifieth; £407 in Arbroath; £376 in Carnoustie.

Hopefully in next Sunday's newsletter we will have the final totals for the SCIAF "Wee Boxes".

St. Anne's Curry Night: Tri parish social curry night in St Anne's on **Friday 18th May at 7pm**. Tickets £5, children free, all welcome. Tickets on sale at the back of the church or phone Margaret McKinlay (07729504820 or 01241 852002) or phone Sheena Barnett 07938922717. Raffle prizes for this event will be much appreciated

SERRA Mass for Vocations will take place on Tuesday 24th April at 7 p.m. in St. Joseph's Convent Chapel, Lawside.

Peggy McGhee would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and good wishes over the last couple of months. Her operation was very successful and she is recovering well at home. May God bless you all!

"The Claim" - Is a film about the life of, soon to be canonised, Archbishop Oscar Romero. It is hoped to host a showing of this film in St. Bride's Hall on 22 May. More details next week.

Alleluia!