

Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes'. Early in Mark's Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.

After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.

St Anne's 100 Club

Margaret Smyth will be collecting for the St Anne's 100 Club from Sunday 28th January and during the month of February. It would be really helpful if your money could be put in an envelope with your name, address and phone number on the front.

Reminder: Cost £26 for the year or £13 for 6 months.

Request: If you have not already joined would you perhaps give some consideration to joining as our numbers will be sitting below the 100 mark.

Quarterly prize draws of £100, £50 and £25. Weekly draws of £10.

Thank you in advance for your continued support or for any consideration you could give to joining this Parish fund raising venture.



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time

28th January 2018

Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Year B

Diocese of Dunkeld Charity Number SC001810

Parish Clergy

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Welcome to the Coastal Parishes of

St. Thomas', Arbroath;

St. Anne's, Carnoustie

and St. Bride's, Monifieth

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass on Saturday 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—this week

St. Thomas': Monday 6.15 to 6.45 p.m.

St. Anne's: on request

St. Bride's: Saturday 4 to 4.30 p.m.

MASSES THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE THAT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE WEEKDAY MASS IN ST. BRIDE'S WILL BE AT 10.30 A.M. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

Monday 29th January

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 7 p.m.

Tuesday 30th January

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m. St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Wednesday 31st January Memorial of St. John Bosco, Priest

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Mary's Home: 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 1st February Feast of St. Bride

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Friday 2nd February Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 3rd February Memorial of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

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



Please pray for those who are sick: Bishop Vincent Logan, Jane Higgins, Betty McGinty, George Hill, Eddie Lebida, Jessie Low, Kathleen Taylor, Susan Chalmers, Alison Oakes, Debbie McArthur, Baby Isobel McCaskey, 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, Ria 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 Mary Claver LSP

those who have died recently:

and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Lindsay Martin, Bernard Cox, Thomas Wedgeworth, Gerard Eyres, Gordon Brimmer, Gerry O'Brien, Stanislaw Buslovich, Hamish Sutherland, Bob Robertson, Dennis McGinley, Madeline Dalton, James Bain, Catherine Bain, Mary Haughey, Kenneth Smith, Jean Savage, Mr & Mrs Wilson, Francis Ross, Elizabeth Smith, James McGlinn, William Barker, Kitty Biegala, Sidney Rogers, Gerald Wilshin, Elizabeth McLeish, Elizabeth Barker, James Malanaphy, Bob Harrison.



The next Nightfever will hopefully take place in the cathedral on **Saturday 3rd February.**

St Patrick's Night
Advance notice of a St. Patrick's
Night Party in St. Bride's Hall on
Saturday 17th March.
More details soon!



Today is Education Sunday, marking the start of a week when we celebrate the importance of educating children and young people in faith. During this Catholic Education Week we are asked to reflect on how we are "Serving the Common Good" in our homes, schools and parishes.

This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the Education (Scotland) Act of 1918 which brought pre-existing and future Catholic schools into the public provision of education. This historic legislation qualified Catholic schools for public funding and opened the door to much more extensive access to Catholic education.

If you would like further information on becoming a teacher in our Catholic schools, please contact the Scottish Catholic Education Service: mail@sces.uk.com

Ministries: A reminder that if you are performing a ministry in any of the three parishes, please make sure that you arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass begins.

Sacraments Meeting for the parents/carers of children in C4 of St. Bride's Catechism will take place on **Tuesday 30 January at 6.30 p.m.** in the hall.

Ministries Thank-You: As mentioned previously, I would like to invite all who perform a ministry in any of our three parishes to a Mass of Thanksgiving followed by a buffet reception. This will take place on **Wednesday 7th February at 7pm in St. Anne's.** **Could I ask those who are coming to put their names on the lists in the three churches, so we know how many to cater for. Many thanks.**

Bishop's Pastoral Visit: Next weekend we welcome Bishop Stephen to our parishes, as he celebrates the 10 a.m. Mass in St. Anne's and the 11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Bride's.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 13-20 July 2018. This year is the 160th anniversary of Our Lady appearing to St. Bernadette. To book online please go to www.joewalshstours.co.uk Booking forms will be available in the parishes soon.

Altar Servers: We are recruiting new servers for St. Thomas'. If any of our young boys or girls in P5 upwards and who have made their First Communion, would be interested in training to serve on the altar, there will be a meeting after Mass in the church today.

St. Bride's Finance Teams Could I possible meet with the finance teams from St. Bride's this Sunday after Mass.

Adoration: There will be Eucharistic Adoration in St. Thomas' on Friday from after Mass until 3.45 p.m. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church.

Bishop Stephen writes: *I would like to invite you to a Mass on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, commonly called Candlemas, to celebrate the World Day of Religious. The Mass will take place on Friday 2nd February 2018 at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Convent, Lawside, followed by refreshments.*

World Day of Prayer for the Sick There will be Mass to mark this day which falls on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes in St. Mary's Lochee on **Friday 9th February at 7 p.m.**

Applications for the Seminary Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2018? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting you to apply for the seminary. For more information please contact our Vocations Director, Father Michael Carrie - email: fmichaelcarrie@outlook.com or telephone: 01382 539476

SCIAF Door Collection: Will be held in St. Bride's next weekend.

Save the Date: To mark Fairtrade Fortnight, St. Bride's will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday 4th March.** More details soon!

LENT 2018: Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, 14th February.** SCIAF packs will be available in the three churches over the next couple of weeks, as will details of our Lenten services.

Many thanks for your continued generosity in the parishes. The collections last Sunday were: £774 in Monifieth, £319 in Carnoustie and £439 in Arbroath. ***There will be a special collection for the African Missions this weekend.***