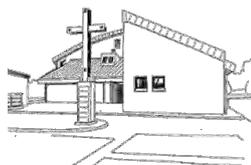




# St. Mary's Duntocher

## St. Joseph's Faifley



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent B**  
**28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

# Look

**All the time stuff**

♦ Gift Aid paid into bank

St Vincent de Paul Contact ☎ 07432 879831

Bulletin notices & names to arrive by Thursday

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: St. Mary's for the Building Fund

**Parish Priest**

**Rev. Paul Milarvie**

**Permanent Deacon**

**Rev. John Fletcher**

☎ 01389 873280

✉ Chapel Road, Duntocher, G81 6DL

✉ [stmary.duntocher@rcag.org.uk](mailto:stmary.duntocher@rcag.org.uk)

✉ [stjoseph.faifley@rcag.org.uk](mailto:stjoseph.faifley@rcag.org.uk)

🌐 <https://www.stmarysandstjosephs.org.uk/>

f [https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-DuntocherSt-](https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-DuntocherSt-Josephs-Faifley-2261895600727946/posts/)

[Josephs-Faifley-2261895600727946/posts/](https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-DuntocherSt-Josephs-Faifley-2261895600727946/posts/)

▶ [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos)

[9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos)

**SORRY, BUT NOT FOR A WHILE**

Children's Liturgy Clubs Hall activities and catering

Scottish Charity SC0 18140

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Gospel

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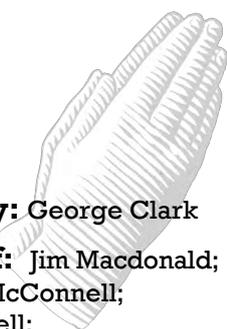
Church

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Look

© Dermot Healy

# Please pray for...



**those who have died recently:** George Clark

**and on the anniversaries of:** Jim Macdonald;

Rudi & Josie Wistuba; John & Molly McConnell;

Benny Allan; Vera (McHale) O'Donnell;

Madge Connelly; John Bridges; May Myles

Please email any names

that you wish to be added to the bulletin

## Pope Francis said on twitter

During this season of Lent. The Holy Spirit drives us too, like Jesus, into the desert. (Mark 1:12-15) It is not a physical place, but rather an existential dimension in which we can be silent and listen to the word of God, so that a true conversion might be effected in us.

## Sunday Masses

**Churches are currently closed**

**St Mary's** 5pm Vigil & 10am Live-streamed

**St Joseph's** No Mass

Live-streamed Mass in Saint Mary's at 9.30am

Monday - Wednesday, Friday

Thursday at 6.30pm

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos)

[9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuK-9mvdWnQ2-Hs0f3Cl3bA/videos)



1<sup>st</sup> Reading **Genesis 22.1-2,9-13,15-18**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading **Romans 8.31-34**

Gospel Reading **Mark 9.2-10**

*Plan ahead: Make Mass Make Sense*

*Next Sunday: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent B*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading **Exodus 20.1-17**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading **1 Corinthians 1.22-25**

Gospel Reading **John 2.13-25**

## St. Mary's Gift Aid Envelopes

Due to the continuation of the Covid 19 virus we will not be providing any Gift Aid envelopes from April 2021. Should you wish to continue to support the parish, you can set up a standing order in your bank.

Parish Account: Royal Bank of Scotland;

Sort Code 831710; A/C N° 00253583;

St. Mary's RC Church, Duntocher, Archdiocese of Glasgow.

St. Mary's Building Fund: Sort Code 831710.

A/C N° 00254571;

Parish overheads continue, even during a period such as this. Your generosity is, as always, most appreciated.

## Justice and Peace Scotland

Love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to the Church as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel. The Church cannot neglect the service of charity any more than she can neglect the Sacraments and the Word.

*Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est, par 22*

## Reflection for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent B, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

We have all had to accept the fact that we have had to be content, this year, with a digital Lent. Places of worship remain closed. For many, this has become a cross or even a bereavement. The emptiness of Lent is stark; a void requires to be filled. These days are tough for people and the growing signs of lockdown on people's livelihood are becoming more and more evident each week. We can see the strain on people's faces. The emptiness is tangible. The lack of a life-giving Lent has been for some a burden too heavy to bear.

If it had been suggested to us that we may have had to consider a digital Lent this year, we may have laughed or even given the onlooker a strange or perhaps a disdainful look. Subconsciously under our breathe, we may have been saying to ourselves, you must be joking! Sadly, that joke has now become a painful reality. We may feel at sea, apparently feeling powerless in our Lenten faith. However, all is not lost! Although it is far from ideal, there are a significant number of resources online for Lent which can be accessed with relative ease. They can help us and can make Lent worthwhile and energising. We are having to celebrate Lent in a different way even with a certain amount of reluctance. We may have found that we have also been thrown out of comfort zone! People will continue to feel lonely and isolated. Perhaps even more so this year, they are not able to journey with the worshipping and liturgical community of faith that they would have expected to do as they have done in the past. Their pain is visible and as people of faith, they are hurting. There are a lot of wounded and bruised pilgrims this year in the Church and in the world. We are not alone, although there is a temptation to think that we are. All we need to do is to listen to the radio, watch the television, or even read online and we will realise that we are anything but isolated in our pain. That pain and suffering is global. Lent is different this year and we need to find a pathway that helps us celebrate it without losing the focus of what it is about. In that light let us take some consolation from these words from the late Rabbi Jonathan Sacks who frequently encouraged people of faith to keep going in difficult times.

“One significant contribution of religion today is that it preserves what society as a whole has begun to lose: that strong sense of being there for one another, of being ready to exercise mutual aid, to help people in need, to comfort the distressed and bereaved, to welcome the lonely, to share in other people's sadnesses and celebrations. These moral responses have not disappeared: we see them whenever there is a communal tragedy, a shooting, a terrorist incident or a major accident. People come together to give help and support. Our wellsprings of altruism have not run dry. They are a large part of what makes us human. But we tend not to exercise them on a day-to-day basis. That is what we have lost in society at large, but what can still be found in religious congregations. These remain, as Robert Putnam went on to demonstrate in *American Grace*, our strongest living embodiments of social capital.

That availability of collective strength that we find in strong communities held together by moral bonds is an important source of resilience that we will need as we face the kind of uncertainty that seems to be the mark of the twenty-first century thus far. It is easier to face the future without fear when we know we do not do so alone.

We have lived through an extended period during which the 'I' has grown stronger at the expense of the 'We'. The result, as American sociologist Robert Bellah put it, is that our 'social ecology' has been damaged by 'the destruction of the subtle ties that bind human beings to one another, leaving them frightened and alone.' In the long run, that is unsustainable. The human condition is overwhelmingly about relationships – about faithfulness, staying true, loyal and committed to one another despite all the tensions, setbacks, misunderstandings, backslidings, and all the multiple ways in which we fall short. It is consecrating the bonds between us. It is about transcending our solitude.”

Jonathan Sacks, “**Morality: Restoring the Common Good in divided times,**” pages 36/37