



Easter Duties

Confession of sins and reception of Holy Communion

The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five precepts that are obligatory for the faithful. “The second precept (‘You shall confess your sins at least once a year’) ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues baptism’s work of conversion and forgiveness” (No. 2042). The Catholic Church’s precepts are positive laws, applicable to and binding on the baptized faithful because legitimate Church authority has declared them so as a necessary expression of the common good of the Church community. They are not negligible or optional elements in the life of Catholics but, rather, they are visible, spiritual signs and supports for what the Catholic Church believes and teaches: the centrality of the Eucharistic celebration; the confession and forgiveness of sin, especially serious sin; the reception of Holy Communion, especially in recognition of its fundamental connection to the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, celebrated during the Easter season (Easter Duty); the observance of physical acts of Penance for the sake of ongoing conversion; the provision of material support for the Catholic Church and its works by both the clergy and the faithful, without which the mission of the Church would be significantly impaired and limited.

Easter Duty, as a Precept of the Church, draws the Catholic faithful directly into the heart of the Paschal Mystery, hence the importance of Eucharistic reception during the Easter season (ordinarily Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday). Although most Catholics receive Holy Communion frequently throughout the year including Eastertime, Easter Duty sets the minimum obligation and expectations for those who do not. The *Code of Canon Law* asserts, “After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year” (#989). However, the *Code* also asserts, “It is to be recommended to the Christian faithful that venial sins also be confessed” (#988.2). (This regulation is a slight variation of the old “Easter Duty” prescribed by the Fourth Lateran Council (1215) which stated, “Every faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins in secret to his own priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfil the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist.”) Only a legalist would suggest that a person only has to go to confession when in a state of mortal sin, thereby hinting regular confession is not necessary. Regular confession is the recipe for sainthood, and all of the saints of our Church knew it. As we continue our Easter celebration, we must not forget those graces of forgiveness and reconciliation the Risen Lord offers to each of us through the Sacrament of Penance. The Precepts of the Catholic Church are a vital part of its long history and traditions, revealing some of the many ways, among others, in which the Catholic faithful contribute to their own spiritual and common good as members of the Catholic Church by building of the Kingdom



of God here on earth.



Parish Newsletter for Our Lady of Lourdes’, Perth & St. James’, Kinross



Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Pletts

Mobile Number: 07540534480

Landline (Perth): 01738 626979 & **E-Mail (Perth):** ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

Landline (Kinross): 01577 863329 & **E-Mail (Kinross):** stjames@dunkelldioecese.org.uk

Postal Address (Perth): Our Lady of Lourdes’ Catholic Church, 42 Struan Rd., Perth PH1 2JP

Postal Address (Kinross): St. James’ Catholic Church, 5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW

Parish Websites: www.ourladyoflourdesperth.church & www.catholickinross.com



For the weekend of **May 21st/May 22nd, 2022**

6th Sunday of Easter - Year C



Dear Lord Jesus Christ,
right before your Ascension
into heaven you told your
Apostles to be witnesses to
your truth to the ends of the
earth. May I be inspired
similarly, with the aid of your
Holy Spirit, to spread your
Gospel message in word and
deed, according to your will
for me. Amen.





A Daily Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Times of Holy Mass & Confessions etc.



Monday 23rd May	<i>No public Mass</i> <i>Prayer Group in St. James' from 7.30-9.00p.m. - All welcome</i>
Tuesday 24th May	6th Week in Eastertide <u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u> 9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass <u>St. James' Parish:</u> 5.45-6.45p.m. Holy Hour 7.00p.m. Holy Mass
Wednesday 25th May	Optional Memorial of St. Bede the Venerable <u>St. James' Parish:</u> 9.15a.m. Holy Rosary <i>Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Mass</i> 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Holy Mass <u>Vigil Mass of the Ascension of the Lord</u> 5.00p.m. Holy Mass <u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u> <u>Vigil Mass of the Ascension of the Lord</u> 7.00p.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Holy Mass
Thursday 26th May	SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD <i>Holyday of Obligation</i> <u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u> <u>10.00a.m. Holy Mass</u> (Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn) <u>2.10p.m. Holy Mass</u> <u>St. James' Parish:</u> <u>6.30p.m. Holy Mass</u>
Friday 27th May	Optional Memorial of St. Augustine of Canterbury <u>St. James' Parish:</u> 9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Mass
Saturday 28th May	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u> 7th Sunday of Easter - C. (Vigil Mass) 4.15 - 4.45p.m. Confessions 5.00p.m. Vigil Mass <u>St. James' Parish:</u> 7.00p.m. Vigil Mass Confessions after Mass
Sunday 29th May	7th Sunday of Easter - C. <u>St. James' Parish:</u> 9.00a.m. Holy Mass <u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u> 11.00a.m. Holy Mass <u>Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn:</u> 5.15p.m. Holy Mass

 *I begin each day with holy Mass, receiving Jesus hidden under the appearance of a simple piece of bread. Then I go out into the streets and I find the same Jesus hidden in the dying destitute, the AIDS patients, the lepers, the abandoned children, the hungry, and the homeless. It's the same Jesus. - Mother Teresa* 

This Sunday's readings from the Sacred Scriptures: - 6th Sunday of Easter, Year C.



A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2,22-29

It has been decided by the Spirit and by ourselves not to burden you with any burden beyond these essentials.

Psalm 66(67)

Response: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

A reading from the Book of the Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23

He showed me the Holy City coming down out of Heaven.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: *'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.*

Alleluia!



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:23-29

A peace the world cannot give is my gift to you.



Thursday 26th May: Solemnity of the Ascension - Holyday of Obligation

Masses for the Holyday of Obligation will be:

Wednesday 25th May (Vigil Mass) in St. James' at 5.00p.m.

Wednesday 25th May (Vigil Mass) in Our Lady of Lourdes' at 7.00p.m.

Thursday 26th May in Our Lady of Lourdes at 10.00a.m.,

Thursday 26th May in Kilgraston School at 2.10p.m.

Thursday 26th May in St. James' at 6.30p.m.

(a collection will be taken at the parish Masses for the respective parish building funds)

Please pray for, and encourage, vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Crowning Our Lady with flowers...

Following a long and beautiful tradition of devotion to Our Lady in the month of May, **I would like to invite one of our children at the 9.00a.m. Mass in St. James' on Sunday 29th May and one of our children in Our Lady's at the 11.00a.m. Mass on Sunday 29th May to crown the statue of the Blessed Virgin with flowers.** Other children present will be given flowers to lay before the statue as tokens of love and devotion to Our Blessed Mother. If adults would also like to bring flowers and present them to Our Lady after the children this would be most welcome too. The name of the child who will crown the statue can be drawn from those wishing to participate (to ensure fairness), and all children present will receive a small gift.



Of your charity please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound of the parishes and those who care for them. Please pray for those recently deceased and those who mourn their loss, and remember also, please, to pray for the souls of all the faithful departed - may they rest in peace.