

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**GLORIA:**

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Creed:**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was

crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7**

*Israel is the vineyard God has tended. It is expected to bear fruits of holiness*

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or

headed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns. I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

**Responsorial: Psalm 79:9, 12-16, 19-20**

R./: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots (R./)

Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest devoured by the beasts of the field. (R./)

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R./)

**2nd Reading: Philip 4:6-9**

We should do whatever is true, honourable, just and right

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things

that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43**

God is master of the vineyard and expects a proper return from the tenants. Jesus said to the chief priests and elders: "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?' Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit."

*-Wishing you and your loved ones a very lovely Sunday.  
Fr. Gregory Umunna*

**ST. STEPHEN'S R C CHURCH BLAIRGOWRIE**

→ St. Mary's Coupar Angus

→ St. Luan's Alyth

**27th Sunday of the Ordinary Time. Year A. 04/10/20**

**Parish website:** <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/>



**Warm Welcome to all our Parishioners and visitors.**

**Whether you are visiting our parish or just moved into the area, please feel very welcome ... thanks.**

**Parish diary for the Week:**

**Sunday Masses:** St. Steph. Vigil: 6.30pm, 9.30am, 11.00am.

**Mon:**

**Tue -** Mass at St. Steph 10.00am.

**Wed -** Mass at St. Steph 7.00pm.

**Thurs -** Mass at St. Stephs 10am

**Frid -** Mass at St. Luan's 10am.

**Sund -** St. Steph. Vigil: 6.30pm, 9.30am, 11.00am.

**Mass intentions for the week**

- For all who are struggling to cope with the pandemic.
- For Chidi Onah's private intentions
- For personal private intention

*The church is the choice vineyard of the Lord, planted for a noble and productive purpose. Here we can grow to maturity in the sunshine of God's grace. But the vineyard can fall into disuse, or fail to produce the expected fruits of loving mercy. We pray that our lives may never be soured by bitterness or disillusionment.*

*Rosary Whirlwind British Isles - October 2020 for Faith, Life & Peace*

*October is traditionally the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary.*



**Fam. Rosary, adoration.**

Wednesdays 6pm, and mass for the sick last Wednesdays of the month.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 6.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday.

**Mass with St. Step P. Sch.**

1st Fri & 3rd Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

**Divine Mercy Devotion.**

Tuesday after morning mass. Please join us.

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Gregory Umunna MA, Ph.D.

**Phone:** 01250872171. **Email:** peacegreg2002@yahoo.com.

**Address:** 8, Bank Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE.

**H/Teacher:** St. Steph's P. S. Mr. Simon Mckell. Ph: 871950.

**Parish Volunteers:** **Catechists:** Linda Forsyth

Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation every Monday 6.00pm in the Hall.

**Parish Safeguarding Coordinator:** Mrs. Linda Forsyth.

Email: lady.linda@live.co.uk 01828632024.

**Parish Webmaster:** Mr. Irek Kawalinski. irekkawalinski@gmail.com

**Music Directors:** Mr. Tom Buckham and Mrs. Gail McIntyre.

**Responsible Person for Euch. Ministers:** Mr. Alan Scott

**Responsible Person for Lectors:** Mr. John Thompson

**Responsible Group- Parish Social Justice issues:** SSV.P.

**Financial Adviser:** Mr. Mike Coyle.

**Responsible Person for Altar Servers:** Mr. Rolly Colanse.

**Hall Reservations for Events:** Contact no: 872171.

**Hospital Chaplains:** Please call: N/wells 01382611282;

**P.R.I.:** 01738259371. \*Please let the priest know if you are having a long stay at the hospital and would like a visit.

**Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:** Please make appointment with the Priest before any arrangement and date.

**Prayers please:** Please remember the following in your prayers:=== James Warden, Michael Rolls, Ron Crisp, Eilidh MacInnes, Lieselotte Stuart, Neil McDowall, Michael O'Malley and Bill Anderson.  
**Have you prayed your Rosary today?**



### Parish Finances

We know that the present difficult situation affects individuals and households in many ways. However, if you feel able to support the parish in whatever way you could, (direct debit, occasional or one-off), is an account number:

**Bank: Royal Bank of Scotland, 14 Allan Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6AD**  
**Sort code:- 83-1633**  
**Account No:- 00240708**  
**Account name:- Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld No3 Char TST St Stephens RC Church**

Many thanks for supporting your parish.

### Reflections:

**'Make love go viral in the light of faith' --Pope Francis.**

The COVID19 has highlighted so many injustices, all of which are the result of humankind, he continued, instead, we are called to the normality of the Kingdom of God, "where there is bread for all and more to spare, social organisation is based on contributing, sharing and distributing, not on possessing, excluding and accumulating".

"To come out of the pandemic, we must find the cure not only for the coronavirus, but also for the great

human and socio-economic viruses".

Viralise love, globalise hope

Finally, Pope Francis noted that "a fair and equitable society is a healthier society" and that together we can work towards the Kingdom that Christ inaugurated for us: "a Kingdom of light in the midst of darkness, of justice in the midst of so many outrages, of joy in the midst of so much pain, of healing and salvation in the midst of sickness and death". Lets make love "go viral" and lets "globalise" hope in the light of faith".

### Personal Reflections

- ⇒ Do I feel nourished after holy communion? Do I feel a sense of relief that Mass is over?
- ⇒ Has the Mass strengthened our identity as a community?
- ⇒ Do I take away a message, thought or prayer for the week?

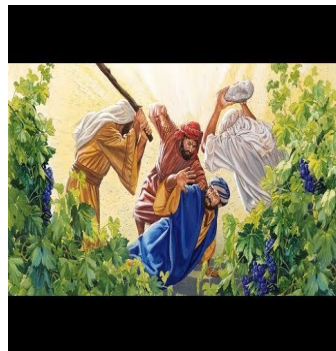
**Pope Francis guides us through his thoughts:**

"During the lockdown, the gesture of applauding doctors and nurses as a sign of encouragement and hope arose spontaneously. Many risked their lives and many gave their lives. Let us extend this applause to every member of the social body, to each and every one, for their precious contribution, no matter how small. "But what can that person over there do?" — "Listen to that person! Give the person space to work, consult him or her". Let us applaud the "discarded", those whom culture defines as "discarded", this throw-away culture — that is, let us applaud the

elderly, children, persons with disability; let us applaud workers, all those who dedicate themselves to service; everyone collaborating to emerge from the crisis." - Pope Francis

"God behaves like this: he does not look at the time and at the results, but at the availability; he looks at the generosity with which we put ourselves at his service...Everything is Grace. Our salvation is Grace. Our holiness is Grace. In giving us Grace, he bestows on us more than what we merit. And so, those who reason using human logic, that is, the logic of the merits acquired through one's own greatness, from being first, find themselves last... May Mary Most Holy help us to feel every day the joy and wonder of being called by God to work for him, in his field which is the world, in his vineyard which is the Church. And to have as our only recompense his love, friendship with Jesus."

Pope Francis



### Rosary Whirlwind British Isles – October 2020 for Faith, Life & Peace

October is traditionally the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. Nations around the world are hosting their great Rosary Crusades and we join them, especially Ireland in a great union of prayer.

### Foods 4 Thought:

### CONGREGATION FOR THE CLERGY

Contd from last week ....

25. The 'culture of encounter' is conducive to dialogue, solidarity and openness to others, as it is person-centred. Naturally, a Parish must be a place that brings people together and fosters long-term personal relationships, thereby giving people a sense of belonging and being wanted.

26. The Parish community is called truly to master the "art of accompaniment". If deep roots are planted, the Parish will become a place where solitude is overcome, which has affected so many lives, as well as being "a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey and a centre of constant missionary outreach" [29].

V. "A community of communities": A Parish that is inclusive, evangelising and attentive to the poor

27. The subject of the missionary and evangelising action of the Church is always the People of God as a whole. The Code of Canon Law emphasises that the Parish is not identified as a building or a series of structures, but rather as a specific community of the faithful, where the Parish Priest is the proper pastor [30]. Pope Francis recalled that "the parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration", and affirmed that it is "a community of communities" [31].

28. The various components that make up the Parish are called to communion and unity. When each part recognises its complementary role in service of the community, on the one hand, we see the fulfilment of the collaborative ministry of the Parish Priest with his Assistant Priests, while on the other hand, we see

how the various charisms of deacons, consecrated men and women and the laity, cooperate in building up the singular body of Christ (cf. 1 Co 12:12).

29. The Parish is a community gathered together by the Holy Spirit to announce the Word of God and bring new children of God to birth in the baptismal font. Assembled by the pastor, the Parish celebrates the memorial of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord, bearing witness to faith in charity, living in a permanent state of mission, whilst ensuring that no one is excluded from the salvific, life-giving message. Pope Francis expressed it thus: "The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelises, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptability, it continues to be "the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters". This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed group made up of a chosen few. [...] We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely missionary-oriented" [32]. *To be continued...*

### Further lessons from today's Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen ...

In today's Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen, Jesus seems to be trying to give us this 'whole story,' the 'big picture' that will help us to understand the deeper significance of our religious observance. However, in this case he uses the parable not to reveal the deeper goodness of our actions, but to reveal the deeper badness of our failure to 'produce fruits at the proper time.'

As Jesus frames the 'big picture,' our spiritual barrenness, our inability to produce the fruits of the Kingdom, doesn't just appear unreasonable, or even just contrary to our best interests (though this is true); it also appears as the blackest ingratitude, a story of love betrayed.

Jesus recalls the big picture in his preaching because he knows that - left to our own devices - we all tend to drift into a snapshot view of our spiritual life and our religious obligations. And from that snapshot perspective, we tend to see failure in our religious discipline pretty benignly. If each week we spend five times as much time watching football as we do praying, we might view this as 'vaguely bad.' But it probably doesn't cause too much alarm. If we make it to Mass two weekends out of four each month, we may not be swelling with pride, but we're pretty sure that God understands that we're busy. 'Besides, we're doing better than most...'

But when we put ourselves back into the big picture that Jesus paints, religious discipline starts to look a lot more urgent. When we recall that the Father has welcomed us out of nothingness in Creation, that we have abused His generosity in sin, that He sent his Son so close to us that we could lay hands on him and kill him, and that he sent His Spirit to 'lead us into all truth', so that we might at last be able to worship him in Spirit and in truth; when, finally, we recall that all He asks in return are 'fruits at the proper time,' then refusing Him the first-fruits of our life begins to appear criminally ungrateful.

Happily, the Eucharist, when properly understood, can help awaken us to the urgency of gratitude. The very word 'Eucharist' after all, means gratitude. And over the course of the Mass we retrace the 'whole story' of salvation. In the offering of the bread and wine we profess God 'maker of heaven and earth.' In the canon we review God's slow cultivation of the human heart, by which he gradually prepared us to offer him fitting worship. We hear how God raised up [his] servant Abel, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the bread and wine offered by [his] priest Melchizedek.' And finally, at the consecration, we acknowledge that we can please the Father only through the Son - through Christ the Lord, the true priest of every Mass.

The Father sent his only Son into the vineyard to strengthen us to offer 'fruits at the proper time.' The proper time is today.

—An extract from a reflection by The Society of Jesuits