



IS  
LOVE

If we hope in the resurrection, despite our grieving we have hope. The hopefulness of wisdom is given sharper focus by St Paul, who says that all we have lost will be restored when Jesus returns in glory.

**GLORIA:**

Glory to God in the high-est, 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: Wisdom 6:12-16**

*In praise of Wisdom, which is easily discerned by those who love her*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding; one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she

goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

**Responsorial: Psalm 62:2-8**

R./: My soul is thirsting for you O Lord my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R./)

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R./)

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R./) On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R./)

**2nd Reading: 1 Thesalonians 4:13-18**

*We should not grieve as others do who have no hope*

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the

archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13**

*We must be ready to meet the Lord when he comes*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout. 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you. Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

*-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

**32nd Sunday of the Ordinary Time. Year A. 08/11/20**

**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:**

**Sund.** Masses: St. Steph. Sat. Vigil 6.30pm; Sun. 9.30am, 11.00am.

**Mon:**

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

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

**Thurs** - Mass at St. Luan's 10.00am

**Frid** - Mass at St. Luan's 10.00am.

**Sund** - Masses: St. Steph. Sat. Vigil 6.30pm; Sun. 9.30am, 11.00am.

**Mass intentions for the week**

⇒ For the eternal rest of our deceased relatives and friends, esp those who have died during the pandemic, for those who have lost someone they loved, for those who were unable to say goodbye, and for those who are suffering the pain of grief.



**November Lists.**

During the Month of November, I will offer all weekly and Sunday masses for our deceased priests and parishioners and for all those whose names are returned in the November lists. Please take an envelop from the back of the church today and return it with the names of your beloved dead and your offering on it. It will then be placed on the altar along with the others and will remain there for the month of November. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace



From The Complete Bible Story Clip Art Book. ©Gospel Light. Used by permission.



**Fam. Rosary, adoration.**

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

**Mass with St. Step Primary School:**

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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

6.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday.

**Divine Mercy Devotion.**

Tuesday after morning mass. Please join us.

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

**Phone:** 01250872171. **Email:** [ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

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

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

**Parish Volunteers:**

**Catechists:** Mrs Linda Forsyth. Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation every Monday 6.00pm in the Hall. Email: [lady.linda@live.co.uk](mailto:lady.linda@live.co.uk) 01828632024.

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

Email: [lady.linda@live.co.uk](mailto:lady.linda@live.co.uk) 01828632024.

**Parish Webmaster:** Mr. Irek Kawalinski. [irekkowalinski@gmail.com](mailto:irekkowalinski@gmail.com)

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

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

**Responsible Person for Lectors:** Ms. Seonaid Johnston

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

**Church Flowers:** Mrs Jean Scot

**Grounds Flowers:** Mrs Jennifer Fitzpatrick

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

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

**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.

**Prayers please:** Please remember the following in your prayers: James Warden, Michael Rolls, Ron Crisp, Eilidh MacInnes Lieselotte Stuart, Neil McDowall, Michael O'Malley, RoseMary Bell.

**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 via Standing Order, occasional or one-off payment. Details of Parish account number are:

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 1ST St Stephens RC Church  
Many thanks for supporting your parish.

### 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?

### From Bishop Robson: COVID19 update:

As you know, the City of Dundee has been placed in Tier 3 as regards special COVID-19 measures, while Perth and Kinross, Angus, Clackmannan and Fife remain in Tier 2. Though this does not affect our celebration of Masses in Church at the moment, may I ask you as ever to be as scrupulous as possible in maintaining our stringent COVID-19 health protection measures - hand washing; sanitising; name and address taking for tracing purposes; the compulsory wearing of masks; sanitising on entering and leaving the church; special measures for the priests when distributing Holy Communion and social distancing for everyone at Mass - are maintained at all times. We have as an Institution been praised by the Scottish Government for the seriousness of our resolve to make our churches safe places in which to fulfil our religious duties.

**Catholic Education week:** As you know Catholic Education week has been expanded to Catholic Education fortnight! It will extend from November 16th to November 30th and this year's theme is 'Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life.'

"This theme reflects the vision and aim of Catholic education that Catholic schools, centred on the person of Jesus Christ, help and accompany young people to discover and to follow the Christian vocation to live responsibly with and for others in accordance with the message of Christ and so to build up and transform society for the better.

This is a message to which our young people readily respond, as can be seen by the high levels of participation in the Pope Francis Faith award and the Caritas programme.

This has been a strange year for our schools. Few of us will remember in our lifetimes a period so characterised by uncertainty, disruption and even fear. Everything that formed the fabric and pattern of our lives has felt the impact of the restrictions caused by the pandemic. Families have been unable to meet and support one another at the time when that support was most needed. People have been unable to share the joy of family celebrations, and have been denied the opportunity to come together to mourn..."

Bp. Philip Tartaglia

Our young people were separated from their friends and teachers, and their learning and exams were interrupted. Our churches have also suffered, with parish communities unable to gather for many weeks. Even now, our numbers are limited, and we long to see a time when everyone will be able to join together again and sing our hymns of praise.

**Reflections i:** The First Reading is a very famous episode from the Book of Wisdom.

The first part of the story is to remind us about wisdom. And wisdom was very, very important and that's why a woman is given the title of the wise lady.

Apparently they feel, and I think it's very true, that wisdom, in the Jewish sense of the word, wisdom means much, much more when it is compared to a woman than with a man.

Men, we usually have warriors and people who go out and fight and do all these kinds of very important things. But the women are the heart, really, of the family, and they always will be the heart of the kindness and compassion of God.

And so, when the writer sits down to write this passage about the Book of Wisdom, he personalises it and calls it 'she,' and this is very lovely.

To become a wise man in those days didn't mean to go to a university and gather a whole lot of knowledge like we can do with computers and kind of rise ourselves up in the eyes of the people. Wisdom was much more important than gathering information.

Wisdom meant that someone had common sense. They knew how to use themselves to help people, to care for people, to be very important within the community. For wisdom meant that you were practically very, very good at leading the ordinary daily life and leading it well.

Now, this was the ideal. The prophets were prophets and the kings were kings, but nobody took them quite as seriously as a man or a woman with wisdom.

It meant that whatever you do, no matter where you do it, how you do it, you do it well and you do it with a good spirit and a lot of prudence. And you were admired by people and practical problems of life were brought to you because you were a wise man or a wise woman.

My favourite story, which some of you have probably heard about, is the little old wise man sitting in the village and a young man comes in to him and he says, 'Little old wise man, how do you become a little old wise man?'

And he smiled and he said, 'Well, Sonny, when I was your age, I wanted to convert the world.'

'And I tried my best, but the world didn't want to be converted.'

'And so I said, well maybe I'm aiming too high, so what I'll try to do, this time, is my village. I will bring my village so that they will understand the realities of life. And I will give them the wisdom and gather them together and show them how they can be saved.'

'And I tried it for a while, but they didn't want to be saved either.'

'So then I said, well, I'll try my family. And so I talked to my family and tried very hard to change their ways, to make them perfect in the ideal way that we should all be.'

'And I found out that even my family didn't want to have anything to do with this.'

'So, finally,' he said to the young man, 'finally, I decided I would convert myself. And that's when I became a little old wise man.'

Very good advice. If you're talking about wisdom, you're not supposed to change everybody else, you begin with your own heart and your own soul.

And, of course, being humble minded now, what happens is God uses you, as He uses all humble people, to bring the brilliance and beauty of all that He has created together.

**An extract from a reflection by Fr Denis Hanly**

If you are suffering from someone's injustice, forgive that person from the heart, lest there be two bad people. - Author unknown.

### Foods 4 Thought:

A reflection by the Liturgy Centre, Catholic Diocese of Auckland

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Ordinary-Time-32nd-Sunday-Year-A.pdf>

Once again we have the imagery of the wedding banquet to which all are invited. But only those who live with an attitude of openness and readiness will be allowed inside.

This parable stresses the need to live in the present with an eye on the future. Recall a time when you have had to invest a lot of time and energy into preparation for an event. Did this effort pay off? Can you also recall an occasion when you have neglected to do preparation that was necessary? What happened, and how did you feel during this occasion?

No matter how well we plan, the unexpected will often crop up to throw all our efforts. Sometimes the unexpected can bring better things that we could have imagined. Do you find it easy to deal with the unexpected in your life? How well do you balance the spiritual and the practical aspects of your life? Think about the priori-



ties in your life during this week and evaluate whether they need to be adjusted.

### Responsible for our own destiny

A reflection by The Association of Catholic Priests  
<https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2020/11/08-november-2020-32nd-sunday-year-a/>

The refusal of the wise virgins to share may appear selfish. But here we are not talking really about lamps and oil but about people and life. There are certain things you cannot borrow or inherit. Your parents or my parents may have been the best people in the world. If so, that is a blessing beyond measure. But for all that it cannot be taken for granted that we will automatically become decent caring men and women. We can learn from one another, be inspired by one another, but in the last analysis we shape our own destiny. Character cannot be transferred or borrowed. We must build it for ourselves.

The same is true of the faith. Parents and other people are reminded that it is their responsibility to hand on the faith to the younger generation. But again faith is not like a farm of land or a legacy. It cannot be given by a parent to a child. Yes, all kinds of encouragement and good example can help enor-

mously, but in the end, the young person as they grow up to maturity must accept or reject the invitation in his or her own heart.

The arrival of children of their own can often be a decisive moment for young parents as regards the faith. Some never seem to come back, but always remember God has his own way of welcoming people home even if along unexpected routes.

**These challenging and most difficult Times of Lockdown**

Requires us to

**LEND A HELPING HAND DURING LOCKDOWN**

Let us know if you would like somebody to talk to at this difficult time.



Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.

Email: [peacegreg2002@yahoo.com](mailto:peacegreg2002@yahoo.com) Phone: 01250 872171

Parish Website: [www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk](http://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk)

Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No: