

DEAR VISITORS, If you would like to help our small parish, you can do this by “Gift-Aiding” your collection to us today. If you are a tax payer, simply put your offering in the envelopes provided in the church porch and complete your name, address and date. We will then receive an additional **25p per £1.00** of your offering which would make a big difference to us. Many thanks.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE – Diocesan Centre Moves

The Sisters who currently live at Lawside Convent, occupying the first floor of the diocesan curia, are to be transferred to the priest’s house in St. Mary’s, Forebank, hopefully during the month of June. Some of the Pastoral activities of the Diocese previously held at Lawside will, we hope, take place at St Mary’s Hall which will also be set up with the audio visual equipment which is at present at the Diocesan and Curial Centre and also the donated Public Address System. It is hoped too that the live streaming capability enabling transmission of large Liturgical Celebrations and daily Mass via our Diocesan YouTube channel will be transferred to St Andrew’s Cathedral.

TO ALL CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH

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FRIENDS REUNITED AT PENTECOST

One of the more amusing stories of the Old Testament is where the Hebrew people decide to build a tower so high that it will pierce the clouds and reach heaven. While they are still building this Tower of Babel, God comes down, scatters the people and disunites them so that they all end up speaking different languages and not understanding each other. This is the origin of our word to “babble”.

We hear this story each year on the eve of Pentecost. But on Whit Sunday itself the story comes full circle with the sending of the Holy Spirit. What we see in the Acts of the Apostles is that when the Holy Spirit descended on the Church, the disunity of Babel was reversed and people were once more united. Although they were from many different nations they could all understand the language of the apostles’ preaching. So Pentecost is the Church’s birthday. No longer afraid and huddled together for safety, the apostles come out preaching from the hip. And armed with the Holy Spirit they make converts by the thousand. Yet they could not have done this without the Spirit, without the fire in their bellies. Nor can we do it today. Without the Spirit we are simply a human organisation, at worst a Quango and at best a plausible charity. Yet the Church claims to be much more than this: it professes to be the visible presence of Christ on earth today. So we need the Spirit to breathe life into the Body of Christ. It is the Spirit who constantly purifies us from our tendency to put ourselves first and to seek to control rather than to serve. It is the Spirit who unites us in one body of witness and praise. It is the Spirit who leads us ever deeper into the mysteries of God and reveals his purpose. And it is also the Spirit who inspires us to strive for the best and who empowers us to speak the words that God wants the world to hear. The joyful feast of Pentecost proclaims that the Spirit is at the very heart of everything we do as Church. As St Paul puts it: “Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit” (Gal 5:25)

ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE: Bert Miller from our parish (St Anthony’s Kirriemuir) and Jim Leary from the Parish of St Peter and St Paul Dundee, will be ordained Permanent Deacons today by Bishop Stephen Robson at the 2.00pm Mass in St Andrews Cathedral, Dundee. The Ordination will be streamed live on the Diocesan Website: www.dunkelddiocese.co.uk using the Live Stream link. Please keep them in your prayers.

END OF THE PASCHALTIDE/EASTERTIDE: The Season of Easter ends today. After the last Mass of the day the paschal candle is moved from its central position to a place of safety and we begin the Ordinary Time of the Year. Weekday Readings will be taken from Year 2 of the Eighth Week of Ordinary Time of the Year.