

20 January  
20

# ALL FIRED UP



# what's going on

Is your school or parish doing something really cool that you think others should know about? We'd love to have your story in our Newsletter!

# are you ready?

## Are You Ready? Advent Retreat 2019

The Dunkeld Youth Service hosted their annual Advent Retreat on 7th-8th December 2019. After a short hiatus, they were able to offer the Pastoral Centre for over-night accommodation once more. This proved to be very popular, and the teens who attended the retreat felt that it enabled them to better explore the themes and get to know their peers.

The retreat, facilitated by the Youth Commission with support from Youth Director Canon Tom Shields, targeted the age group of 14-19, and used the time to explore the theme "Are You Ready?".

Through several educational sessions, the teens learned what it means to be ready for something, looking at some of the familiar characters from the Bible who waited and prepared for the coming of Christ. There were also lots of physical and practical activities, from team games and races to flashcards, posters and small group discussions.

On the Saturday evening, the group gathered in the Chapel for a time of Adoration, Benediction and Confession, supplemented with live music provided by Mrs Misia Paul and Charis McCrosson. Following this, a vigil Mass was held for the second Sunday of Advent, where the teens took part in the readings and offertory procession, including their own bidding prayers which were written during an activity earlier in the day.

The evening was then left to fun and games, with an intense game of Monopoly and a viewing of the movie "Nativity". On the Sunday the group was joined by guests from a Clydebank youth group, who have connected with the Dunkeld Youth through their participation in the Life Teen Europe Summer Camp over the past few years.

They were able to provide a short live worship session to begin the day, followed by the final session which introduced the idea of 'discipleship' and contained a short introduction to Lectio Divina, looking at the passage where Peter walks on the water.



Throughout the retreat, the group was well catered for by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who provided a delicious feast for every meal.

The Youth Service would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the Sisters and staff at the centre, as well as to Misia Paul and her husband John for the beautiful music, to the members of the Youth Commission

who facilitated the weekend (Joe Curran, Lauren Quinn, Joseph Soares and Charis McCrosson), to Fr Tom for supporting the group, to all the teens who participated and their parents for making it possible for them to attend.

Thanks also to photographers Eddie Mahoney and Aleksandra Molon for attending through the day and capturing some of the fun!

# Are You Ready? Advent Retreat 2019



(Report by Charis McCrosson and Pics by Ola Molon)

# Epiphany 2020

## Epiphany 2020



Two teens who take part in the Just Live It programme – currently being piloted at St Fillan's Parish in Crieff – were given the task of conducting the Mass for Epiphany Sunday.

This included choosing the hymns, prayers and readers, as well as writing and delivering the homily. We have shared their unique insight on this feast in the article below.

### **What is the Epiphany all about?**

Last summer we went on a journey with a group from the diocese to a Life Teen Camp in the Netherlands. We went out with something in mind, with certain expectations.

There were, however, many challenges before even getting there. Our flight was cancelled at very short notice and had to be rearranged, there were travel delays with the trains and problems with travel sickness. Despite everything, all challenges were overcome and we arrived at our destination early.

We settled into things quickly and were looking forward to having a fun time over the week we were there. We were united with other Catholics from all over the world and at various times during mass, adoration and quiet reflection times, we discovered something much deeper, much richer, whilst in the presence of Christ.

This included such things as a feeling of acceptance, peace and experiencing a sense of being as one in Christ.

Although we went out with a purpose of enjoying ourselves and meeting new people, we discovered and experienced so much more and returned changed. Things just seemed different – better. We came back with a more positive outlook in life, a greater confidence in who we are, a better understanding of others, a greater closeness to Jesus and a letting go of past worries and concerns. Our attitude and approach to things had changed.

In the gospel we have heard today, the three wise men had also set out on a long journey with expectations. They hoped to find an infant king and had been instructed to find out all about the child and report back to King Herod. No doubt they too would have experienced many challenges on the way, riding their camels over hills and deserts on their way to Jerusalem and Bethlehem, overcoming all in their way.

The Magi also discovered something much deeper and richer in the presence of the infant baby Jesus as they recognised Jesus as both God and King. They were not of the Jewish faith, but instead represented the Gentiles – the nations of the world. Isaiah in the First Reading prophesies this moment, when the nations would come to the light of the world bringing gifts of gold and incense and worshiping the Lord. The Magi represent the wise people from

the pagan nations and by bowing down to the infant king, recognised his power and authority over all. Their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh were symbols of God becoming man. The gold represented the infant child's kingship, the frankincense his divinity and the myrrh his humanity.

God had come not just to save the Jewish nation but as the Saviour of the whole world so that all people could be united to Him. This is the meaning of the Epiphany – God becoming man in Christ to unite the whole world to himself as Lord over all. Just as the Magi were touched by being in the presence of the baby Jesus, experiencing a change in their lives and returning home a different way, so do all who come closer to Christ, as their hearts and minds are transformed and all return home, in a new way – where things just seem – different.

As we each continue to make our own journey towards Christ, let us draw closer to him and allow ourselves to be transformed and united more deeply to him so that we may each experience the difference he makes in our lives.

**JUST LIVE IT – Alisha (15) and Arianne (17) McCrosson**

**what's  
happening**

# registration now open!

## S U M M E R C A M P

A WEEK OF FUN, FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP WITH TEENS FROM ACROSS EUROPE!

REGISTRATION CLOSING  
MONDAY  
9TH MARCH

emmaus retreat centre, helvoirt, the netherlands



age range: 14-19 years

LIMITED SPACES

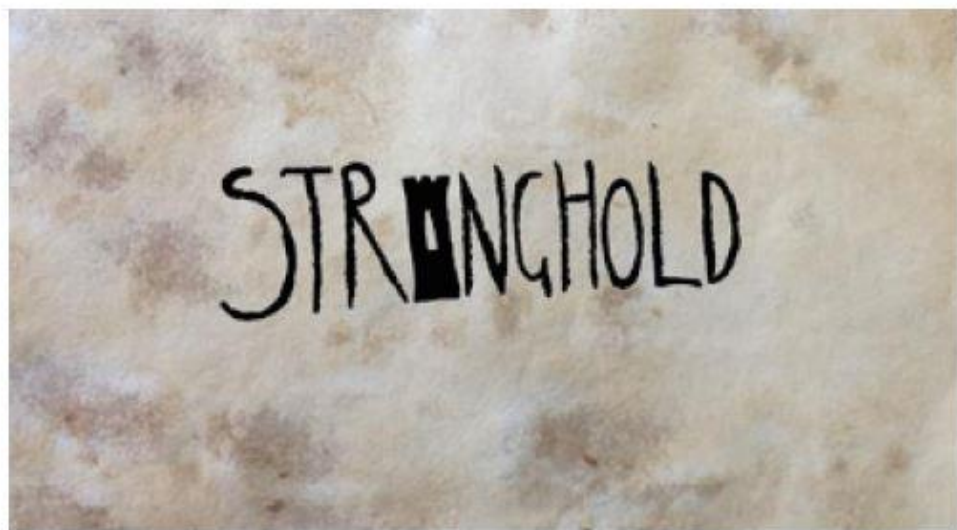
SIGN UP ONLINE OR EMAIL US

[youth-office@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:youth-office@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)





# Stronghold Festival 2020



**Fri 22nd May 5:00pm  
- Mon 25th 1:00pm**

**Craig Lodge Family House of  
Prayer, Dalmally PA33 1AR, UK**

Stronghold Festival is back with a BANG for 2020!

Come gather with hundreds of people and step into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Join Youth 2000 for a 3-night camping stay in the stunning Highlands of Scotland at Craig Lodge House of Prayer for a powerful weekend of adoration, sacraments, music, talks, discussions, mountain walks, evening fun and loads more.

This Catholic festival is for 16-35 year olds and tickets are on sale now!

Just follow this link:  
<https://youth2000.churchsuite.co.uk/events/ct13uquy?fbclid=IwAR3t8KJ5JbIp5B-iLPaGlp6zBRMZWPqK9qNoLEcfX0QmCTtC8Dd33N4HHec>

You can get a train or a bus from Glasgow to Dalmally and we can pick you up from there if you let us know when you arrive.

If you have any issues regarding transport etc, feel free to email [strongholdfestivalscotland@gmail.com](mailto:strongholdfestivalscotland@gmail.com) or call 01838 200 216

If you've been before and are keen to come again, bring your friends! Introducing them to God's infinite love is the best gift you could give them. Please 'Like' the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/371427400400426/>) and follow our Instagram @strongholdfestival as we countdown to this special event. Godspeed! See you in the Mountains!

# Scottish Catholic Youth Service (SCY)

The Scottish Catholic Youth Service (SCY) is an organisation of the Bishops in Scotland for you, the young people of Scotland. There is a representative from each diocese on this team who meet regularly to discuss how we can better serve you through engaging and inspiring faith events around the country, beginning in our own dioceses.

SCY has a national website (<https://www.scottishcatholic-youth.com/>) which is updated regularly with events and news from youth services across the country, so that no matter where you are you can always find something going on!

You can also follow the SCY page on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ScottishCatholicYouth/>).



# Dunkeld Lourdes Service

## Who are they?

Dunkeld Lourdes Service is a group of willing volunteers who travel to Lourdes each year as a vital part of the Diocese of Dunkeld's annual pilgrimage.

They offer support to those pilgrims who choose to stay in one of the Accueils. Their tasks include pushing wheelchairs, serving meals and cleaning wards, but most importantly giving of their time and themselves to ensure each pilgrim in their care has a memorable pilgrimage to Lourdes.



They are well known for their smiles, their songs and their Yellow T-Shirts! If you're interested in going to Lourdes with Dunkeld, please get in touch: [dunkeldlourdesservice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dunkeldlourdesservice@yahoo.co.uk)

**Events**  
DLS hosts a number of events throughout the year to raise funds for their pilgrimage.

The next event is a fundraising ball which will take place on Sat 29th Feb from 6:30pm at West Park Conferencing and Events, 319 Perth Rd, Dundee DD2 1NN.

Tickets are £45 for adults - for more information, or to book tickets, contact [fundraising@dunkeldlourdesservice.com](mailto:fundraising@dunkeldlourdesservice.com)

would you like to be  
a reporter?

Have you ever wanted to get into journalism?

Or do you just like writing stories?

Do you want a place to let out some of those creative juices (somewhere they won't get graded or marked by a teacher!!)

Why not get in touch and help us to write our newsletter? We'd love to have you!

Email us at the youth office: [youth-office@dunkelldio-cese.org.uk](mailto:youth-office@dunkelldio-cese.org.uk)



Dunkeld Youth Service  
[www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk](http://www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk)  
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