



## PARISH CONTACTS

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Parish Website [catholicstirling.org](http://catholicstirling.org)

Facebook: [St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicParishStirling)

## FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL

### *Co-ordinating Chaplain*

Canon Pat Boylan

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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tues-Thurs - 10am-3pm

Phone: 01786 473749 Email: [admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk](mailto:admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk)

**St Mary's Church**, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES (SMY) 01786 473749

**Church of the Holy Spirit**, McGrigor Road, Stirling, FK7 9BL (HS)

**Church of St Margaret of Scotland**, Drip Road, Stirling, FK9 4UA (SMT) 01786 474883

**Hospital Stay:** If you or your loved ones are admitted to Hospital, please let the Parish Office know and we will arrange for the Hospital Deacon to visit with Holy Communion and to provide spiritual support.



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord reminds us of the moment Jesus, though sinless, steps into the waters of the Jordan. It's an act of humility and solidarity, aligning Himself with humanity and showing us the way to live. The heavens open, the Spirit descends like a dove, and the Father's voice declares, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

In this moment, we see the Holy Trinity in action and are reminded of our own baptism. Through this sacrament, we're brought into God's family, claimed as His beloved children. It's not just about the water but about the grace that transforms and calls us to live as His disciples.

Today, let's reflect on our own baptism and renew our commitment to follow Jesus, who leads us not only into the waters but into the mission of love and service to the world.

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The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, charity no. SC00854

***Please submit any items for the Newsletter by Wednesday Noon. Many Thanks!***

*To add a name to either the Prayer List or the Book of Remembrance complete the appropriate form (which you will find at the back of the Church) and pass to the Parish Office.*

PARISH NEWS

*May the choirs of Angels come to greet you; may they speed you to paradise*



*Of your charity  
please pray for the soul of*

Marion Bell, who died on 26<sup>th</sup> December, aged 87

John McKenzie, who died 17<sup>th</sup> December, aged 87

William Thom, who died on 29th December, aged 84

Frank Simpson, who died 1st January, aged 81

Catherine McIvor, who died 7<sup>th</sup> January, aged 79

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:** David Anderson, John Barrett, Irene Bett, Mary Bett, Allan Brown, Bobby Brown, Derrick Bruce, Mary Burns, Baby Carter, Donald Copeland, Scott Coubrough, Patsy Docherty, Margaret Doherty, Patricia Doherty, Vera Eastwood, Mark Christian Fernandez, George Goodwillie, Ava Gordon, Sarah Hart, Lucia Koloczek, Romie Lesista Jnr, Kevin Mackin, Rosie Mangan, Georges Marquetty, Sally Martin, Cathy McIvor, Margaret McKay, James (Jim) McMenemy, Beth Meldrum, Joe Meldrum, May Millar, Jessie Mitchell, Margaret Neilson, Annie Theresa Nevin, Margaret O'Rourke, Theresa Pierce, Carolanne Quinn, Ruby Quinn, May Robinson, Cheska Mary Rose, Tom Stokes, Tony Stokes, Anna Woods.

**Weekly Sunday Collection** (Note: Combined total across all 3 Churches)

Date	Plate Collection	Standing Orders (weekly pro-rata)
5 <sup>th</sup> January	£1402.50	£1200
Justice and Peace	£956.00	

Many thanks for your continued generosity!

**Contactless Payment** The Contactless Payment Machine in St Mary's can be used to make online donations/collection money to the Church and also for Stall purchases. This QR Code can also be used to make online payments and is displayed on the Notice Boards in each Church.



**Stirling University** Mass for students Wednesdays (term time) 1.15pm in the University Chaplaincy.

**The Parish Prayer Network** We do not grow weary in our intercessions knowing that our prayers are making a difference in the Heavenly Realms and in the lives of our fellow parishioners. To join us in prayer from your own home, text 07503342275.

**St Margaret's Children's Liturgy Dates 11.30am Sunday Mass:**

- |                |   |                                     |              |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| ▪ January 12th | ▪ February 9th                            | ▪ March 9th                         | ▪ April 6th  |
| ▪ January 26th | ▪ February 23rd<br>(Rite of Illumination) | ▪ March 23rd<br>(Rite of the Creed) | ▪ April 27th |

**St Margaret's 200 Club – Disbursement of funds** As you will be aware the 200 Club has not been operational for a while and the decision was taken in conjunction with the Parish Pastoral Council to close it down and distribute the balance of funds. The closing balance in the account is £4000 and in consultation with the original St Margaret's Core Group we will distribute as follows:

- ✓ Our Lady's School Primary £900
- ✓ St Mary's Primary Bannockburn £900
- ✓ St Modan's High School £900
- ✓ Strathcarron Hospice £400
- ✓ Kiltegans £250
- ✓ Seniors Annual Lunch £400
- ✓ St Margaret's & Holy Spirit SVDP £250

**St Mary's Parish 500 Club** If you would like to join, please complete the form which you will find at the back of the Church and return to the Parish Office – if paying by standing order you should set this up directly with your bank – the more players who join, the greater the prize fund will be, with more money coming to the Church. The cost is £5 per month per ticket payable by monthly standing order or annually in January £60 - we can accept a cheque or cash. **Note this is open to everyone in all 3 Churches across the Parish!**

**Tuesday Teas at Holy Spirit** will resume on 14<sup>th</sup> January. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Sacramental initiation of Children.** Parents who wish to present their children for the sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are asked to make sure they have registered their child using the online form. No children will be accepted for registration after 30<sup>th</sup> January, after this date any children wishing to register will be deferred until 2026. <https://forms.gle/ySquE7SruRHKEp7n6>

Please also note the various important dates: <https://catholicstirling.org/sacraments/sacraments-for-children/>

**Synodal event 2025** The Archdiocese welcomes Fr Matthew Nunes from the Archdiocese of Liverpool who will lead an event titled Conversations in the Spirit, to help guide us on how to lead and participate in parish Synodality. It takes place on Saturday 1 February at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB, from 11am-3pm (optional Mass at 10am). Details and registration at [bit.ly/inthespirit25](http://bit.ly/inthespirit25)

**Valentine's retreat for couples** The Archdiocese has organised a Valentine's mini-retreat for married and engaged couples from 2-5pm on Saturday 15 February at St Kentigern's Church, 26 Parkgrove Avenue, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR. The speaker is Fr Andrew Garden (St David's, Dalkeith) and the event is free. Register at [bit.ly/valretreat25](http://bit.ly/valretreat25)

**Lourdes 2025** The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Holy Year 2025 takes place from 11-18 July. For more details please visit [www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25](http://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25)

**Diploma in Catechetic** This is the last week to register for the Diploma in Catechetics 2025. It is a year-long course beginning on Thursday 23 January at 7:30pm. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, readings from the Catechism and regular one-to-one support. Holy Year discount: £125 (normally £200). Register at [bit.ly/diploma2025](http://bit.ly/diploma2025)

For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit <https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/>

**Schedule for This Week: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am before weekday Mass except Fridays when is after Mass

Sundays: Year C. Weekdays: Year 2	<b>St Mary's</b> (SMY)	<b>Holy Spirit</b> (HS)	<b>St Margaret</b> (SMT)	<b>School/ University</b>	<b>Confession</b> and by Appt
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b> The Baptism of the Lord - Feast	<b>5.30pm (Vigil)</b>  ▪ Patricia Phimister (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b>  ▪ Marie Scullion (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b>  ▪ James Malley & Malley Family Dec'd	<b>11.30am</b>  ▪ The People of the Parish  <b>5.30pm</b>  ▪ Cathy Docherty (Birthday)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b> St Kentigern - Feast	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Sarah McPake (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of the Year St Hilary	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ The Holy Souls	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of the Year	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Tony McNair (RIP) (Birthday Remembrance)		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of the Year	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Mary & Alan Rennie	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b> St Anthony - Memorial	<b>9.30am</b> Funeral: Willie Thom (RIP)  Month's Mind: John McKenzie (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	<b>St Modan's</b> <b>8.30am</b> The Holy Souls	10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of the Year Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Deirdra & Noel Flavin	No Mass	No Mass		
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year	<b>5.30pm (Vigil)</b>  ▪ Mary & Pat McGuigan (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b>  ▪ Gordon & Audrey Lindsay	<b>9.00am</b>  ▪ Sick and Housebound (SSVP)	<b>11.30am</b>  ▪ The People of the Parish  <b>5.30pm</b>  ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass