



PARISH CONTACTS

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FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL

Co-ordinating Chaplain

Canon Pat Boylan

Tel. 01324 823310 / 07731763228

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

Phone: 01786 473749 **Email:** 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.



Today's Gospel takes us to the wedding feast at Cana, where Jesus performs His first miracle - turning water into wine. It's such a human moment: a family celebration, a problem, and Mary noticing that something needs to be done. She turns to Jesus with simple faith, saying, "*They have no wine.*"

Mary's words remind us to bring our needs to Jesus. She doesn't demand or instruct but trusts that He will respond. And what a response! Jesus provides not just any wine but the best wine, showing that God's grace is abundant and generous.

This story also points to transformation. Ordinary water becomes extraordinary wine, just as Jesus transforms our lives with His presence. Wherever we feel empty or lacking, He steps in to fill us with joy and purpose.

Let's invite Jesus into our "wedding feasts," trusting Him to work miracles in our ordinary lives.

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 26th December, aged 87

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

Frank Simpson, who died 1st January, aged 81

Catherine McIvor, who died 7th 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, 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)
12 th January	£1378	£1200

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 Coming together in prayer, fosters a spirit of unity and compassion within the parish. Praying together inspires us to uplift each other in the presence of Jesus and His Holy Mother. It provides comfort and support and gives us a renewed sense of purpose as we navigate life. Text 07503342275 if you would like to join our app. or if you would like to submit a request for prayer.

New Bible Study "Ten Bible Verses Every Catholic Should Know"

A four-week programme. Wednesday 7.30 pm (teas etc. from 7.00pm) St Margaret's Hall

- 5th February: Bible Overview and two Old Testament verses.

Campaign Against Assisted Suicide Thank you to everyone who wrote to MPs and MSPs to highlight concerns on the proposals for Assisted Suicide legislation. Sadly both Bills are still progressing through Westminster and Holyrood. It can still be challenged but your help is needed. Please come along to a meeting at Sion House at St Mary's, Stirling at 7pm on Tuesday 28th January.

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:

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| ✓ 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 The draw for December will take place next weekend! 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!**

Sacramental initiation of Children. Parents who wish to present their children for the sacrament 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 30th 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

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

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

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

Religious Observance in schools A Scottish Government consultation seeks views on proposed changes to the current legislation on Religious Observance and Religious and Moral Education in all schools. The Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) has issued a guide on completing the consultation bit.ly/reguide2025. Please submit a response before the consultation period ends on Sunday 26 January.

Grief to Grace Grief to Grace is a specialised five-day programme of spiritual and psychological healing for anyone who has suffered from sexual, physical, or emotional abuse or neglect in childhood, adolescence or adulthood, including those abused by a religious/member of the clergy. If you are interested in attending this confidential healing retreat from 29 April to 4 May in Perth, please contact: margaret.clarke@griegtograceuk.org

Schedule for This Week: Sunday 19th January

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

Sundays: Year C. Weekdays: Year 2	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	School/ University	Confession and by Appt
Sunday 19th January 2 nd Sunday of the Year	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Mary & Pat McGuigan (RIP) 10.15am ▪ Gordon & Audrey Lindsay - Christmas Gift	9.00am ▪ Sick and Housebound (SSVP)	11.30am ▪ The People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 20th January 2 nd Week of the Year St Fabian St Sebastian	10.00am ▪ Lucy aged 5	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 21st January St Agnes Memorial	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Special Intention: Margaret McKay (SSVP)	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 22nd January 2 nd Week of the Year St Vincent	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Ian & Ann Buchanan Christmas Gift	Stirling University 1.15pm The Holy Souls	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 23rd January 2 nd Week of the Year	10.00am ▪ Chilsong Kohler (RIP) 1st Anniversary today	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 24th January St Francis De Sales - Memorial	10.00am ▪ Mary & David Dick - Christmas Gift	No Mass	No Mass		10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
Saturday 25th January The Conversion of St Paul - Feast	No Mass	10.00am Funeral: Frank Simpson (RIP)	No Mass		
Sunday 26th January 3 rd Sunday of the Year Sunday of the Word of God	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Anthony Bundy 10.15am ▪ John Cully (RIP)	9.00am ▪ Mary & Alan Rennie - Christmas Gift Month's Mind: Marion Bell (RIP)	11.30am ▪ Helen Welsh (RIP) 5.30pm ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass