



PARISH CONTACTS

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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

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.



This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21) brings us two powerful moments. First, Luke explains why he's writing his Gospel—to share the truth about Jesus. Then we see Jesus Himself in the synagogue, reading from Isaiah and declaring, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

It's fitting that this is the Sunday of the Word of God because it reminds us just how alive and active Scripture is. When Jesus reads Isaiah, He isn't just looking at words on a page. He's saying, "This is happening now, and I'm the one bringing it to life."

The same is true for us. God's Word isn't just a history lesson; it's meant to speak to us today, right where we are. So, as we reflect this week, let's open our Bibles with fresh eyes, ready to hear what God is saying to us and how He's calling us to live it out.

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*

Frank Simpson, who died 1st January, aged 81

Catherine McIvor, who died 7th January, aged 79

Lorna McCabe, who died 15th January, aged 81

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)
19 th January	£1234	£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.

Hour Eucharistic Adoration Friday 7th February takes place in **Holy Spirit** after 10.00am Mass through to 10.00pm. We will conclude with Night Prayer and Benediction. You can register as normal with the parish office, on the list at the back of the church, or directly with Pat Nicol!

The Parish Prayer Network Praying together gives a sense of belongingness and shared purpose. It encourages empathy and understanding as well as providing support and comfort to both those praying and those being prayed for. When we join together in prayer, we also join Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Mother, the Great Intercessors. We would love to have you join us. Txt 07503342275 to find out more.

St Marys Parish Lunch Club The lunch club will resume on 14th February in St Margaret's Hall at 12.00 Noon.. Please indicate on the list at the back of Church if you would like to attend, have any dietary requirements, or need a lift. We look forward to seeing you.

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.

St Mary's Parish 500 Club the December draw will take place this weekend.

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.

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 26th 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 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
Monday 27th January 3 rd Week of the Year St Angela Merici	10.00am ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 28th January St Thomas Aquinas - Memorial	10.00am Funeral Catherine McIver (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 29th January 3 rd Week of the Year	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Nina Wick who is ill Month's Mind: Willie Thom (RIP)	Stirling University 1.15pm The Holy Souls	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 30th January 3 rd Week of the Year	10.00am ▪ Patricia Phimister (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 31st January St John Bosco - Memorial	10.00am ▪ Christine Ramshaw	No Mass	No Mass	St Modan's 8.30am Special Intention	10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
Saturday 1st February 3 rd Week of the Year	10.00am ▪ Fr Michael McLaughlin (Continued recovery) Month's Mind: Frank Simpson (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		
Sunday 2nd February The Presentation of the Lord – Feast World Day of Consecrated Life	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Chinadindu I Adibe Birthday Thanksgiving 10.15am ▪ Marie Mulheron	9.00am ▪ Deceased Members of the Bogan Family (RIP)	11.30am ▪ The Kelly Family 5.30pm ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass