



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.



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord reminds us that Jesus is the light for all people. When Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple, they meet Simeon and Anna—two elderly, faithful souls who have waited their whole lives for this moment. Simeon's words reveal Jesus as the salvation not only of Israel but of the whole world.

Simeon also warns Mary that a "sword" will pierce her heart, foreshadowing Jesus' suffering. This moment reminds us that following Christ is a path of both joy and sacrifice.

Like Simeon and Anna, we are called to be patient in faith, trusting in God's promises. Even in life's waiting and uncertainties, Christ is always present, bringing light into our darkness. As we bless candles today, may we remember that we, too, are called to carry Christ's light into the world through our faith, love, and witness.

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*

Catherine McIvor, who died 7th January, aged 79

Lorna McCabe, who died 15th January, aged 81

Mary Rooney, who died 22nd 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)
26 th January	£1121.50	£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 Together, we can lift our voices to God in hope and gratitude while encouraging one another in our shared journey as Catholics. To join the Prayer Network text 07503342275. To submit a prayer request phone 01786 473749.

Parish Youth Groups Dates:

➤ 31st January, 14th February, 28th February, 14th March, 28th March, 11th April.
(Junior Group 5.00pm to 6.30pm – Senior Group 7.00pm to 9.00pm - St Margaret's Church Hall)

2nd February The Presentation of the Lord - Feast

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" Week two of a four-week programme: Wednesday 7.30 pm (teas etc. from 7.00pm) St Margaret's Hall 12th February: Four New Testament verses; the Papacy, Mary's Immaculate Conception, the Eucharist, and Confession/Reconciliation.

St Mary's Parish 500 Club - Congratulations to our December winners:

1st Prize £153 – Rena Morrison 2nd Prize £76.50 – Norrie D. MacEwan 3rd Prize £ 25.50 – Mary MacAllister

World Day for Marriage World Day for Marriage is on 9 February, and we pray particularly for all married couples, that God may daily give them the strength and energy to support one another and their families. We especially pray that those who are experiencing difficulties in their relationship may seek help, either from the diocesan marriage counsellor (marriage.counsellor@staned.org.uk) or from organisations such as Retrouvaille www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome Archbishop Cushley leads our Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome for young adults (18+) which takes place 28 July to 4 August 2025. Cost £1,175 includes return flights from Edinburgh to Rome, coach transfers, bed and breakfast at Casa Santa Lucia and an opportunity to take part in the Jubilee for Young People programme, including attending Mass with the Holy Father. Limited single rooms available. Email frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk by Sunday 2 February.

Rise in Faith, Live in Hope The Archdiocese invites high school pupils to 'Rise in Faith, Live in Hope' at St Francis Xavier's Church, 11am-3pm on Saturday 15 March. The event will provide encouragement and inspiration to help our young people grow in their faith amidst the challenges they face. Includes Mass with Archbishop Cushley. Register at bit.ly/archyouth

Workshop for Children's Liturgy Leaders If you are involved with Children's Liturgy in your parish, the Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission invites you to The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, for a workshop on Children's Liturgy of the Word. The day takes place on Saturday 22 February from 9:30am-12:00pm and will include Mass, discussion groups, a presentation on resources, and a presentation on the Liturgy of the Word within Mass. Registration and full event schedule at <https://forms.office.com/e/yRxbbsJ5kL>.

Assisted Pilgrims for Lourdes Do you know someone who is ill or infirm and would enjoy the opportunity to experience a life-changing trip to Lourdes? The Archdiocese is seeking *Assisted Pilgrims* to join them on the pilgrimage 11-18 July. They will receive 24hr support from the brilliant doctors, nurses and volunteers in the Medical/Helper Team and stay in specially equipped accommodation. It will be an unforgettable week with a full spiritual and social programme. Please contact Bernadette on 0131 441 1939 or visit www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes24

Aid to the Church in Need: Scottish Conference 'Courage to be Catholic' Hear from inspiring speakers, meet representatives of Catholic organisations from around Scotland, and help build Catholic community. 9:30am - 4:00pm, Saturday 29 March, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHSR>

Private Prayer- St Margarets will be open on Monday & Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm – 8:30pm for private prayer.

2nd February The Presentation of the Lord - Feast
Schedule for This Week: 2nd February

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 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
Monday 3rd February 4th Week of the Year St Blaise St Ansar	10.00am ▪ Brian & David Robertson (RIP)	No Mass	7:30pm -8:30pm		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 4th February 4th Week of the Year	10.00am	10.00am ▪ Marion Bell (RIP)	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 5th February St Agatha Memorial	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Patricia Phimister (RIP)	Stirling University 1.15pm Myra Boyle (RIP)	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Thursday 6th February St Paul Miki and Companions - Memorial	10.00am Funeral: Lorna McCabe (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Friday 7th February 4th Week of the Year	No Mass	10.00am ▪ May Anderson (RIP) Eucharistic Adoration 10.00pm Night Prayer Month's Mind: Catherine McIvor (RIP)	No Mass	St Modan's 10.00am ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)	10.30 am- 11.00am after Mass
Saturday 8th February 4th Week of the Year St Jerome Emiliani St Joseph Bakhita	10.00am ▪ Alex Millar & David Addison (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		
Sunday 9th February 5 th Sunday of the Year	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Antonio Lai (RIP) 10.15am ▪ Ahachukwudike P Adibe - Birthday Thanksgiving	9.00am ▪ Doris Bell (RIP)	11.30am ▪ The People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass