



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

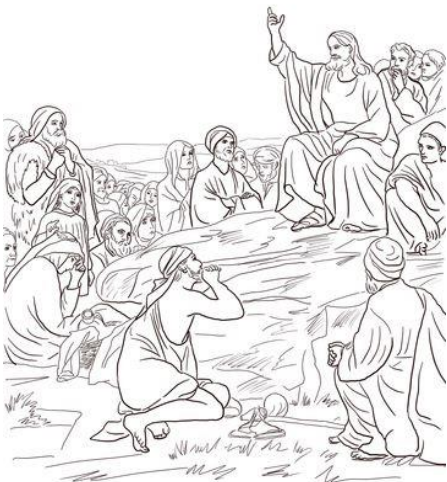
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St Mary's Church, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES (SMY) 01786 473749

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.



In today's Gospel, Jesus turns our idea of success upside down. He says, "*Blessed are you who are poor... who are hungry... who weep... who are hated.*" That doesn't sound like a blessing, does it? But Jesus is reminding us that God sees things differently. True happiness isn't found in wealth, popularity, or comfort. Instead, it's found in trusting God, even in difficulties.

Jesus also warns, "*Woe to you who are rich... who are full... who laugh now.*" He's not condemning wealth or joy but reminding us that these things are temporary. If we rely only on them, we miss out on the deeper joy of living for God.

So, where do we place our trust? Do we chase after worldly success, or do we seek the deeper, lasting happiness that comes from following Jesus?

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*

Mary Rooney who died 22nd January, aged 81

Edward (Ted) Smart who died 30th January, aged 85

Bozena Dormer who died 3rd February, aged 73

William Lafferty who died 6th February, aged 92

Allan Brown who died 6th February

Margaret McKay who died 7th February

Bernard Colvin (Snr) who died on 10th February, aged 100

Jason Steel who died 10th February, aged 36

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, 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, Jeannette Simpson, Tom Stokes, Tony Stokes, Anna Woods.

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

Date	Plate Collection	Standing Orders (weekly pro-rata)
9 th February	£1197	£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 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.

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

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

- February 23rd (Rite of Illumination)
- March 9th
- April 6th
- March 23rd (Rite of the Creed)
- April 27th

Parish Youth Groups Dates:

➤ 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)

Parish Pastoral Council will next meet on 13th March. Please contact a committee member if you would like anything raised at the meeting.

St Mary's 500 Club: The January draw will take place next weekend.

New Bible Study "Ten Bible Verses Every Catholic Should Know" Week three of a four-week programme. Wednesday 7.30 pm (teas etc from 7.00pm) St Margaret's Hall. **The Epistles** 2 Thess 2:15 Traditions; 2 Peter 1:20 Interpretations; 1 Tim 3:15 Pillar of Authority James 2:24 Saved by Works (alone).

Free Online Bibles Scripture has never been easier to find. Search The Bible in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz) which is a free podcast. There is also biblegateway.com and the Universalis App gives the readings used every day at Mass as well as other prayers.

Pilgrimage: Camino de Santiago Kevin and Linda Clarke will give an illustrated talk on their pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela which they cycled last year, in support of Strathcarron Hospice. This journey of nearly 900kms along the north coast of Spain and through the mountains of Cantabria took 21 days and was well supported by parishioners. The talk is on Thursday, 6 March 2025 starting at 7.15pm in St Margaret's Church Hall and the doors will be open from 7 00pm. Refreshments will be available after the talk.

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>

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

Schedule for This Week: 16th 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 16th February 6 th Sunday of the Year	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Jane Hamill (RIP) 10.15am ▪ Fr Joseph Docherty (RIP)	9.00am ▪ Fr Michael Savage (RIP)	11.30am ▪ The People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Billy McDonald (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 17th February 6 th Week of the Year – The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	10.00am ▪ Catherine Arthur (RIP) 6.00pm Reception: Edward Smart (RIP)	No Mass	Private Prayer 7:30pm - 8:30pm		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 18th February 6 th Week of the Year – St Colman	10.00am Funeral: Edward Smart (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 19th February 6 th Week of the Year	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Olga Martin (RIP) Private Prayer 7:30pm - 8:30pm	Stirling University 1.15pm ▪ Helen Heeps (RIP)	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 20th February 6 th Week of the Year	10.00am ▪ Fr Matt McGovern (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 21st February 6 th Week of the Year – St Peter Damian	10.00am ▪ Frank Simpson (RIP) 11.30am Funeral: Bozena Dormer (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	St Modan's 8.30am ▪ Bill Boyle (RIP)	10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
Saturday 22nd February Chair of St Peter the Apostle - Feast	No Mass	10.00am Funeral: William Lafferty (RIP) Month's Mind: Mary Rooney (RIP)	No Mass		
Sunday 23rd February 7 th Sunday of the Year	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Dr Patrick Stones (RIP) 10.15am ▪ Agnes Oates	9.00am ▪ Marion Bell (RIP)	11.30am ▪ James Friel (RIP) 5.30pm ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass