



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

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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

Please note: Fr Jamie's day off is a Monday and the office is closed. Therefore any messages left will not be picked up until Tuesday.



The Second Sunday of Lent brings us the story of the Transfiguration—Jesus revealing His glory to Peter, James, and John on the mountain. It's a powerful moment, a glimpse of divine light in the midst of their journey. But what is most striking is Peter's reaction—he wants to stay there, to hold on to the moment. Sometimes, when we feel close to God, we want to freeze time, to keep that sense of peace and awe. But just like the disciples, we have to come down from the mountain and keep walking. Lent reminds us that faith isn't just about the high points; it's about trusting God even in the valleys. The transfiguration challenges us to open our eyes to God's presence, not just in the extraordinary but in the everyday. Maybe that's where real transformation happens.

Response to the psalm : The Lord is my light and Salvation

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.** From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: "This is my beloved Son, listen to him." **Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

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 Gerald McGowan and Annie Zerbinati who died recently.
May they rest in peace.*

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish: David Anderson, John Barrett, Irene Bett, Mary Bett, Bobby Brown, Derrick Bruce, Mary Burns, Donald Copeland, Scott Coubrough, Patsy Docherty, Margaret Doherty, Patricia Doherty, Vera Eastwood, Mark Christian Fernandez, George Goodwillie, Ava Gordon, Sarah Hart, Lusia Koloczek, Romie Lesista Jnr, Kevin Mackin, Rosie Mangan, Georges Marquetty, Sally Martin, 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, Annmarie Stokes, Tom Stokes, Tony Stokes, Anna Woods.

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.

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

Date	Plate Collection	Standing Orders (weekly pro-rata)
9th March	£2337	£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.



A Special Collection will be taken up on Sunday 30th March for the Papal & Episcopal Charities.

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

The Parish Prayer Network The Holy Spirit is the Master of our prayer. There are as many paths of prayer as there are persons who pray but it is the same Spirit acting in all of us. To request prayer or to join us in prayer, text 07503 342275

St. Patrick's Day Monday 17th March  Fr. Patrick McCallion of St. Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers) will celebrate Mass in honour of St. Patrick's Feast Day and the Anniversary of St. Patrick's Missionary Society at 11am in St. Margaret of Scotland Church, The Raploch, on Monday March 17th. All are welcome to attend. Tea/Coffee will be served in the hall after the Mass.

Hour Eucharistic Adoration Friday 4th April takes place in **St Mary's** 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!

St Margaret's Children's Liturgy Dates 11.30am Sunday Mass:
23rd March (Rite of the Gospel), 6th April, 13th April (Palm Sunday), 27th April

Parish Youth Groups Dates:

➤ 28th March, 11th April.

(Junior Group 5.00pm to 6.30pm – Senior Group 7.00pm to 9.00pm - St Margaret's Church Hall)

St Mary's Parish 500 Club The February draw will take place this weekend.

Our Lady's Primary School Prize Bingo & Raffle Fundraiser Friday 28th March 6pm, Raploch Community Campus. The Parent Council are holding a fundraiser to raise funds to support the students and enhance their school experience - £1 entry (includes refreshments). We are also asking for any donations that could be used for prizes.

Palm Sunday Youth Day Let your children know about our day of games and inspiring talks at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB on Saturday 12 April from 11am-3pm. Includes sessions for primary school pupils (8+) and sessions for high school pupils. Register at bit.ly/youthpalm

Campaign Against Assisted Dying The [Scottish Bishops](#) have issued a statement calling on the UK Parliament to abandon the Assisted Suicide Bill at Westminster. The Bishops say it undermines human dignity and reduces the value of life to "efficiency and utility." Compassion should mean supporting the vulnerable in times of suffering—not causing death. A link to the statement has been added to the selection of templates and email tools to make the task of writing to our MP easier. It can be found on the CAAD page on the St Mary's Parish website.



Aid to the Church in Need: Scottish Conference 'Courage to be Catholic' Saturday 29th March, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 9:30am - 4:00pm. Bring your friends, family or parishioners and get 5 tickets for £112. ACN are bringing a Bishop from the Holy Land, a Bishop from Nigeria and the Head of Divine Renovation in the UK. Don't miss this first-time event! Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHSR> to register.

Holy Year Talks A series of Holy Year talks take place on the last Sunday of each month at the Carmelite Convent, Hot Pot Wynd, Dysart, KY1 2TF. The next one is on Sunday 30 March at 4:30pm when Canon James Tracey discusses *Reconciliation - Forgiveness*. The one-hour event includes evening prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and has been organised by the Fife Deanery. All welcome.

Catholic Families for Life The latest Catholic Families for Life newsletter from the National Commission for Marriage, Family and Life is available at www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk

Lent Stations of the Cross Join Catholics from across Scotland online each Monday evening in Lent for the national Stations of the Cross. Begins at 7:45pm on Monday 10 March and includes a reflection from Bishop Hugh Gilbert of Aberdeen Diocese. The event is to pray for the unborn, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/Stations25

Annual Mass The annual Caritas, Justice & Peace Mass takes place at 7:00pm on Wednesday 2 April at St Margaret's, East Port, Dunfermline, KY12 7JB. Fr Tom Magill of Motherwell Diocese will preach. All welcome.

PVG The Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 comes into effect on 1 April 2025. The new Act states that anyone who is doing regulated work with children and/or protected adults **must be in possession of a PVG check**. If not, it would be a breach of the law and the person who permitted the breach to happen could be subject to legal recourse. There is a list at the back of the church with the names of all those in the parish who have a PVG. If you are involved with children or vulnerable adults on behalf of the parish, please make sure your name is on the list and that you have clearance for the correct group i.e. adults or children. If you do not have a PVG and diocesan approval in place then you must speak to the parish Safeguarding officer immediately and step down until Diocesan approval and a PVG have been granted.

Schedule for This Week: 16th March

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

Sundays: Year C. Weekdays: Year 1	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	School/ University	Confession and by Appt
Sunday 16th March 2nd Sunday of Lent	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Lorna McCabe (RIP) 10.15am ▪ John MacDonald (RIP)	9.00am ▪ Frank Simpson (RIP)	11.30am ▪ Bill McGee (RIP) 5.30pm ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 17th March St Patrick Feast	No Mass	No Mass	11.00am Mass Kiltegan Fathers Private Prayer 7:30pm - 8:30pm		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 18th March 2nd Week of Lent St Cyril of Jerusalem	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Tony Cafferkey 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 19th March St Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin Mary - Solemnity	10.00am Funeral: Gerald McGowan (RIP)	No Mass	7.00pm Stations of the Cross	Stirling University 1.15pm ▪ Mariana Alda D'Costa	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 20th March 2nd Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Margaret Elliott (RIP) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 21st March 2 nd Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Terry Gavin (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	St Modan's 8.30am ▪ The Holy Souls	10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
Saturday 22nd March 2 nd Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Cecilia Hunter 100th Birthday Congratulations from the Legion of Mary	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Sunday 23rd March 3 rd Sunday of Lent	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Maureen McColl (Birthday) 10.15am ▪ Cathy McIvor (RIP)	9.00am ▪ Marguerite, James, Michael & Marion Hay (RIP)	11.30am ▪ Norman Galletly (RIP) 5.30pm ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass