



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

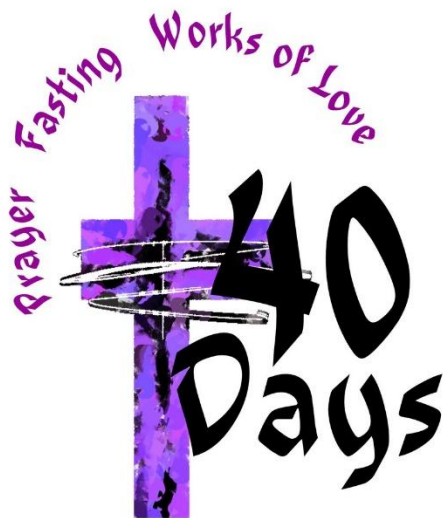
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St Mary's Church, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES (SMY) 01786 473749

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.



Every year, Lent begins with Jesus heading into the wilderness—a place of testing, but also a place of encounter. In today's Gospel (Luke 4:1-13), Jesus faces temptation, but He does so armed with trust in His Father and the power of Scripture. Where Adam and Israel failed, Jesus remains faithful.

Lent invites us into our own "wilderness"—not a place of despair, but of renewal. We strip away distractions to focus on God. It's a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, not as burdens, but as ways to strengthen our relationship with Christ.

Temptation will come, just as it did for Jesus, but He shows us how to resist—by holding fast to God's Word and relying on His strength, not our own. This Lent, let's embrace the challenge and journey with Christ toward Easter's victory.

Response to the psalm : Be with me, O Lord, in my distress

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ. One does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Glory and praise to you, O Christ

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, 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, 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)
2nd March	£1165	£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 pray for fellow parishioners, seeking God's help, healing, and guidance for the needs of others. . 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.

SSVP Lunch Club. The next lunch club will take place on 14th March in St Margaret's Hall at 1200hrs. 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.

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

9th March, 23rd March (Rite of the Gospel), 6th April, 13th April (Palm Sunday), 27th April

Parish Youth Groups Dates:

➤ 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)

St Mary's 500 Club 2024 Annual Statement

- Total contributions received £6035
- Total monthly prize draws (50%): £3017.50
- Total Annual prize draw (10%): £600
- Total to the Church (40%): £2414

Many thanks for your support and welcome to our new members for 2025!

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

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. Next CAAD Stirling Update Meeting on Tuesday 11th March in Sion House at 7pm.



Aid to the Church in Need: Scottish Conference 'Courage to be Catholic' Saturday 29th March, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 9:30am - 4:00pm. Registration £35 (£30 concession). We have 25 Catholic charities, 4 international speakers, laity, clergy, and bishops from across Scotland eager to build the Faith. 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.

Sacrament of Confirmation A reminder that there is a meeting at 7:00pm in Sion House on Wednesday for parents who wish to present their child for Confirmation.

Schedule for This Week: 9th 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 9th March 1 st Sunday of Lent	5.30pm (Vigil) ▪ Maurice Felstead (RIP) 10.15am ▪ John O' Donnell (RIP)	9.00am ▪ The People of the Parish	11.30am ▪ Sarah McPake (RIP) 5.30pm ▪ Stephen Lahbib (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 10th March ST JOHN OGILVIE - FEAST	10.00am ▪ Judith Cattigan (RIP) Month's Mind: Bernard Colvin (RIP) Jason Steel (RIP)	No Mass	Private Prayer 7:30pm - 8:30pm		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 11th March 1 st Week of Lent St Constantine	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Frank Simpson (RIP) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 12th March 1 st Week of Lent	7.00pm Sion House Confirmation Meeting for Parents		10.00am ▪ Martha Hyde (RIP) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	Stirling University 1.15pm ▪ Special Intention	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Thursday 13th March 1 st Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Chil Kohler (RIP) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Friday 14th March 1 st Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Cathy McIvor (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	St Modan's 8.30am ▪ Patrick J Stones (RIP)	10.30 am- 11.00am after Mass
Saturday 15th March 1 st Week of Lent	10.00am ▪ Helen Somerville (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
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