



## PARISH CONTACTS

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Facebook: [St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicParishStirling)

## 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.



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In today's Gospel we see an unforgettable moment of mercy. A woman caught in adultery is dragged before Jesus. The crowd is ready to stone her, armed not just with rocks but with judgment and condemnation. But Jesus takes a different stance. Instead of reinforcing their self-righteousness, He invites them to look inward: *"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone."* One by one, they walk away, leaving only Jesus and the woman.

This moment is pure grace. Jesus doesn't excuse her sin, but He doesn't shame her either. Instead, He offers her a fresh start: *"Go and sin no more."* That's the heart of Lent—God's mercy giving us another chance. How often do we stand in judgment of others, forgetting our own need for grace? Maybe today is a call to drop our stones and embrace the mercy Jesus so freely gives.

**Response to the psalm:** What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

**Gospel Acclamation:** R. **Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the Living God**

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

R. **Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the Living God**

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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 George Goodwillie who died recently.  
May he 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, Edna Copeland, Scott Coubrough, Patsy Docherty, Margaret Doherty, Patricia Doherty, Vera Eastwood, Mark Christian Fernandez, 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)
30 <sup>th</sup> March	£1364	£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.



**The Special Collection** last Sunday for the Papal & Episcopal Charities raised £1371. Many thanks

**Gift Aid Envelopes for 2025/26** These are available for collection at the back of the Churches. Please take the box with your name on. These new envelopes should be used from this weekend, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> April. Many thanks!

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

**Lenten Reconciliation Service.** The Lenten Reconciliation Service will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm in St Margaret's. Please take this opportunity to go to confession in preparation for Easter.

**The Parish Prayer Network** Are you or your loved ones in need of prayer? Place your request in the box at the back of the church or text 07503342275 . We will pray for you with love, morning and evening.

**Campaign Against Assisted Dying** The Kim Leadbetter Bill should have its third reading at the end of April and it is more important than ever to lobby your MP to vote against this legislation. The Bill has been watered down in Committee stage, with safety amendments rejected and legal protections weakened. It creates significant risks for the most vulnerable in society. CAAD briefing information and a range of letter templates are available on the Parish website.

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

6<sup>th</sup> April, 13<sup>th</sup> April (Palm Sunday), 27<sup>th</sup> April

**SSVP** After discussion between the two Conferences, St Mary's SSVP will merge with Holy Spirit and St Margaret's SSVP. The new Conference will be named St Mary's Parish Stirling. Further information will be given in due course.

**SSVP Lunch Club** The next lunch club will take place on Friday April 11<sup>th</sup> at St Margaret's Hall. Lunch will be served at 12.00 Noon. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the list at the back of the Church, indicating if you require a lift or have any dietary requirements.

**Parish Youth Groups Dates:**

11<sup>th</sup> April (Junior Group 5.00pm to 6.30pm – Senior Group 7.00pm to 9.00pm - St Margaret's Church Hall).

**SCIAF:** Each Lent, parishes across Scotland very generously support SCIAF through collections and filling and returning Wee Boxes. Your kindness changes lives and has done for 60 years now through SCIAF – your agency for relief and development across the world. Thank you!

**Young Adults' Holy Week event** The Archdiocese invites young adults (18+) to prepare for Holy Week and Easter on Saturday 12 April at St Margaret's Chapel at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB from 11:30am-3:00pm. There will be talks from speakers including Fr David Stewart SJ and the event concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley. Recollect, pray, and celebrate your Catholic faith. Register by emailing [frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk](mailto:frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk).

**Talk at Carmelite Convent** 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.

**Palm Sunday Youth Day** Let your children know about this day of games and inspiring talks hosted by the Archdiocese 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](http://bit.ly/youthpalm)

**A message to parents from Archbishop Leo:** "Dear Parents, As we prepare to celebrate Palm Sunday and the sacred days of Holy Week, I invite you to register your child(ren) at a special youth event at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 12 April, 11am-3pm. The day will be filled with games, inspiring workshops, and dedicated time for prayer. This event is not just about fun and learning; it's about building relationships—both with Christ and with each other. By attending, your child will be strengthened in their faith as we prepare spiritually in the days leading up to Easter. Let's inspire our young people to live out the joy and hope of the Resurrection. Thank you for your continued support of your child's faith journey. I look forward to seeing them at the event and sharing this blessed time together. Register at [bit.ly/youthpalm](http://bit.ly/youthpalm) (event includes sessions for primary pupils (8+) and sessions for high school pupils)."

**Celebration of Fr Tommy Greenan** The story of the Edinburgh priest who served the poor in war-torn El Salvador will be shared at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Thursday 8 March at 7:00pm. Speakers will share their memories of Fr Tommy Greenan and tell the story of how his acclaimed book *The Song of the Poor* came to be published following his death. The book will be available for purchase at the event. No registration required. All welcome.

**Schedule for This Week: 6<sup>th</sup> April**

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

Sundays: Year C. Weekdays: Year 1	<b>St Mary's (SMY)</b>	<b>Holy Spirit (HS)</b>	<b>St Margaret (SMT)</b>	<b>School/ University</b>	<b>Confession and by Appt</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>5.30pm (Vigil)</b> ▪ Tom And Bridie Young (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b> ▪ Lorna McCabe (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b> ▪ Carol Ogilvie (RIP)	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ The People of the Parish  <b>5.30pm</b> ▪ Bernard Colvin Snr (RIP)		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent St John Baptist de la Salle	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Frank & Bridget Kerr (RIP)	No Mass	<b>Private Prayer</b> 7:30pm - 8:30pm		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Margaret McKay (RIP)  <b>7.00pm</b> Stations of the Cross	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ William Lafferty (RIP)  <b>7.00pm</b> Lenten Reconciliation Service	<b>Stirling University</b> <b>1.15pm</b> ▪ The Holy Souls	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Kit Currie (RIP)  <b>7.00pm</b> Stations of the Cross	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent St Stanislaus	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Jason Steel (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		10.30 am-11.00am after Mass
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b> <b>Funeral:</b> George Goodwillie (RIP)	No Mass		9.30am-9:50am before Mass
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b> PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	<b>5.30pm (Vigil)</b> ▪ Christine Barrett (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b> Marion & Harry Ross (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b> ▪ Lorna McCabe (RIP)	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ Tommy and Lily Nevin (RIP)  <b>5.30pm</b> ▪ The People of the Parish		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass