

28th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A



Parish Website catholicstirling.org

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest

Fr Jamie Boyle Tel. 01786 473749

Email: frjamie.boyle@staned.org.uk

University Chaplain: Fr Federico Dundas SOCSJ

Email: fdundas@socsj.org

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

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 Feast of the Holy Family gives us a wonderfully down-to-earth picture of holiness. Mary, Joseph and Jesus weren't living some perfect, airbrushed family life. They worried, they travelled, they fled danger, they searched anxiously for a lost child. In other words, they lived real life.

Matthew's Gospel reminds us that the Holy Family knew uncertainty and fear. Joseph has to make big decisions quickly. Mary has to trust without always understanding. Jesus grows up within a family that teaches him love, faith and resilience. Holiness here isn't about everything going smoothly; it's about staying faithful to one another when things don't.

This feast is good news for every family that feels messy, noisy, tired or stretched. God chooses to enter the world through ordinary family life, with all its joys and struggles. As we celebrate today, we ask for the grace to make our own homes places of patience, forgiveness and love — not perfect homes, but holy ones.

Response to the psalm:

Blessed are all who fear the LORD and walk in his ways.

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

R. Alleluia

Message from Fr Jamie As I move on to pastures new, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude for the many kind words, gifts, support and most importantly assurances of prayer following my decision to step back from my priestly ministry. I hope and pray that you will do everything you can to support Fr Robert as he takes over the pastoral leadership of the parish.

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 Margaret Mailey Malcolmson and William Crossley 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, Anne Chadband, Donald Copland, Scott Coubrough, Patsy Docherty, Margaret Doherty, Patricia Doherty, Mark Christian Fernandez, Ava Gordon, Robert Graham, Sarah Hart, Lusia Koloczek, Romie Lesista Jnr, Kevin Mackin, Rosie Mangan, Sally Martin, Beth Meldrum, Joe Meldrum, Jessie Mitchell, Margaret Neilson, Annie Theresa Nevin, Margaret O'Rourke, Catherine Philomy, Theresa Pierce, Cheska Mary Rose, Jeannette Simpson, Annmarie Stokes, Tom & Tony Stokes, Anna Woods, Eman Guerrero, Vanesa Mazo, Bernadeth Mellina, Ruby & Carolanne Quinn.

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.

Sick and Housebound: Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to receive Holy Communion and we will co-ordinate with the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Team to arrange this for you.

Weekly Sunday Collection (Note: Combined total across all 3 Churches - Many thanks for your continued generosity!)

Date	Plate Collection	Standing Orders (weekly pro-rata)
21 st December	£1446	£1200

Annual Parish Seniors Lunch takes place **Friday 9th January 11.30am for 12.00 Noon King Robert Hotel.** If you intend to go please add your name to the list at the back of the Church and the number in your party. **Note:** This year we are not requesting a deposit - the cost will be covered by the Parish. We would however ask that you add your name only if you definitely intend to come – this will ensure we can accurately gauge numbers. Many thanks!

St Mary's 500 Club: Congratulations to our winners:

November Draw

1st Prize £202.50: Mary D'Ambrosio
2nd Prize £101.25: Genia Graham
3rd Prize £33.75: Margaret Smith

2025 Annual Draw:

1st Prize £425: Donna Phimister
2nd Prize £255: Margaret Smith
3rd Prize £170: George Tortolano

12 Hour Eucharistic Adoration Please note this is cancelled for January.

Lourdes Coffee Morning will resume from Thursday 15th January 2026 after Mass in St Margaret's Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Please Note there won't be a Newsletter issued on 4th January – the next edition will be issued for Sunday 11th January – please however see below Mass Schedule and Intentions for the next 2 weeks.

Schedule for This Week: 28th December

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

Sundays: Year A Weekdays: Year 2	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	Confessions
Sunday 28th December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH - FEAST	5.30pm (Sat Vigil) ▪ Giuseppe, Caterina, Antonio, and Salvatore Lai (RIP) 10.15am ▪ Kathleen Lawson (RIP) Birthday Remembrance	9.00am ▪ People of the Parish	11.30am ▪ June Devin 5.30pm ▪ Susan McCabe (RIP)	5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 29th December 5 th Day within the Christmas Octave St Thomas Becket	10.00am ▪ Bobbi Dawson (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am -9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 30th December 6 th Day within the Christmas Octave	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Frankie Stuart (RIP)	No Mass	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 31st December 7 th Day within the Christmas Octave St Sylvester I	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Jane Hammill (RIP) Birthday Remembrance	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 1st January MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - SOLEMNITY	10.00am ▪ John McQuillan Birthday Remembrance (RIP)	10.00am ▪ May Robinson (RIP)	11:00am ▪ People of the Parish	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 2nd January St Basil and St Gregory Nazianzen - Memorial	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Barry McPake (RIP) ▪ Month's Mind: John Stewart Henderson Sharp (RIP)	10.30am- 11.00am after Mass
Saturday 3rd January Weekday of Christmas Time The Most Holy Name of Jesus	10.00am ▪ Jean Moran (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am-9:50am before Mas
Sunday 4th January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY	5.30pm (Sat Vigil) ▪ Francis Murphy who is unwell 10.15am ▪ Kathleen McDonald - 80th Birthday Congratulations	9.00am ▪ John and Sheila O'Loan (RIP) and all Deceased Family Members	11.30am ▪ People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Paul McPake	5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass

Schedule for This Week: 4th January

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

Sundays: Year A Weekdays: Year 2	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	Confessions
Sunday 4th January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY	5.30pm (Sat Vigil) ▪ Francis Murphy who is unwell 10.15am ▪ Kathleen McDonald - 80th Birthday Congratulations	9.00am ▪ John and Sheila O'Loan (RIP) and all Deceased Family Members	11.30am ▪ People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Paul McPake	5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
Monday 5th January Weekday of Christmas Time	10.00am ▪ Bunty, Ann & Ruth	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am -9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 6th January Weekday of Christmas Time	No Mass	10.00am ▪ James Malley & Cassidy Family Dec'd	No Mass	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 7th January Weekday of Christmas Time St Raymond of Penyafort	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Ellen & Gerry Dickson - Christmas Gift	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Thursday 8th January Weekday of Christmas Time St Nathalan	No Mass	10:00 am Funeral Mass Margaret Mailey Malcolmson (RIP)	No Mass	9.30am-9:50am before Mass
Friday 9th January Weekday of Christmas Time	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Charlie Mitchell (RIP)	10.30am- 11.00am after Mass
Saturday 10th January Weekday of Christmas Time	10.00am Funeral William Crossley (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am-9:50am before Mas
Sunday 11th January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - FEAST	5.30pm (Sat Vigil) ▪ Mary & David Dick - Christmas Gift 10.15am ▪ Daniel McGladrigan (RIP)	9.00am ▪ Alice Mitchell (RIP)	11.30am ▪ People of the Parish 5.30pm ▪ Jean Docherty (RIP)	5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass

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