

7<sup>th</sup> December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A



## PARISH CONTACTS

### *Parish Priest*

Fr Jamie Boyle Tel. 01786 473749

Email: [frjamie.boyle@staned.org.uk](mailto:frjamie.boyle@staned.org.uk)

*University Chaplain:* Fr Federico Dundas SOCSJ

Email: [fdundas@socsj.org](mailto:fdundas@socsj.org)

Parish Website [catholicstirling.org](http://catholicstirling.org)

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

## 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](mailto: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.



## 2nd Sunday of Advent – A Time to Prepare

Advent invites us to slow down and make space for Christ, and today John the Baptist steps onto the scene with his timeless call: *“Prepare a way for the Lord.”* His voice in the wilderness reminds us that faith is not passive. We are invited to clear the clutter from our hearts—old grudges, tired habits, the noise that distracts us—so that Christ may find a welcome place within us.

Isaiah speaks of a world transformed by God's peace, where harmony replaces hurt and justice lifts up the poor. That vision can feel far away, yet Advent reassures us that God is always at work, often quietly, in the ordinary moments of our lives.

This week, let's take one small step toward that peace—an act of kindness, a moment of prayer, a gesture of reconciliation—so that the Lord may find us ready when he comes.

### **Response to the psalm:**

In his days justice shall flourish,  
and great peace for ever

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**R. Alleluia**

PARISH NEWS



Of your charity, please pray for the soul of **John Stewart Henderson Sharp** who died recently.  
May she rest in peace.

*May the choirs of Angels come to greet you; may they speed you to paradise*

**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 Koloczec, 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 <i>(weekly pro-rata)</i>
30 <sup>th</sup> November	£1276	£1200

**Advent Candlelit Masses Wednesdays 7pm:**

10<sup>th</sup> December – St Mary's

17<sup>th</sup> December – St Margaret's

In addition to the normal schedule, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available after each Candlelit Mass and also extended after morning mass on 20<sup>th</sup> December to 11.30am. Please note there is no separate Reconciliation Service.

**Parish Prayer Network** There is a white box at the entrance to all 3 churches, St Margarets, St Mary's and The Holy Spirit. If you or your loved ones are in need of prayer, please place your intentions in this box and we will pray for them . God bless.

**SVDP uch club** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon at St Margaret's – all welcome. Please add your name to the list.

**Lourdes Coffee Morning** Please join us for our Lourdes Coffee Morning each Thursday after Mass in St Margaret's Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**Presentation of the Gospel:** The Gospel will be presented to the children preparing for First Holy Communion. All children preparing for the Sacrament must participate in this rite.

7<sup>th</sup> December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A

**Christmas Nativity Scene** Volunteers from the parish are planning to hold a display of the Christmas nativity scene in Thistles Shopping Centre on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December between 10am and 4pm. In previous years this was organised by the Legion of Mary. We're looking for additional helpers to support this initiative. If this would be of interest then please speak to Stuart Young or Fraser McNair or leave your details with the parish office.

**Advent Rosary for Life** This Monday at 7:45pm to pray for unborn children, their mothers, and all pro-life intentions. Each session is on Zoom and lasts about 30 minutes. Following the Rosary there is a short reflection from a guest speaker: Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (8 Dec, March for Life UK), Fr Jamie McMorris (15 Dec, St Margaret's, Edinburgh), and Archbishop Leo Cushley (22 Dec). Register at [bit.ly/rosary25](http://bit.ly/rosary25)

**Christmas Carol Service** Organised by the Archdiocesan Lourdes Committee. St Margaret's Church, Davidson's Mains, Edinburgh, EH4 5AD, Sunday 7 December at 3:00pm.

**Campaign Against Assisted Dying** The final stage three vote to pass or reject the Assisted Dying Bill will take place in the New Year. It is important to use the time before this vote to influence MSPs who voted in favour in the first vote but have said they have concerns about the Bill. MSPs have always stated that they want to hear the view of constituents so please write expressing your concerns. You will find briefing information and template letter tool on <http://www.carenokilling.scot>

**Archdiocesan Directory** The new edition of the Archdiocesan directory is available in the church stall priced £3.

**Vacancy** St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh is seeking to appoint a Facilities Manager. A full job description is available at [stmaryscathedral.co.uk](http://stmaryscathedral.co.uk). To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter to [recruitment@stmaryscathedral.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@stmaryscathedral.co.uk) by Wednesday 10 December 2025. Salary: £30-32k.

**Catholic Families for Life** The latest Catholic Families for Life Newsletter from the National Commission for Marriage, Family and Life is now available at [www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk](http://www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk)

**Diploma in Catechetics** Explore the richness of the Catholic faith in 2026 by taking the Diploma in Catechetics. The popular course is run by the Archdiocese and takes place at 7:30pm each Thursday on Zoom, starting on 22 January. Cost £220. Register at [bit.ly/diploma2026](http://bit.ly/diploma2026). Promo reel at [bit.ly/diplomareel](http://bit.ly/diplomareel)

**Schedule for This Week: 7<sup>th</sup> December**

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

Sundays: Year A Weekdays: Year 2	<b>St Mary's</b> (SMY)	<b>Holy Spirit</b> (HS)	<b>St Margaret</b> (SMT)	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Confession</b> and by Appt
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>5.30pm (Sat Vigil)</b>  ▪ James McIntosh <b>10.15am</b>  Patrick Cavanagh (RIP)	<b>9.00am</b>  ▪ Laura Cooper	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ John Paul Stokes  <b>5.30pm</b>  People of the Parish.		5.00pm to 5.20pm before Vigil Mass
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b> The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	<b>10.00am</b> ▪ Nancy Frawley (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b> Tuesday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Advent	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Nan Lindsay (RIP)	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b> Wednesday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Advent	7:00 pm  Candlelit Mass May Robinson (RIP)		<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Marc & Stephen Lahbib (RIP)		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>  Thursday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Advent	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b>  Shan & Christopher Hendrick		9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b> Friday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Advent	No Mass	No Mass	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Cathie and Campbell Graham (RIP)	<b>St Modan's</b> <b>8.30M</b> William & Campbell (jnr) Graham (RIP)	10.30am- 11.00am after Mass
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> Saint Lucy , Virgin, Martyr.	<b>10.00am</b>  ▪ Pepe Lai (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass		9.30am- 9:50am before Mas
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A	<b>5.30pm (Sat Vigil)</b>  ▪ Patricia Phimister (RIP)  <b>10.15am</b>	<b>9.00am</b>  • Maureen Preston – (Get well wishes)	<b>11.30am</b> ▪ People of the parish  <b>5.30pm</b>  ▪ People of the Parish		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