

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, STIRLING

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Sunday, 11 January 2026 - Year A



Day	Time	Church	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Sunday, 11 January	5.30pm	St Mary's	Baptism of the Lord	Mary & David Dick - Christmas Gift
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		Alice Mitchell (RIP)
	10.15am	St Mary's		People of the Parish
	11.30pm	St Margaret's		Daniel McGladrigan
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		Jean Docherty (RIP)
Monday, 12 January	10.00am	St Mary's	St Kentigern	May Robinson (RIP)
Tuesday, 13 January	10:00am	Holy Spirit		Frank Simpson (RIP)
Wednesday, 14 January	10:00am	St Margaret's	St Hilary	John Sharp (RIP)
Thursday, 15 January	10:00am	St Margaret's	St Anthony	Ian & Ann Buchanan - Christmas Gift
Friday, 16 January	10.00am	St Margaret's		Gordon & Audrey Lindsay - Christmas Gift
Saturday, 17 January	10.00am	St Mary's		Deirdre & Noel Flavin - Christmas Gift
Sunday, 18 January	5.30pm	St Mary's		Ian Guthrie (RIP)
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		Mary Rennie - Christmas Gift
	10.15am	St Mary's		People of the Parish
	11.30am	St Margaret's		The Bett Family - Christmas Gift
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		Jean Devine Birthday Celebration
Confessions:	9.30am - 9.50am Monday to Saturday before Mass except Fridays 10.30am - 11.00am after Mass and also Saturday 5.00pm - 5.20pm before Vigil Mass			
Exposition	Before every weekday Mass from 9.30am - 9.50am, except on Friday when it is between 10.30am - 11.00am.			

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, STIRLING

The Parish Office can be contacted on 01786 473749 or admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk

Parish Office Address: St Mary's Church, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES

Holy Spirit, McGrigor Road, St Ninian's FK7 9BL

St Margaret of Scotland, Drip Road, Raploch FK9 4UA

Website: www.catholicstirling.org

Facebook: St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling

Parish Clergy: Father Robert Taylor (Administrator) FrRobert.Taylor@staned.org.uk
Father Philip Uguru (Priest in Residence)
Father Federico Dundas SOCSJ (University Chaplain) fdundas@socsj.org

Parish Secretary: Margaret-Mary Higgins Working Hours: Tue-Thurs 10.00am - 3.00pm.

Baptisms: To register your child for baptism, email admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk. Baptism preparation courses will be held once every three months (dates will be publicised via the Parish Newsletter). Baptisms will take place on Saturday or Sunday, by arrangement.

Marriages: Couples resident in the parish should contact the office at least six months prior to their proposed wedding to discuss the required preparations.

Hospital Chaplains: Canon Pat Boylan is the co-ordinating chaplain for the Forth Valley Royal Hospital. He can be contacted on 01324 823310 or 07731 763 228.

Please submit any items for the Newsletter by Wednesday 12.00 Noon, Many Thanks! To add a name to either the Prayer List or the Book of Remembrance please complete the appropriate form (which you will find at the back of the Church) and pass to the Parish Office.

Newsletter available online on the Facebook page or Parish website. The newsletter is produced and printed by St Mary's Catholic Parish, Stirling

The Parish of St Mary's, Stirling is a Parish in the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh.

The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh is a registered charity in Scotland. Charity no. SC008540

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

First reading

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7 ·

‘Behold my servant, in whom my soul delights.’

Thus says the LORD:

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
‘I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.’

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b, 9b-10.. Rcf. 11b

The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Second reading

Acts 10: 34-38

‘God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit’

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: ‘Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all – you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.’

Gospel

Matthew 3: 13-17

‘When Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming to rest on him’

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.’ Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.’

PARISH NOTICES

Once again, thank you very much for your warm welcome to the Parish of St Mary's. I've been struck by the dedication to the faith and the great love for the three churches that make up this historic parish. I hope and pray that we will be able to work together to provide the witness that our shared baptism in the Lord creates us for, and that through our fellowship can, as a faithful community of believers, continue to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to Stirling and the surrounding area. Fr Jamie also asks to pass on his thanks for all the kind wishes and gifts he received when he departed Stirling. Please continue to pray for him during this time of discernment in his ministry.

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.

Sunday Collection

The collection combined over the three churches from Christmas, Holy Family, and Epiphany was £6129. The weekly donations via Standing Orders: £1200. Thank you for your generosity! There will be a special collection next Sunday 18th for Justice and Peace Scotland as it was missed at the start of the month. Please also remember this is the final weekend for the Crib Collection, any donations go towards the Christmas Crib Collection charity, which this year is the Infant Welfare Centre in Jerusalem. The centre is a Children's Nursery run by the Greek Catholic Annunciation Society.

Please pray for the sick and the housebound of the Parish

Please continue to remember in your prayers the members of the parish who are sick and housebound and so unable to join us for the celebration of the Eucharist. If you know of someone who cannot make it to Mass due to sickness, please complete the new form required which you will find at the back of each Church or contact the Parish Office. **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. **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 to arrange this for you.

Parish Prayer Network

"A single act of pure love and intercession for another soul is more pleasing to God than many prayers said for oneself." (St John of the Cross) Would you like to have a more structured prayer life in 2026? Why don't you join us in daily prayer said from your own home. Text 07503342275 and leave your name - we will get back to you with details

Altar Servers

If you have made your First Holy Communion you can serve on the altar during Mass. This is a great way to be more actively involved in the celebration of Mass and helps to foster a deeper devotion to the Eucharist. If you would like to be a server in any of the churches in the Parish, please speak to any members of the clergy today. Training will be provided, so please register today.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins next Sunday. This is a special time each year when Christians of all traditions join in prayer and reflection, seeking greater understanding and unity among all who follow Christ. The Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has continually called the Church to be a sign of unity in the world, encouraging all Christians to walk together in faith, dialogue, and charity – "bearing witness to our joyful faith in Christ" and building bridges of peace and reconciliation. We continue to pray that the Holy Spirit may guide all Christian communities toward deeper fellowship and shared mission, fulfilling our Saviour's prayer in John's Gospel: *"that thy will may all be one."* (John 17:21)

St Mary's 500 Club

If you would like to join this club please contact the Parish Office. Ticket price is £5 per month and is payable by monthly standing order, or by cash on a quarterly or annual basis. Annual payment can also be made via bank transfer. Notification of the draws will be made through the newsletter.

Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 15th January at 7pm, in St Mary's Parish House. The Parish Council exists to support the life and mission of the parish by helping to reflect on our pastoral priorities, to listen attentively to the needs of the community, and to offer wise counsel in the shared work of building up the Church locally. Through prayer, discussion and discernment, it assists the parish clergy in responding faithfully to the Gospel in our time and place. Please keep the members of the Parish Council in your prayers, that their work may be guided by the Holy Spirit and serve the good of the whole parish.

Tuesday Teas at Holy Spirit.

Tuesday Teas will restart on Tuesday 13th January after 10.00am Mass in Holy Spirit. We look forward to welcoming you all. Please do join us in the 'Upper Room' following Mass.

Ladies Group

The Ladies Group will start back on 15th January. All new members are welcome to come and join us in St Margaret's Church Hall 7.00pm every 2nd Thursday. The group is a great way to form new friendships and extend current ones.

Church Cleaning Monday 12th January

Thank you for everyone involved in the cleaning group, their hard work keeps the church looking beautiful, especially at this time of year. If you would like to lend a hand please do make yourself known to one of the group. Please note that there will be no public Rosary after Mass on Monday to allow for the church cleaning to take place.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every weekday from 9.30am before Mass, come and spend a few moments in the quiet, peaceful presence of Christ. Eucharistic Adoration is a sacred time in our busy lives where we can come before Our Lord - either in the monstrance or in the tabernacle - to be strengthened, supported and renewed.

OTHER NOTICES

Campaign against Assisted Suicide

The proposed assisted suicide Bill fails to establish clear, objective criteria for eligibility, leaving enormous room for interpretation, coercion, or discrimination, especially when practitioners are allowed to raise the option with patients unprompted. This is ethically and legally indefensible and will worry many MSPs who thought the Bill was tightly controlled. Write to your MSP and make them aware of your concerns. Template and briefing information available at www.carenotkilling.scot

Diploma in Catechetics 2026

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. Content includes: the nature of God, the human person, vocation, salvation history, the Scriptures, Redemption, sacraments, and grace. Cost £220. Parishioners of St Mary's Cathedral & St Andrew's, Ravelston, can apply to the Cathedral for a bursary which covers 50 per cent of the course cost. Email cathedralhouse@stmaryscathedral.co.uk for details. Register at bit.ly/diploma2026. Watch this short video on the Diploma at bit.ly/diplomareel.

2026 Archdiocesan Directories on Sale

The new Archdiocesan directories are on sale in all the shops of the parish. They cost £3 and include up-to-date Mass times from across the city, some pictures of events from throughout the past year. Pick up your copy today!