

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, STIRLING

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday, 22 February 2026



STIRLING

Day	Time	Church	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Sunday, 22 nd February	5.30pm	St Mary's (Vigil)	1 st Sunday of Lent	Jean Lundie (RIP)
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		Joseph McIvor (RIP)
	10.15am	St Mary's		Molly Tortolano (RIP)
	11.30am	St Margaret's		Maureen McLynn (RIP)
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		The People of the Parish
Monday, 23 rd February	10.00am	St Mary's		Funeral: Ann O'Neill (RIP)
	6.00pm	St Margaret's		Patrick Tierney (RIP)
Tuesday, 24 th February	10:00am	St Mary's		Funeral: Margaret Rose Gordon (RIP)
	6.00pm	St Mary's		Aileen McGowan who is ill
Wednesday, 25 th February	10:00am	St Margaret's		Helen Sutherland (RIP)
	6.00pm	Holy Spirit		Alan Rennie (RIP)
Thursday, 26 th February	10:00am	St Mary's		Benedetto Tortolano
	6.00pm	St Margaret's		Maureen McLynn (RIP)
Friday, 27 th February	8.30am	St Modan's		Funeral: Noel Scully (RIP)
	10.00am	St Margaret's		
Saturday, 28 th February	6.00pm	St Mary's	Stations of the Cross	David Hughes
	10.00am	St Mary's	2 nd Sunday of Lent	John & Margie MacFadyen (RIP)
Sunday, 1 st March	5.30pm	St Mary's (Vigil)		Thomas Gardiner Jnr (RIP)
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		The People of the Parish
	10.15am	St Mary's		Patrizia Ballabo who is ill
	11.30am	St Margaret's		Evelyn Lucy Murray
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		
Confessions:	9.30am-9.50am - Monday to Thursday 10.30am-11am - Friday 10.30am-12 Noon - Saturday 4.45-5.20pm - Saturday			
Exposition	5.00pm - 6.00pm - Monday to Wednesday 9.30am -9.50am - Thursday 10.30am-12 Noon - Saturday, concluding with Benediction.			

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. 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 items for the Newsletter by Wednesday 12.00 Noon. To add a name to the Prayer List or the Book of Remembrance please pass completed forms to the Parish Office.

The creation and sin of our first parents.

The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 51(50):3-4. 5-6b. 12-13. 14, 17. R cf. 3a

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned

Second reading

Romans 5:12-19

'Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.'

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned – for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man; much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

At that time: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."' Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

PARISH NOTICES

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



Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Ann O'Neill, Noel Scully, Margaret Rose Gordon, Catherine McGuire and Anna Constantini who died recently.

Sunday Collection

The collection combined over the three churches on 15th February was £1652.50 (*which includes last week's collection from St Margaret's*). The weekly donations via Standing Orders: £1200. Thank you for your generosity! Also, if more convenient you can donate using this QR Code for online contactless payment to the Church - a copy of which is also on each Church Noticeboard.



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: Bobby Brown, Anthony Stafford. 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

Throughout Lent, a small group from St Mary's, St Margaret's and Holy Spirit will be praying daily from home and staying connected via WhatsApp. You are warmly invited to join us. We would be honoured to have you pray with us. For more information text 07503342275.

Children's Liturgy at St Margaret's

The dates for Children Liturgy during 11.30am Sunday Mass are: 1st March, 29th March (Palm Sunday), 26th April, 3rd May, 24th May, 14th June and Sunday 21st June.

Mass during Lent

Lent is a sacred season of prayer, reflection, and renewal as we journey towards the Paschal Triduum. From 19th February, a new Mass schedule will run throughout Lent, offering additional opportunities to pray, attend Mass, and participate in parish devotions. **See the posters displayed in each Church.** We encourage everyone to use this time to draw closer to Christ, deepen their faith, and prepare their hearts for the great mysteries of Easter.

Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting takes place on Saturday 7th March at 10.30am. If you are planning to join, please register with the Parish Office and we will send you log on details (Note: this is an online meeting).

Volunteering in the Parish

Our parish community is built up through the generous service of volunteers who give their time, skills and show their care for others. There are many ways to get involved, from assisting before and at Mass, helping with children's liturgy and music, welcoming people at our churches, supporting parish events and social activities, helping with church flowers or cleaning, and offering practical or pastoral support to those who are elderly, housebound or unwell through visiting, companionship or practical assistance, as seen through groups such as the SSVP. There are also opportunities to contribute your experience and expertise through involvement in the Finance Committee or Fabric Committee, helping to support the good stewardship of parish resources and the care of our buildings for future generations. This list is not exhaustive, and every contribution – whether regular or occasional – plays a vital part in sustaining parish life. More suggestions are on the noticeboards in each church. If you feel able to offer your help, or would simply like to find out more, please get in touch with the parish office, and we will be glad to help you find a role that suits you!

SSVP Coffee and Cake Afternoon

The SSVP Coffee and Cake afternoon will take place on Friday 27th February at 2.00pm in St Margaret's Church Hall. Anyone requiring transport please contact a member of SSVP.

St Mary's Parish 500 Club

Call out to anyone yet to pay the ticket money for January - if you want to continue to be included, please arrange payment and contact the Parish Office. Thank you!

OTHER NOTICES

40 Days for Lenten Vigil 2026

Why not join for ONE Hour of prayer per week between 08.00 and 20.00 from Ash Wednesday 18th February to Palm Sunday 29th March. The Vigil location is on Shieldhall Road Glasgow close to the traffic lights (out with the buffer zone). To arrange a time to join us or for further information, please contact ogilvie1615@outlook.com or Stuart Young on 07583248866.

Trustees Sought - Dial-a-Journey

Dial-a-Journey, a local charity linked with the work of the Order of Malta, provides vital transport services for the housebound, sick and elderly in our community. The charity is currently seeking new trustees – particularly those with business experience or knowledge of local authority tendering and service contracts – to support its work as a medium-sized organisation employing 30 staff. If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please see: www.dial-a-journey.org www.dial-a-journey.org/trustee-recruitment/

Beginning Experience

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation, or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 27th-29th March 2026 at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact: Louise on 07786 687631 or email: beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com. Completed applications must be returned by 13th March.

Campaign Against Assisted Dying

The Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill poses a serious threat to human life. During March 2026, the Bill be voted on in the Scottish Parliament and we are highlighting how we as a Christian Community can respond. Information about the bill will be available at all masses and also letters to our MSPs for addressing and signing. You won't need to post them as they will be delivered for you. The letters are also available on the parish website. Please take some time to participate in this campaign to defeat the Bill.

Courageous Heart Day

High School Girls in S3-S6 are invited to a new day called "Courageous Heart" on Saturday, 28 February 2026 from 10:00am-3:00pm. The day will consist of prayer, opportunity for Confession, Mass, lunch, a craft, and friendship. It is hosted at St. Andrew Catholic Church and Convent at 77 Belford Road in Edinburgh and is sponsored by the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma. Please RSVP and request parent permission forms by emailing edinburgh@almamercy.org or phone 131 343 3380 (landline) by 24th February.

What's Happening at Mass

Mass is the climax of Catholic life. Join the Archdiocese's Catechetics Commission to explore what we are ultimately doing with God at Holy Mass. takes place at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 14 March, from 9:30am-4:00pm. Register: bit.ly/archmass

Remembering Service

For those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. This service takes place at 5:00pm on Sunday 22 February in St John the Baptist RC Church, 37 St Ninian's Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8AL.