

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, STIRLING

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday 26th April 2026



STIRLING

Day	Time	Church	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Sunday, 26 th April	5.30pm (Vigil)	St Mary's	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Teresa Addison - Birthday Gift
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		Owen & Jenny Finn (RIP)
	10.15am	St Mary's		The People of the Parish
	11.30am	St Margaret's		Paschaline Uzoma Uguru (RIP)
Monday, 27 th April	5.30pm	St Margaret's		Evelyn Lucy Murray (RIP)
	10.00am	St Mary's		Ann Duffy (RIP)
Tuesday, 28 th April	7.00pm	St Margaret's		Kathleen Black (RIP)
	10.00am	Holy Spirit	St Louis Grignion de Montfort	Anne Cairns (RIP)
Wed, 29 th April	10.00am	St Mary's	St Catherine of Sienna	Funeral: George Tortolano (RIP)
	7.00pm	Holy Spirit		Patrick O'Donnell (RIP)
Thursday, 30 th April	10.00am	St Mary's	Pope St Pius V	Special Intention: Lydia Breslin
Friday, 1 st May	08.00 am	St Modan's	St Joseph the Worker	Paschaline Uzoma Uguru (RIP)
	10.00am	St Margaret's		Special Intention: John Paul Tortolano
Saturday, 2 nd May	10.00am	St Mary's	St Athanasius	Marion Ross (RIP)
Sunday, 3 rd May	5.30pm (Vigil)	St Mary's	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Ella Lamb
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		Harry Ross (RIP)
	10.15am	St Mary's		Neozi Aganwa
	11.30am	St Margaret's		Christopher Mitchell (RIP)
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		The People of the Parish
Confessions:	Before every weekday Mass 10.30am-12 Noon - Saturday 4.45-5.20pm - Saturday			
Exposition	6.00pm - 7.00pm - Monday & Wednesday 9.00am - 10.00am Tuesday 10.30 - 12 Noon (with Benediction) Saturday			
St Mary's Church is open Monday to Saturday from 9am for private prayer				

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

The Parish Office will be closed from Friday 1st May until Monday 18th May. For urgent matters, please e-mail admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk or call and leave a voicemail which will be dealt with as soon as possible. We apologise for any inconvenience during this time.

Baptisms: To register your child for baptism, email admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk. Baptism preparation courses will be held once every three months, the next one will be **June 6th**. Please register with the parish office. 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.

'God has made him both Lord and Christ.'

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Responsorial PsalmPs 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. **R1**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading

1 Peter 2:20b-25

'You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.'

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

'I am the door of the sheep.'

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

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 **George Tortolano** who died recently. His funeral is on Wednesday 29th April at 10am in St Mary's. May he rest in peace.

Sunday Collection

The collection combined over the three churches on 19th April was £1482.50. 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. **REMINDER:** This is the last weekend to return your SCIAF *Wee Boxes*. Thank you! This Sunday there will be a **Special Collection** for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund.



Parish Finance Committee Appeal

Following on from last Sunday's Appeal from the Parish Finance Committee we kindly ask everyone to review their contribution and consider any changes possible, whilst always remembering to give what you can afford. Our costs have risen significantly over the last few years especially heating, electricity, and insurance. We are very grateful to everyone who supports the Parish in this way. Remember when setting up a new standing order, or updating an existing one, please use the RBS details: Sort Code: **83-27-09** Account No: **00170956** as we need to move to the RBS account (and away from the BoS account). If your standing order currently goes to BoS, please remember to cancel it once the new one is set up. Also if you are not already signed up to Gift Aid and are a UK tax payer please complete a Gift Aid Form and return it to the parish office. **This is hugely important and gives us an additional 25% at no additional cost to you.** Copies of Standing Order and Gift Aid Forms are available at the back of the church. **Please Note:** These changes do not affect the 500 Club Standing Orders, there will be more information on that arrangement later in the year.

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, Jeannette Simpson, Carolanne Quinn & Ruby Quinn, Irene Bett & Mary Bett, Bennie Tortolano (*Torbex*), Margaret O'Rourke. 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.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

This Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, or Good Shepherd Sunday, is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The Church invites us to pray earnestly that more men and women will respond generously to God's call to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. It is also a moment for each of us to reflect on our own vocation – how the Lord is calling us to live and serve. As Pope St John Paul II put it: "The Church must commit herself totally to fostering vocations." Please keep our priests, seminarians and all discerning their vocation in your prayers and collect a new Archdiocesan prayer card in church today. A second collection is taken today for Ecclesiastical Students, supporting those training for the priesthood in our Archdiocese.

Thank You, Margaret-Mary

On behalf of the Parish I'd like to offer our sincere thanks to Margaret-Mary as she retires this week from her role as Parish Secretary after six years of dedicated service. Throughout that time – and under no fewer than four Parish Priests – she has been a constant, patient, and generous presence in the parish office. We are deeply grateful for all she has done for the parish and wish her a long and happy retirement (though thankfully she is not going far!). As we move through this period of transition, and with a new secretary not yet in place, we ask for your patience – particularly as Fr Robert will also be away on a previously arranged holiday for a couple of weeks. Please continue to message the parish office by email or leave a voicemail; messages will be checked and responded to as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

Children's Liturgy & Catechism Classes

The dates for Children Liturgy during 11.30am Sunday Mass at St Margaret's are: 26th April, 3rd May, 24th May, 14th June and Sunday 21st June. Meanwhile, the catechism classes for those children not at Catholic schools are now on holiday and will start again on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th April at St Margaret's Church Hall.

CPR Training 14th May 7.00pm St Margaret's Hall

Please join us to learn lifesaving skills.

Save a life for Scotland and GPs in the parish invite you to this event which will cover: Basic life support skills, CPR and Defibrillator Use. If you would like to attend please add your name to the list at the back of each church.

Parking at Our Churches

A reminder to please be considerate when parking at our churches, especially at St Mary's and St Margaret's. Disabled spaces should be kept free for those who need them, and access points – including the road to the upper car park, beside the shrine to Our Lady at St Mary's and the hall side at St Margaret's – must be kept clear at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our Churches - Places of Prayer

A gentle reminder and request, of the importance of maintaining a prayerful silence in our churches before and after Mass. It is easy to fall into conversation, particularly when gathering indoors, but our churches are first and foremost the House of God, a place of prayer and encounter with the Lord. Please be mindful of those who are praying, and kindly move conversations to the porch or halls where possible.

Irish Night - Tickets Available Soon

Tickets for our Night of Irish Music and Culture in St Margaret's Hall will be on sale this weekend. The event takes place on 22nd May at 7.00pm, and tickets are limited – so do be sure to get yours early! All proceeds will go towards the redecoration of St Margaret's Church. More information next week, or on the posters in each church.

St Mary's Parish Bingo and Afternoon Tea

Join us for a fun afternoon at St Mary's Parish Bingo and Afternoon Tea on Saturday 30th May 2pm - 4pm at St Margaret's Church Hall, Raploch. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon with delicious afternoon tea, exciting bingo games, and a raffle with great prizes. Entry £2 for adults and £1 for children. Tickets will be available at the back of the church on 26th April after all Masses, or by contacting Margaret Glencross on 07964130944 or via email at jgxalfoaf@aol.com. Any prize donations will be gratefully appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!

St Margaret's Redecoration - Have Your Say

As part of the planned redecoration of St Margaret's Church, parishioners are invited to share their views. Three proposed options are now on display, and you are encouraged to indicate your preferred choice. The images can be viewed on the noticeboard in the porch at St Margaret's over the next four weeks.

Parish Social Events & Fundraising - Your Ideas Welcome

We are keen to continue building up the social life of our parish through gatherings and events that bring us together in faith and friendship, while also supporting important parish projects. These might include - for example - the redecoration of St Margaret's Church, the building fund for St Mary's, and the Holy Spirit garden appeal. If you have an idea for a social or fundraising event and would be willing to help develop it, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please email admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk – your contribution could make a real difference to the life and future of our parish.

Upcoming Pilgrimages & Parish Outings

Over the coming months there are several opportunities for pilgrimage and parish outings. Please register your interest by signing up on the appropriate sheet or e-mailing admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk if you would like to take part and join the bus for:

- **Corpus Christi Procession** at Our Lady & St Andrew, Galashiels – 7th June
- **St Margaret's Pilgrimage**, Dunfermline – 14th June (12-4pm)
- **Parish Trip to Carfin Grotto** (near Motherwell) – **Saturday 27th June**, including Mass, time for personal prayer and activities for young people.

Further details will follow, but please indicate your interest to the parish office, by e-mail or on sheets provided, for planning purposes.

Family Picnic & Mass

Join families from around the Archdiocese at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB for a picnic at 1:00pm on Saturday 9 May, followed by a time of catechesis, games, a Rosary procession and concluding with a Vigil Mass at 4:00pm. Bring your own picnic, and the Archdiocese will provide tea/coffee, soft drinks & a dessert. The day is aimed especially at families with school-age children. Register at bit.ly/archpicnic26. Event hosted by the Marriage & Family and Catechetics Commissions of the Archdiocese.

Mass for Married & Engaged Couples

The annual Mass for Married and Engaged Couples is at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 19 June, where significant milestones in the married life of couples will be celebrated. Please submit names and relevant details if you will attend, to yemariage@staned.org.uk. Mass will be at 7pm.