

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, STIRLING

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday 10th May 2026



STIRLING

Day	Time	Church		Mass Intention
Sunday, 10 th May	5.30pm (Vigil)	St Mary's	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Ify Andy-Oji Thanksgiving Mass St Anthony, St Rita & St Peregrine The People of the Parish Joanna Louise Thatcher Evelyn Lucy Murray Iain Black (RIP) James Francis McDonald Alan Rennie (RIP) John Bernard Ross The Holy Souls
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		
Monday, 11 th May	10.15am	St Mary's	Our Lady of Fatima SOLEMNITY: Ascension Vigil	Fr Brian Twomey (RIP) John Welsh, Paul Brierton & Joseph Welsh (RIP) Rena Morrison David Clark (RIP)
	11.30am	St Margaret's		
Tuesday, 12 th May	5.30pm	St Margaret's	SOLEMNITY: Ascension	Helen O'Neil (RIP) David Forrest (RIP) Thomas Gardiner (RIP) Danny McGregor (RIP) The People of the Parish
	10.00am	St Mary's		
Wednesday, 13 th May	7.00pm	St Margaret's	Seventh Sunday of Easter	
	10.00am	Holy Spirit		
Thursday, 14 th May	10.00am	St Mary's		
	7.00 pm	St Margaret's		
Friday, 15 th May	10.00am	St Margaret's		
Saturday, 16 th May	10.00am	St Mary's		
Sunday, 17 th May	5.30pm (Vigil)	St Mary's		
	9.00am	Holy Spirit		
	10.15am	St Mary's		
	11.30am	St Margaret's		
	5.30pm	St Margaret's		
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 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.

First reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

‘They laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit’

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial PsalmPs 66(65): 1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a, 16, 20. **R1***Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.***Second reading**

1 Peter 3: 15-18

‘Being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit’

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Gospel

John 14: 15-21

‘I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

‘I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.’

PARISH NOTICES

Confirmation

We are delighted to welcome Archbishop Leo Cushley to our parish today as he confers the Sacrament of Confirmation on our young people. In this sacrament, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are strengthened within them, equipping them to live as committed witnesses to Christ and active members of His Church. Confirmation is not the end of a journey, but the beginning of a deeper life of discipleship. It is also a reminder to all of us who have been confirmed to renew our own commitment to the faith we profess and to the mission entrusted to us as Christians. Please keep our candidates in your prayers. A big thank you to their teachers, Mrs Ewing and Mrs Benton in school, and Nicky Willis in the parish, for the time, care and dedication given in helping to prepare them for this joyful occasion.

Sunday Collection

The collection combined over the three churches on 3rd May was £ 1512. The weekly donations via Standing Orders: £1200. Thank you for your continued 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:** If you have not yet returned your SCIAF Wee Boxes, you can make payments direct to the charity itself, details are found on the boxes or via the website, sciaf.org.uk. Next Sunday there will be a second collection for **Communications Sunday**.



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 (*Torbrex*), 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.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

This week the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation. Observed forty days after Easter, the Ascension marks Christ's return to the Father and the commissioning of the Church to continue His mission in the world. As a Holy Day of Obligation, we are obliged to attend Mass on this day. Please make every effort to go to Mass on this day – there will be a Vigil on Wednesday evening at Holy Spirt, School Mass at St Margaret's at 10am and the 7pm evening Mass at St Mary's.

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.

Pastoral Care in the Parish

At the heart of parish life is the celebration of the Sacraments and the care of the People of God in every circumstance. We are mindful that some parishioners are unable to attend Mass due to illness, age, or changing circumstances, and we are committed to ensuring they remain connected to the life of the Church. If you, or someone you know, would value a visit from the priest, the Sacraments, or a time of prayer and companionship, please contact the parish. Likewise, if you are aware of anyone who may appreciate contact, please let us know. Livestreamed Masses from St Mary's have been increased during the week too as an important means of supporting our housebound community. In addition, the work of groups such as the St Vincent de Paul Society, together with our parish prayer network, continues to support those in need through practical help and prayer.

Rosary in the Month of May

Throughout May, the Rosary will be prayed at St Mary's at 9.30am before Mass on the livestream for those who are sick and housebound to join. All are warmly invited to take part in this time of prayer, especially during May, the month dedicated to Our Lady. The Wednesday Rosary will continue beyond the Marian month as a regular part of our parish prayer. Please do consider making this a part of your week – a simple and beautiful way to honour Our Lady, Patron of our Parish, and to place your intentions before the Lord.

Children's Liturgy & Youth Group

The dates for Children Liturgy during 11.30am Sunday Mass at St Margaret's are: 24th May, 14th June and Sunday 21st June. This is a valuable opportunity for our younger parishioners to engage with the Sunday Gospel and the teachings of the faith in a way that is accessible, prayerful and suited to their age. Families are encouraged to make use of this important part of our parish's ministry to children, helping them to encounter Christ and deepen their faith from an early age. The Youth Group on Wednesday returns on the 20th May at 5.30pm in St Margaret's Hall.

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

SFRS Community Action Team in conjunction with Coll Medical Practice invite you to this event which will cover: CPR, Defibrillator Use, Trauma Recognition, Recovery Position and Choking on Thursday evening, 14th May at 7pm. Dr. Matthew Williams will also provide information on other medical conditions. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the list at the back of each church. This free workshop offers important lifesaving skills, please do join in!

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.

Tickets for upcoming events

The remaining tickets are on sale for the upcoming Irish Night (Friday 22nd May at St Margaret's Church Hall) The event of Irish Music and Culture starts at 7.00pm. Tickets - including supper - cost £20. The following weekend, on Saturday 30th May, there is a Parish Bingo and Afternoon Tea in the Hall at St Margaret's. Join us for an afternoon tea, bingo games, and a raffle with great prizes. Entry £2 for adults and £1 for children.

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 - this weekend is your final chance!

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.

Parish Prayer Network

Don't forget that the Parish Prayer Network keeps prayer intentions in their prayers throughout the month. If you would like to join them you can find out more details on the noticeboards in the churches. You can also ask for specific prayers to be offered through the efforts of the group. You might have a prayer of thanksgiving to share or be looking for some help in times of difficulty - whatever those prayer intentions may be leave your request in the box at the back of the churches and be sure that the prayer network will keep you in their prayers throughout the month.

Mass for Married & Engaged Couples

The annual Mass for Married and Engaged Couples is at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 19 June. The Mass is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate couples who are marking significant milestones in their married life, as well as encourage those couples engaged to be married. If you will be attending and are celebrating a significant milestone in married life then please forward your names and details to Fr Benedict Iwatt VE, (vemarriage@staned.org.uk) so that they receive a special invitation to attend the Mass from Archbishop Cushley.

Pentecost event for young adults

Young adults from the Archdiocese are invited to celebrate Pentecost at St Andrew's Church, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3DP (a short walk from Haymarket station), on Saturday 23 May, beginning at 4:00pm. There will be a talk, Eucharistic Adoration & opportunity for Confession. The beautiful Pentecost Vigil Mass will be celebrated and followed by a barbecue. This event is organised by the Archdiocese along with the young adult ministries at Edinburgh Jesuit Church, St Mary's Cathedral and St Albert's Chaplaincy. Register today at bit.ly/pentecost26. Come, Holy Spirit!