



**St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie**  
**St. Luan's R C Church Alyth**  
**St. Mary's Coupar Angus**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year B**  
Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/>  
E-mail: [ststephen@dunkelldioocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelldioocese.org.uk)



Healing Love: Jesus healing Peter's Mother-in-Law.

**Parish diary: Week beginning from 4/2/24.**

Sat/Sun

-6.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's  
-9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth  
-11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's  
Tue -10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's  
Wed – 6pm Adoration; 7.00pm Mass St Steph's  
Thurs - 10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's  
Fri - 10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's

**Mass intentions for the week:** Personal and parish thanksgiving to God for favours received. ⇒

**Other Devotional Programmes of the Parish.**

Family Rosary and adoration. Every Wednesday 6.00pm - 7.00pm. -Mass for the sick every Wed 7.00pm, -Sacrament of Reconciliation: 6.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday, -Divine Mercy Devotion: Tuesdays after morning mass. -Mass with St. Stephen's Primary School: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

**Great News: We have a new Bishop!**

From Canon Kevin Golden the Diocesan Administrator:

“I am so happy to let you know that it has just been announced in Rome that the Holy Father has appointed **Father Martin Chambers** as the new Bishop of Dunkeld. Father Martin is a priest of the Diocese of Galloway and I know you will join me in giving him the warmest of welcomes to the Diocese of Dunkeld. We pray for him, and for one another and for the whole local Church.”

He continued, “I also want to thank you most sincerely for the support you have given to me in my time as the Diocesan Administrator. I truly appreciate it. My official response to the announcement of our new Bishop is below:

“**The whole community of the Diocese of Dunkeld will rejoice with me today at the appointment of Father Martin Chambers as our new Bishop. We assure him of a warm welcome as he comes among us and offer him our prayers and a steadfast commitment to working with him as he shepherds our Diocese into the future, inspired by the vision of our Holy Father Pope Francis. We renew our appreciation of the sterling work of our Bishop Emeritus, Stephen Robson.**” Sincerely, Kevin

**Be a Peacemaker.** be opposed to the use of war or violence to settle a dispute - personal, family, communal, national or international. Talk through your differences with others instead of fighting, using the means of forgiveness and reconciliation.

**You are never alone:** For a shared a prayer, or just have someone listen to you, a candle lit for you or yours, have a mass offered for your intention or that of a loved one living or dead, please speak to the priest. Thanks.

**Warm Welcome:** Tea/Coffee, biscuits and a warm welcoming space in the Lower Hall after the 11.00am mass every Sunday to May 2024. Please feel free to pop in. More volunteers to help with serving please. Thanks.

**-Dates for the Sacraments in 2024:**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Wednesday, 8th of May 2024. Time.?? **Sacrament of Confirmation:** Sunday, 19th of May 2024. Time 2.00pm. **First Holy Communion** for School and Parish Candidates: Sunday, 2nd of June 2024. Time 2.00pm.

– **In your prayers,** kindly remember those on our prayer list: Michael Rolls, Neil Mcdowall. Pam McKenna, Val Naughton, Dr. Paul Kinnear, Mary and George Flockhart, Tomasz Wegner Jaszkin. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Alex Forrester, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Roy Sweeney, Diana Richardson –

**Today and Up Coming Events:**

-19<sup>th</sup> February 2024, Ecclesiastical Student's Fund. Please support the Special collection.  
-25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Building maintenance Fund collection. please support the Special collection.  
-10<sup>th</sup> March 2024, SCIAF Sunday . Please support the Special collection.  
-30<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it.

**-New to the Parish?** Please pick a form at the entrance of the church, complete and hand in the form. Thanks. New members are always welcome to come along and attend or visit the following parish groups: SVDP, Wednesdays 7.30pm; Divine Mercy, Tuesdays 10.30am; Adoration, Wed. 6.00pm.

**-At this time of the year,** available is our 2024 Diary, rosaries, medals, holy pictures, candles etc and these will make lovely presents for family and friends. **Please visit Our Parish Repository.**

**-St. Mary's Coupar Angus** will, *ad interim*, be happy to receive and store your unwanted gift items and other items you may wish to donate in support of the Church fund. Please hand them in or leave in the Lower Hall. Stalls will be set up in St. Mary's Coupar Angus at specified date in Spring and Summer. Contact MOB 01828627723.

**-Children's Liturgy:** Many thanks to Mary Wojtowicz and her team of the Liturgists for the wonderful work they do for us and I encourage the parents to please support their children to use this wonderful opportunity.

**-Parish Finances:** All of us hope to leave the world a better place than when we came into it. When making your will please consider leaving something to St. Stephen's R C Church so that you will continue to assist our parish to flourish and leave behind a legacy of Faith. If you feel able to support the parish in whatever way you could via Standing Order, occasional or one-off payment, it would be very much appreciated.

**-Offertory Collection** is part of our church tradition. A massive appreciation to those who make their offertory collection or support the parish via Standing Order, Direct debit, telephone transfers, envelopes or put their support in the offertory collection box in the Church. By signing the Gift Aid form, your offertory collection can earn the parish a bit more. Thanks.

**Details of Parish account:** Royal Bank of Scotland, 14 Allan Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6AD. Sort code:- **83-16-33**; Account No:- **00240708**. Account name:- Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld No3 Char TST St Stephens RC Church. Many thanks.

**\*Last Sunday's offertory collection £297.20.**

Many thanks for your support to the parish.

\*Figures exclude takings from Standing orders, bank transfers and direct debits. Comprehensive Parish Accounts are published on the Notice Board. Thanks.

**A nourishing and refreshing experience with family and friends! Many thanks for looking after the parish.**

I am very delighted to be back again to base and to the parish community and family after a month of being away with family and friends. In all, it was a nourishing and refreshing experience to see everyone and partake of something of their human, ecclesiastical or pastoral experience at the family or church levels whether these experiences be good or not so good.

I would like to very much appreciate the efforts of those who stepped up and kept watch over the church, presbytery and supported the visiting priest to effectively celebrate masses for the parish whilst I was away.

**Ash Wednesday** is by the corner: 14<sup>th</sup> of March. It is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. It ushers in the Holy season of Lent. Lent prepares us for easter, for the Lenten liturgy disposes both the faithful and the catechumens to celebrate the Paschal mystery as the centre of the liturgical year and of the Christian life.

**Reflection: On Healing love**

On the one hand, there are suffering human beings like Job, slaves longing for the shade. On the other hand, there is God who cares about us, who heals the broken-hearted and sustains the lowly. Jesus comes into this world of suffering as God the healer: Those whom he cured were many.

The community of the followers of Jesus has a calling to bring healing to this world full of suffering. They are to go about this by means of service: just as Simon's mother-in-law did, they are to use their healing from Jesus as an opening to serve others. They are to be like Paul, making themselves all things to all people, the slaves of all.

*The Catholic Church challenges us to hunger and thirst for what is right so that, like God, we might fill the hungry with good things.*

*Especially through his life-style and through his actions, Jesus revealed that love is present in the world in which we live - an effective love, a love that addresses itself to man and embraces everything that makes up his humanity.*

*This love makes itself particularly noticed in contact with suffering, injustice and poverty - in contact with the whole historical 'human condition,' which in various ways manifests man's limitations and frailty, both physical and moral. Pope John Paul II, [Dives in Misericordia](#), 1980: 3.*

*Wishing you and your loved ones a lovely Sunday, Fr. Gregory Umunna*