

St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie

St. Luan's R C Church Alyth & St. Mary's Coupar Angus

19th Sunday, Ordinary Time. Year B 11/8/24

Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/>

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Umunna Ph.D Phone: 01250872171

E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org. Address: 8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Warm welcome to all our Parishioners and visitors. Whether you are visiting our parish or just moved into the area, please feel very welcome ... thanks.

Parish diary: Week beginning from 11/8/24.

Saturday 10th August - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's

Sunday 11th August - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth

Sunday 11th August -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's. Baptism of Saskia Rose Marta Baillie

Tuesday 13th August -10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Wednesday 14th August – 2.00pm. Funeral Service: Brendan McGovern; **6.00pm.** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary; **7.00pm** Holy mass for our sick parishioners and relatives at St. Stephen's. **St Maximilian Kolbe; Vigil Mass of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnity/ Holy Day of Obligation.**

Thursday 15th August -10.00am Holy mass at St. Luan's. **Mass of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnity/ Holy Day of Obligation.**

Friday 16th August - 10.00am: St. Stephen's.

Saturday 17th August - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's.

Sunday 18th August - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

Sunday 18th August -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

This Sunday, ... Still on the Eucharistic Bread, we reflect on the Catholic Church's' teaching that God alone satisfies the deepest hungers of the human heart. Jesus, the bread that came down from heaven, draws close to us in his sacred body and blood in every Eucharist so we might taste and see the goodness of the Lord, as the psalmist acclaims in today's responsorial psalm. Just as our bodies need nutritious food, we need divine, spiritual food for the journey of faith. Today's Gospel invites us to taste and see the goodness of the Lord for He is the living Bread for Christians with living Faith. Jesus invites us to hear his words and to respond in faith as we long for and receive the spiritual nourishment of the Eucharist that leads us to pray in confident faith, "Speak to me, Lord."

Mass intentions for the week:

Jim Warden, Brendan McGovern

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: 5.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday, -Divine Mercy Devotion: Tues after morning mass.-Mass with St. Stephen's Primary School: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

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. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Alex Forrester, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Roy Sweeney, Diana Richardson, Bill Waldron, Giles Umunna.

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.

Tea/Coffee, Everyone is welcome to tea and coffee served in the Lower Hall after 11.00am mass in St. Stephens every Sunday morning after 11.00am mass. Thanks.

Take time today to contemplate ... the lessons of the sayings of Christ. He insisted: *"I am the living bread, which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever, and the bread I give is my flesh for the life of the world."* The life we receive from the Eucharist is eternal life that helps us through this world towards the next. The eucharist is offered for us each week (in fact each day) as we celebrate Mass. Do we recognize what it is that we receive? Do we cherish it and seek it each week? We all share in the mission to spread the gospel. The Eucharist strengthens us to do our part. It is the Bread of Life that gives eternal life. Just as revived by miraculous food and drink, Elijah reaches the mountain of God, so we can be sustained unto everlasting life by the Eucharistic food. He is the living Bread for Christians with living Faith. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Let us Pray: O God, who in this wonderful sacrament, has given us a memorial of thy passion, help us to reverence the sacred mystery of the body and blood that we may experience the effects of thy redemption who lives and reigns forever an ever. Amen!

Introduction to the Scripture Readings 1 Kings 19:4-8. Revived by miraculous food and drink, Elijah reaches the mountain of God
Responsorial: from Psalm 34. R./: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord; Ephesians 4:30–5:2; Gospel: John 6:41-51 Jesus is
manna from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF HAPPY TUMMIES: SATURDAY 17 AUGUST AIRLIE STREET HALL

Grateful thanks to those who have agreed to help on the day, committed to provide refreshments and home baking, donated a range of goods for the hamper, for raffle prizes and for the tombola stall. Now we're asking for additional donations of home baking: cakes, scones, fruit loaves, traybakes etc. for our cake and candy stall. It would be great if those of you in Blairgowrie could bring any baked goods to the Church Hall at St Stephen's by 6.00 pm on Friday 16th. In Alyth, St Luan's will be open on Friday 16th from 5pm-6pm for the dropping off of any baked items. Please be sure you've put your name on any containers you'd like to have back so that these can be returned to you after the coffee morning - hoping to see you all there!

St. Stephen's Diversity Day Celebration: Programme: September: 13-15th

Friday: ---13th September 10.00am - 3.00pm Jumble sales in St. Mary's Coupar Angus. Please get in touch with MOB, Maureen Jackson.

-----6.00pm. Parish Family Social Evening. BYOB. This summer we're creating our own production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Nights Dream", especially tailored to our parish. Please get in touch with Esther Brown.

Saturday 14th: 10.00am - 3.00pm. Jumble sales in St. Mary's Coupar Angus

Sunday 15th: 11.00am. Diversity Day Celebration Mass. Tea & Coffee in the Lower Hall after mass

-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.

From the Churches Together group 1. Flower and Craft Festival held in Rattray Parish Church from Thursday 8th August until Sunday 11th August from 2.00 – 4.00pm. 2. Charity Shop for Christian Aid held in Reuse Shop, Coupar Angus from Monday 5th August until Friday 9th August. Shop is open from 9.30am to 4.30pm each day.

SEASON OF CREATION CONFERENCE 2024. The Care of Creation Office of the Bishops' Conference has organised a National Conference for this year's Season of Creation which runs from 1st September – 4th October 2024. The Conference will take place on Saturday 7th September 2024, from 10am – 3pm in St. Margaret's Parish Hall, Raploch, Stirling. The guest speaker is Ben Wilson, Director of Public Engagement for SCIAF. booking form here www.tinyurl.com/46wmt9ah.

Assisted Suicide Short Survey: The Scottish Parliament Health Committee is asking for your views on proposals to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland. <https://rcpolitics.org/assisted-suicide-committee-call-for-views/>

Today and Up Coming Events: -11th August: August: The Apostleship of the Sea. Please support it. -25th August: Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it. -15th September: Bishop's Mensal Fund/Sick and Retired Priest Fund. Please support it. -29th September: Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it.

Berry Picking: St. Stephens Parish: We require volunteers for attendance at this August and October berry picking - for duties such as visitors parking, ushering visitors to the berries sales and general assistance. Volunteers may also get an opportunity to pick their own but their task will be all-consuming. Dates for your diaries: Tuesday, August 20th 3pm to 6pm; and Wednesday 2nd October 10am to 1.00pm. Interested volunteers please speak to **Esther Brown** at **07402358511** and **Anna**

Makova annamarkova161@yahoo.com; annamarkova161@yahoo.com who get us organised and will lead volunteer members of St. Stephen on those two dates.

Diocesan Synod Day - Saturday 24 August *The Diocesan Synod Core Group* invite us to share in "A SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE OF SYNODALITY", at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, St Mary's Hall, Forebank Road, DD1 2PF, on Saturday 24 August 2024 from 10am to 2pm. The guest presenter will be Amy Cameron, Director of Formation and Mission Development in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle. I attach a poster for display and ask you to bring this event to the attention of your parishioners through your newsletter. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch – tea and coffee will be provided. Those wishing to reserve a place should email StAndrew@dunkelldiocese.org.uk or text 07948 215010 by Thursday 15 August.

-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. By signing the Gift Aid form, your offertory collection can earn the parish a bit more.

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 coll. £415.63. 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.

--- *Wishing you a lovely Sunday, Fr. Greg.*