

St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie

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

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Ordinary Time. Year B 24/11/24.

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

Parish Priest and Prison Chaplain: **Father Gregory Umunna Ph.D.** Phone: 01250872171

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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 for the rest of the Week beginning from 24/11/24.

- **Month of November is dedicated to the commemoration of All Souls by prayer**
- **Prisoners Week 2024 ends this Sunday.**

Saturday 23rd November - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's.

Sunday 24th November - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

Sunday 24th November -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Monday 25th November: 10.30am/1.30pm Masses and Ministry of Care, all day in Glenochil Prison.

Tue 26th November. 10am mass at St. Stephen's.

Wed 27th Nov. 6.00pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sac & Rosary;

- 7.00pm Mass for sick parishioners and relatives at St. Steph.

Thursday 28th November - 10.00am mass at St. Luan's.

-12.00 Chaplaincy meeting in Glenochil Prison

Friday 29th Nov - 10.00am Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

-**Saturday 30th Nov** -5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's.

Sunday 1st Dec - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

Sunday 1st Dec -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

*This Sunday's message, ...*When faced by Pontius Pilate, Jesus says clearly what kind of king he is. He tells the Roman Governor, "My kingdom is not of this world." His rule is far removed from a dictatorship. This noble prisoner, robed in purple and crowned with thorns as a mock king before this ruthless Roman judge, claims a spiritual authority that has nothing to do with the power to compel by force. His authority is the authority of truth. He is our king, with authentic authority, because he lives the truth and has the power to lead others to the truth — the truth that can save them to eternal life: "for this I was born and came into the world, to bear witness to the truth. All who are on the side of truth listen to my voice" (John 18:37.)

Mass intentions for the week: For those whose names are returned on the November lists. No private intentions Please.

Take time today to contemplate: The best way to honour Christ our King is to work to make his kingdom a reality among us. Anything we do for the relief of the deprived and underprivileged is also a service to Christ, because he identifies himself personally with people in need. The disciple of Christ the King cannot afford the luxury of comfortably keeping myself to myself or "Well I do no harm to anyone." To be deaf to the cries of the neighbour in need is to close our ears to Christ. To be blind to the anguish of the dying is to shut our eyes to him. If we follow Jesus Christ as our Shepherd-king we must in some way be shepherds ourselves, for his sake.

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, Diana Richardson, Bill Waldron, Giles Umunna and Tony Donnan, Lisa Robertson.

You are never alone: Reach out! join any of the church groups e.g. readers, flowers ladies, Divine Mercy, adoration group etc. 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.

Invitation to any parishioners who would like to attend a discussion on assisted dying and the associated legislation being considered at Holyrood and Westminster.

Our discussion will take place between 2pm and 3.30pm on Thursday December 5th in room 2F 13 Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, DD1 5EN.

An introduction to the subject will be provided by Professor Anne Kerr, Head of the School of Social and Political Science, University of Glasgow. Anne was the independent chair of the Nuffield Council's advisory board on assisted dying. In this role Anne worked with a citizen's jury of members of the public to consider views and ethical questions relating to potential changes in the law in England. This experience will be drawn upon in our initial contribution.

This input will be followed by a facilitated discussion led by Dr Carlo Morelli - University of Dundee.

We would encourage you to come along and share your thoughts and views in an environment that will provide information and respect a range of perspectives.

We hope you can attend. Numbers will be limited and we would ask you to reply by Friday 29th of November indicating if you can attend and if you will be accompanied by an additional member of your organisation.

The Xplore 22 bus service to Ninewells has a stop at Hunter Street.

Public parking can be found at the car park adjacent to the Dalhousie Building accessed from Hunter Street DD15 5EU.

Yours, Francis De Franco, Dundee Pensioners Forum

Solidarity Gathering, Dungavel Detention Centre, Sunday, 24th November, 1pm

Justice & Peace Scotland are among those involved in the

Solidarity Gathering at Dungavel Detention centre next Sunday. The event will follow the format of a two-minute silence to show solidarity with the asylum seekers detained there. This will be followed by some short speeches and readings. There will also be an opportunity to hand in cards and some biscuits and sweets for those held in the facility. A warm welcome is extended to any groups or individuals who wish to attend. Please feel free to bring banners or placards.

[The joint statement of the Bishops' Conferences of Scotland and England & Wales](#), explains what 'compassion' means at the end of life – caring for and accompanying people, particularly during times of suffering. The statement strongly defends the vulnerable in society who are at risk through the proposed legislation, and the bishops advocate for better funded palliative care to be consistently available to everyone in need in England, Wales, and Scotland.

"People who are suffering need to know they are loved and valued. They need compassionate care, not assistance to end their lives," say the bishops. "Palliative care, with expert pain relief, and good human, spiritual, and pastoral support, is the right and best way to care for people towards the end of life."

[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.



[St Stephen's 170th and St Luan's 125th joint Celebration: Summer 2026](#)

[Parish Repository](#) is packed with lovely items for your Christmas celebrations at very subsidized prices: Candles, cards, prayer books, bibles, pictures, statues and various gift items that you would love.

[-Finale 170th and 125th Joint Anniversary of St Stephen's Blairgowrie \(1856 – 2026\) and St. Luan's Alyth \(1900 – 2025\).](#)
[-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.

[-FAMILY MUSICAL EVENING-WITH A DASH OF DIVERSITY - FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER 2024, 6.00pm.](#) You are invited - with ALL your family - children PARTICULARLY welcome - to an evening of music, song, dance and enjoyment on Friday 13th of December 2024 in the Hall at St Stephen's, Blairgowrie. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks and prepare for a fabulously entertaining evening of music and song. If you would like to put on a display of song, dance or even a culture-specific "party piece", please let Fr. Gregory know so that it can be included in the Programme. Please come along and be part of this December show and make it even more enjoyable!

[-Today and Up Coming Events:](#)

-24th November: Building maintenance Fund collection. -8th Dec. Poor Mission Fund. -29th Dec. Building maintenance Fund collection. -12th January. Justice and Peace.

-26th January Building maintenance Fund collection.

[Prisoners Week 2024](#) invites you to hear the voices of those affected by or working in the Justice system. Our official launch service is in Perth on Sunday 17th November with guest speaker Graham Bell, chaplain at HMP Glenochil. [@PactPerth @StJohnRCPerth #prisonersweek2024](#)
[Confirmation and pastoral Visit by the Bishop:](#) Sunday the 1st of June 2025, 11am mass. [First holy communion](#) will be on Sunday the 15th of June 2025, 2pm. [Reconciliation](#) would be on Wednesday the 26th of February 6.00pm.

[Over 60 Sunday afternoon Tea or Lunch:](#) The SSVF social event in December will take the form of a two-course lunch at the Dalmore Inn & Restaurant, Perth Road, Blairgowrie on Sunday, 8th December at 1.15 for 1.30. The restaurant manager has asked for a list of the options chosen by members of our group so to that end, could you all note your preferences against your names on the list at the back of each church. Tea/Coffee have been added to the menu. **Please choose one item from two of the three sections: Starter (S), Main course (M), Dessert (D).**

[Catechism Classes for First Holy Communion and Confirmation:](#) Are you an adult and not yet confirmed? Do you want to know more about the faith and get deeper into sacraments? Then do not hesitate to join us every Monday at 5:30pm from 14th October. We will have a great time together. Please, send a confirmation email to giovanigiovani2024@gmail.com with your full name, dates and places of your received sacraments.

[-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. £405.91.Cath Edu £213.41.](#) Many thanks for your support to the parish. *Figures exclude takings from Standing orders, bank transfers and direct debits. Comprehensive Parish Financial Audits and Accounts are published on the Notice Board. Thanks.

[Many thanks to the Parishioners:](#) Mary Wojtowicz and family, Tom Buckham, Paul and Esther Brown and Family, Oliver Wright and Maureen and Phillip Jackson and family who have provided us with a total of Eleven Liturgical Books, Lectionaries, Book of Gospels and Prayer of the Faithful Book. These books will be blessed at Sunday masses and dedicated in memory of their designated loved ones and be used at all masses in the two churches of our parish.

[Reflection: Pilgrims of Hope.](#) "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope" **Pope Francis**

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