

Diocesan Events:

Aid to the Church in Need: Scottish Conference 'Courage to be Catholic'

Saturday 29th March, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 9:30am - 4:00pm

Why not bring your parish to a one-off event for the Church in Scotland! Bring a group of 10 for £225 instead of £300. We have 25 Catholic charities, 4 international speakers, laity, clergy and bishops from across Scotland eager to build the Faith.

Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHSR> to register.



The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee runs from 7th –14th July 2025. For further information, please email dunkeld@pobox.com or phone 07801227443.

St. Clement/St. Ninian's Dundee are planning a Pilgrimage to Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina from Sunday 24th to Thursday 28th August 2025. 4 Nights, 5 Days. Ex Edinburg to Croatia. Cost: 2 sharing £690; Single Supplement £225. Contacts: Fr. Johnny 07831580361; Bernadette: 07919106129.

Praying for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

There is a Holy Hour at 6pm followed by the Holy Mass at 7pm to pray for an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, as well as for our Priests. This takes place on 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Immaculate Conception, Lochee. The next is scheduled for 8th April, and we warmly welcome everyone to join us in these prayers.

Vocations to the Priesthood: The next Vocations Event is an overnight at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull, on Fri/Sat 16/17th May starting at 6pm with Evening Prayer, and concluding with lunch on Saturday.

This event will include time for personal prayer and reflection, as well as one to one time with a priest, input on Discernment Prayer, as well as Holy Mass, and a look at the Propaedeutic Period (the pre-seminary experience in Salamanca). Bishop Andrew and Fr Malcolm Hutchison will also be in attendance.



St. Stephen's R C Church

8 Bank Street, Blairgowrie PH10 6DE, 872171

St. Mary's Coupar Angus & St. Luan's Alyth.

Second Sunday of Lent, Year C, 16/3/25

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

E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk

Scottish Charity No: SC001810



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.

***Our Vision:** To be a welcoming and participating Catholic community on a journey, striving to be led by the Spirit, strengthened by a bond of love and unity, guided by the gospel message of Christ, refreshed and nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ at the Eucharistic table. Enriched by a vibrant people of God from diverse backgrounds and supported by many gifts employed in various ministries and stewardships, we journey together hand-in-hand through life as a community.*

Parish diary: Week beginning from 16/3/25

Saturday 15th March-5.30pm: Vigil mass St. Stephen's.

Sunday 16th March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's.

Sunday 16th March -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Monday 17th March- 10.30am/1.30pm Masses and Ministry of Care, all day in Glenochil Prisons. **St. Patrick (Feast)**

Tues 18th March 10.00am Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Wed 19th March – 6.00pm Adoration, Rosary; 7.00pm Holy mass for the Sick at St. Stephen's. **St. Joseph, Spouse of**

Virgin Mary (Solemnity)

Thurs 20th March – 10.00-10.20am - Stations of the Cross; 10.20-10.45am Holy mass at St. Luan's

Thurs: 1.30pm: Mass at St. Steph Pri School.

Frid 21st March: **No Mass Please**

Saturday 22nd March - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's.

Sunday 23rd March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

Sunday 23rd March -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Ste-

This Week's Message in a Glance...

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18 A covenant was made between God and Abram, who became Abraham, our father in faith.

Philippians 3:17 to 4:1 Paul encourages us to remain faithful, remembering that our true homeland is in heaven.

Luke 9:28-36 Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James and John – the three who were to be with him in Gethsemane.

- ⇒ -Family Rosary and adoration. Every Wednesday 6.00pm-7.00pm.
- ⇒ Mass for the sick every Wednesday 7.00pm-7.30pm.
- ⇒ -Sacrament of Reconciliation: 6.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday.
- ⇒ -Divine Mercy Devotion. Tuesdays after morning mass. Please join us.
- ⇒ Mass with St. Stephen's Pri. Sch: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.
- ⇒ Stations of the Cross Every Thurs/Fri before mass

In your prayers, kindly remember our Beloved Dead:

Those who have died recently: Valeria Naughton Alexander Forrester, Bill Waldron, Geo McGoldrick and those whose anniversaries we remember now especially Mary Kate O'Brien.

Kindly remember also those on our prayer list: Pope Francis, Michael Rolls, Neil McDowall. Pam McKenna, Mary and George Flockhart. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Diana Richardson, Giles Umunna and Tony Donnan, Lisa Robertson, Philip Lafferty.

This Sunday's Food 4 Thought: The mountain of prayer and the glimpse of eternity.

Today's gospel gives a remarkable insight into the nature of prayer. Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. We too have to find the high ground, remote enough to give us an overall view of our petty world with all its preoccupations. A mountain can give us that perspective, as indeed can a lake or a desert, places where Jesus also liked to pray.

Lent is a time for us to try and create a space for prayer somewhere in our lives. Only by prayer can we be transfigured and then try to transfigure our world. By reflecting deep inside ourselves we will transfigure our many and often complicated relationships. Prayer can transfigure our marriages, our homes,

our work and our communities. The American writer, Thurber, at the end of one of his fables, penned this couplet: "All men should learn before they die,/Where they are going, from where and why." Only in prayer will we find the answer to these questions.

At times like these days of Lent, we need to climb the mountain of prayer and ask God to open our eyes that we may see. When God grants us a glimpse of eternity then we realize that all our troubles in this life are short-lived. Then we have the courage to accept the suffering of this life, knowing that through it all God is on our side.

All it takes is a glimpse of heaven to empower us to take up our daily crosses and follow Jesus, knowing that the cross of Lent is followed by the victory of Easter.

Parish Priest: Fr. Gregory E. Umunna Ph.D.

Phone: 01250872171. **Email:** ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk

Address: 8, Bank Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE.

Hall Reservations: Contact no: 01250872171.

Hospital Chaplains: Please call: N/wells Direct line: 07821624124,

Hospital Pager 01382660111; **P.R.I.:** 01738259371. *Pls let the priest know if you are on a long stay at the hospital and would like a visit.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals: Please make appointment with Priest before any arrangements are made.

Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No:SC00810

Parish Ministries, Volunteers and Contact Persons:

(May God bless these & others for their selfless service)

H/T: St. Steph's P. S: Lindsey Smith. Ph: 871950.

Catechist: Alzbeta Krajcikova: Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Comm & Confirmation every Wed, 5.00pm in the lower Hall. Email: Alzbeta.krajcikova@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Maureen Jackson 07952376985; Email: ststephen-psc@dunkelddioecese.org.uk

Parish Webmaster: Mr. Irek Kawalinski. irek@alinski@gmail.com

Music Directors: Mr. Tom Buckham and Mrs. Gail McIntyre.

Responsible Person for Eucharistic Ministers: Mr. Alan Scott.

Responsible Person for Children's Liturgy: Mary Wojtowicz

Responsible Person for Lectors: Daria McDowall (Alyth) Paul Brown (Blair)

Responsible Group for Parish Social Justice Issues: SVP

Responsible Person for Church Flowers: Jean Scott (Blair), Elma Sharp (Alyth)

Resp. Person: Altar Servers: Rolly Colanase

Grounds Flowers: Jennifer FitzPatrick

Adviser on Finance: Mr. Mike Coyle

Adviser on Fabric: Mr. Jim Graham

Wishing you and your loved ones a lovely Sunday -Fr. Gregory

Tear this off please:... Are you going into the hospital? Do you have someone going into the hospital? Would you like him/her/you to be visited with communion, please fill the form below and return to Fr. Gregory.
Name:.....Hospital:..... Date:

Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.

Email: peacegreg2002@yahoo.com Phone: 01250 872171

ST. STEPHEN'S R.C. CHURCH, BLAIRGOWRIE

8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE.

&
ST. LUAN'S R.C. CHURCH ALYTH

Alexander Street, PH11 8AS

Parish email: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk Phone: 01250872171

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



Family Celebration of the Holy Week 2025

Thursday 10th April: 6.30pm: Service of Songs in Praise of Mary, who suffered with her Son in his passion in St. Stephens.

Saturday 12th April: 10.00am -12noon, 4.00pm-5.00pm: Opportunities for all day Individual and Family reconciliation.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year C - Sunday April 13th

Distribution, Procession, Blessing of Palm at all Masses

+ *Vigil Mass* at 5.30 p.m. in St. Stephen's

+ *Mass* at 9.30 a.m. in St. Luan's

+ *Mass* at 11.00 a.m. in St. Stephen's

+ *Evening Prayer and Benediction* of the Blessed Sacrament at 4.00 p.m. in St. Stephen's.

Monday of Holy Week – April 14th Chaplaincy/Masses at 10.15am/1.30pm in Glenochil Prisons

Tuesday of Holy Week – April 15th Stations of the Cross and Mass at 10.00am in St. Stephen's

Wednesday of Holy Week – April 16th Stations of the Cross and Mass at 10.00am in St. Luan's

Holy Thursday of the Lord's Betrayal – April 17th

+Morning Prayer in St Stephen's 10am.

+The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm in St. Step's. No washing of feet.

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion – April 18th (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)

+Morning Prayer in St Stephen's 10am.

+ Stations of The Cross at 12.00noon in St. Luan's followed by The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.

+Stations of The Cross at 3.00pm in St. Stephen's followed by The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.

Holy Saturday – April 19th A day of waiting at the Lord's tomb.

+Morning Prayer in St Stephen's 10am.

+11.00am: Blessing of Easter Food Basket for the Polish Community

THE EASTER VIGIL MASS: Night of all nights.

+ This is the crown and highpoint of the Christian liturgical year.

7.00pm at St. Stephen's.

Easter Sunday Holy Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 20th

Renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Holy Water

+9.30 am. in St Luan's

+11.00 am. in St. Stephen's Blairgowrie

Suggested Scriptural Readings for the Holy Week and Easter celebrations: Genesis 1:1-2:2, Genesis 22:1; Exodus 14:15; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10.

Today's and Up Coming

16th March: Papal and Episcopal Charities (SCIAF); -30th March: Building maintenance Fund -18th April: Good Friday. Holy Places Collection. 27th April, Building maintenance Fund; 11th May, Apostolate of Communication; 25th May: Building maintenance Fund; 8th June: Day of Life Collection; 29th June: Building maintenance Fund; 13th July: Peter's Pence; 27th July: Building maintenance Fund; 10th August: Apostleship of the Sea; 31st August: Building maintenance Fund; 14th September: Bishop's Mensal Fund; 28th September: Building maintenance Fund; 12th Oct: Mission Sunday; 26th October: Building maintenance Fund; 9th November: Sick and Retired Priest's Fund/Catholic Education Service; 30th Nov: Building maintenance Fund; 14th Dec: Poor Mission Fund; 28th Dec: Building maintenance Fund.

Rota for Parish Jubilee Day of Prayer on Friday 28th March:

"24Hours of Exposition and Adoration of the Lord" is available at the back of the Church for all those who may wish to pray/adore before the Blessed Sacrament for 30 minutes, one/two hours or more. Please sign in. Thanks.

We shall start with Mass at 10 am, followed by -

-Exposition of the blessed sacrament,

-Scripture reading, private adoration,

-Benediction @12noon, private adoration,

-Divine Mercy @ 3pm, scripture reading, private adoration,

-Family rosary @ 6pm, Litany and hymns to our Lady, private adoration, Night prayers,

-Stations of the Cross @ 10pm,

-Holy Mass @12 midnight,

-Divine Mercy @ 3am, scripture reading, private adoration, Morning prayers,

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.** Last Sunday's offertory collections: £408.50; BMF:£136.50. 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.

2025 WEE BOX APPEAL: "This year's WEE BOX APPEAL showcases how SCIAF partners are supporting the people of Columbia through Church networks. As we continue in this Jubilee Year of Hope, with the call to be Pilgrims of Hope, we thank you for your support and that of your parishioners as we continue to bring hope through SCIAF"



Communion to nursing homes, house bounds and the elderly is part of our ministry of care. Please let any of the Eucharistic Ministers or myself know if you know someone who is in need of this care. Thanks.

Social/Family Night Friday, 11th April 6.00pm: Some poetry, songs and drama on the theme of the Dundee poet William McGonagall, and more. ('And more' refers to others wishing to contribute as usually happens on these evenings) Bring your own bottle. All welcome.

Upgrading of St. Luan's Church Glass Windows in readiness for the 125th anniversary. This is giving everyone an opportunity to share in the work and the grace therein. 6 windows in all and £900 each for construction and fixing. If you wish to help, you can pay via St. Stephens Parish account as noted in the parish newsletter and notify me or hand in a cheque. Total amount realised so far £4,300. Many thanks to those who have responded so far. With an assurance of prayers. Kindest regards, Fr Greg



Children's Liturgy: I want to thank Mary Wojtowich 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. There, the children learn about the message of each Sunday but also interact socially with other children.

First Pastoral Visit of Bishop Andrew McKenzie: Saturday 30th May - Sunday the 1st of June 2025, He will preside over all the masses of the weekend and Confirm our boys and girls with then 11am mass. mass.

First holy communion will be on Sunday the 15th of June 2025, 2pm.

Parish Repository is packed with lovely items at very subsidized prices: Candles, cards, prayer books, bibles, pictures, statues and various gift items that you would love.

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: SVP, Wed. 7.30pm; Divine Mercy, Tues 10.30am; Adoration, Wed. 6.00pm.



Adoration in St. Stephen's, every Wed. 6.00pm-7.00pm. "The Eucharist is that love which surpasses all loves in Heaven and on earth." - St. Bernard. Please feel free to join us for adoration.

St. Stephen's Parish Library Selection of Books on:

- ⇒ Spirituality/ Prayer
- ⇒ Lives of Saints/Martyr
- ⇒ Theology/ philosophy
- ⇒ History/ Psychology
- ⇒ Pilgrimage sites

Pls feel free to borrow any from the shelves in the lower hall and return a week after use. Thanks.

Project Matthew 25:

The fruit of your Lenten abstinence can yield double fold if directed to helping someone less privileged. Support the PRISON APOSTOLATE, support to the FOOD BANK supplies.

Box in the Lower Hall to collect items

There is an ongoing effort towards those who need to be served by this provision. Please contribute to this very worthy cause. Thankyou very much for your support in this direction.

Be you Pilgrims of Hope: Pope Francis' invitation to make 2025 a Jubilee Year of Hope. Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as the Jubilee Year of Hope. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope." But what does this mean for us? How can we, as individuals, families and as a parish community journey together as Pilgrims of Hope, bringing our experiences and professionalism? Where do we see hope and how can our concrete situations sustain hope or help us participate in it?

INITIATIVES OF THE PARISH FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025 include:

1. Parish Pilgrimages,
 2. Eucharistic Adoration,
 3. Parish Jubilee Prayer Days.
 4. Parish Jubilee Retreat,
 5. Establish Acts of Hope Project,
 6. Create digital engagement platforms,
 7. Incorporate Hope in Sunday homilies,
 8. Youth and Children's Programmes,
 9. Jubilee workshops and seminar,
 10. Distribute Jubilee devotional materials,
 11. Encourage sacramental participation.
 12. Host Cultural celebrations. Important Dates with Parish Jubilee celebrations:
- 28th March: 24 Hours for the Lord; 6th April for sick and health care workers; 27th April for people with disabilities; 30/1st June for children, grand parents and children; 29th June for governments; 14th Sept, for Consolation; 1/3rd August for youths; 20th September for justice; 26/28th for Catechists; 8/12 October for consecrated life; 16th November for the Poor (the masters); 14th December for prisoners. *Any ideas will be very helpful and very much appreciated to guide us as a parish to maximise the benefits of the Jubilee year 2025.

Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.

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Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No: