

St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie

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

Eight Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C 2/3/25.

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

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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.

“Repent and believe in the Gospel” invites us to turn from the ways leading to death to new life in Christ.

Parish diary for the rest of the Week beginning from 2/3/25.

Saturday 1st March-5.30pm: Vigil mass St. Stephen's.

6.00pm Adoration, Rosary;

Sunday 2nd March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

7.00pm Holy mass for the Sick at St. Stephen's.

Sunday 2nd March -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Thurs 6th March – 10.00am Holy mass at St. Luan's

Monday 3rd March- 10.30am/1.30pm Masses and Ministry of Care, all day in Glenochil Prisons.

Friday 7th March - 10.00am Holy mass at St. Step's. **Day of Prayer for those who have suffered Abuse.**

Tuesday 4th March. 10.00am Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

Saturday 8th March - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's.

SEASON OF LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY

Sunday 9th March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth.

Wed 5th March – **10.00am** Holy mass at St. Stephen's;

Sunday 9th March -11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

11.30am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth;

Mass intentions:

1.30pm: Service at St. Steps' Pri. Sch.

8th Sunday (C). Our Lord invites us to take the plank out of our own eyes before we try to take the splinter out of others' eyes. It is good to take a hard look at ourselves and our own shortcomings. Words matter. What we say has an effect on others, for good or ill. God's word to us is spoken in Jesus, the Word made flesh, in whose name we gather each Sunday• Today, the last Sunday before Lent, is Temperance...

Rota for Parish Jubilee Day of Prayer on 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, Holy Mass @10am.

There will be a very important meeting of Members of the Organising Committee of the 170th and 125th Joint Anniversary of St Stephen's Blairgowrie (1856 – 2026) and St. Luan's Alyth (1900 – 2025) wit Fr. Greg this Sunday after the 1100am mass in St. Stephen's. The meeting will last for only 30 minutes.

In your prayers, kindly remember those on our prayer list:

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.

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.

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.



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

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 £2,700. Many thanks to those who have responded so far. With an assurance of prayers. Kindest regards, Fr Greg

-“The World Day of Prayer takes place each year in different churches within EPACT. This year The World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 7th March 2025 at 7.00pm in St Stephen’s, Blairgowrie. It would be appreciated if parishioners could come along and join the service”.

-Social/Family Night Friday, 4th 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.

-All the Committees for the Finale 170th and 125th Joint Anniversary of St Stephen’s Blairgowrie (1856 – 2026) and St. Luan’s Alyth (1900 – 2025) need to move very quickly now with meetings. Could all the committees have their dates for meetings and progress reports between now and the middle of March with the Organising Committee Chairman or delegate and Fr. Greg in attendance.

-There will be a meeting of all Eucharistic Minister in the coming weeks to help us with uniformity as well as update practices and procedures.

-Today and Up Coming Events:. 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 Day of Life Collection.

-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 will be on Wednesday the 26th of February 6.00pm.

-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.

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 professionalisms?

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.

-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. Thanks.

“This Sunday, we stand on the threshold of Lent. A journey which asks us and challenges us to be free of hypocrisy and deceit. A journey which calls us once more to peel away the layers which encrust our hearts, so that they may be broken open once more to know the tender compassion of our God.”

-Wishing you a happy weekend. Fr. Greg.