

St. Stephen's Parish Bulletin
1st/2nd April 2017. Fifth Sunday of Lent Time. Year - A



St. Mary's, Coupar Angus



St. Stephen's, Blairgowrie



St. Luan's, Alyth

Parish Priest: Fr. Gregory Umunna MA, Ph.D.
Phone: 01250872171
Email: peacegreg2002@yahoo.com.
Address: 8, Bank Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE
Catechist: Mrs Kamila Doig.
Catechism: classes every Sun 10.30am .1st Holy Comm.
Email: mazurka7tak@btinternet.com

H/Teacher: St. Stephen's P. S Mr. Simon McKell.
Phone: 01250871950
Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Mrs Linda Forsyth.
Email: lady.linda@live.co.uk 01828632024.
***Hospital Chaplains: Please call:**
Ninewells 01382 611282; **P.R.I:** 01738 622241
***Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals: Please arrange preparation and date by appointment.**

WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS AND PARISHIONERS



Jesus said to Martha,

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

The vision of today's gospel tells us not to allow death to define us completely or fear of death to rule us. In God there is only life, light and love.

Misery, death and destruction are not God's doing nor does God allow it to be final.

There is a future and there is new life — if we are willing and able to cleanse our hearts of negativity and fear and live in hope.

Prayers please:	Ursula Edgar	Jean Cunningham	Noleen Whelan	Rita Devlin
Please remember the following in your prayers:	Ann Myles	Muriel Thomson	Joan Costello	Dougald Mennie
Peter McInnes	Claire McEwan	Harry Colgan	Eilidh MacInnes	Mary Sarah
Ella Nichol	Anne Munro	Cipriano Laboriante	Dorothy Murphy	
Lewis Bowman	Helen Armstrong	Bish. Vincent Logan	Celina McLairain	
	Joan Bonner	Rita Trainer	Ron Crisp	
	Alice Fleming	Ben Leitch	Charlie Yates	

Masses for week: 1st/2nd April.

Saturday: 6.30pm - Vigil Mass in anticipation of Sunday, St. Stephen's.

Sunday: 9.30am - Holy Mass and Conf. St Luan's;
11.00am - Mass St Stephen's.

Monday:

Tuesday: 10.00am - Holy Mass in St. Stephen's;
10.30am - Divine Mercy devotion

Wednesday: 7.00pm — Holy Mass in St. Stephen's

Thursday: 10.00am — Holy Mass in St. Stephen's

Friday: 10.00am—Holy Mass in St. Stephen's
6.00pm—Baptismal session

Saturday: 10.00am - Holy Mass in St. Stephen's;
6.30pm - 10.30am - 12.00 noon: Exposition
& Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
1.00pm: Baptism
6.30pm - Vigil Mass in anticipation of Sunday, St. Stephen's.

NEXT SUNDAY WILL BE PALM SUNDAY

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

Email: peacegreg2002@yahoo.com

Phone: 01250 872171



Parish News:

There will be a special retreat collection this Sunday for SURVIVE MIVA Missionary Vehicle Association. Warm welcome a member of this organisation who is worshipping with us this Sunday to tell us about their work and asking for our support. Please support it.

New Envelops available for pick up at the entrances of the churches. Please collect your own if you have not done so. Thanks Mike.

Station of the Cross every Friday at 9.30am. Everyone is invited to join us.

Flowers/Cleaners: We are in need of people to help us do the flowers or clean in St. Stephens. Please speak to Jean Scot or Fr Greg if you can help with this task. Many thanks to Adam, Cloe, Hannah and colleagues in Caritas Award, St. John's Acad. Perth helping us with cleaning.

2017 Lenten Talk

Many thanks to all the lovely ladies who help at the Lenten Talk and to the parishioners who participated in it. It was very refreshing. Fr. Gregory

International Rosary (multilingual - Polish, Maltese, English Tagalog and others if present): after 10.00 a.m. Mass on 1st Saturday each month.

Liturgy of the Word for Children. Please encourage your child(ren) to take part in this celebration of God's Word geared towards their needs. Many thanks to all our liturgists for the excellent work they do for us.

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. Fr. Gregory

Repository: New Orders for Easter just arrived. Please visit us for your cards and gift items.

SSVP Foodbank Collections

Foodbank Appeal - please remember that the local Foodbank is still dependent upon your regular donations.

St. Stephen's 200 Club calling!!! Old members are reminded to please renew their membership for 2017 and new members are encouraged to subscribe. Please speak to **Roddy McDonald at 01250 875474.** Thanks.

Many thanks to those who help out in various ministries of our parish life. Fr. Gregory

Last Sunday's offertory collection: £662.34. Many thanks.

Gift Aid: Last year we had a payment of over £6,000 from HMRC from our Gift Aid contributions, which is vital in helping maintain our parish. Gift Aid is available to all who pay tax as an incentive to generate some extra 25p from every £1 donations/offering you make to the church. The form is available on request. Thank you for supporting your parish.

Diocesan News:

Bishop Stephen Robson will be coming to St. Stephen's Parish on a pastoral visit on the 29th/30th of April. This is an official visit every bishop makes to the parishes of his diocese as a duty of care.

Extraordinary Form of the Mass twice every month: 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 4.00pm Lawside convent Dundee.

Sciaf Wee Box available at the back of the church: Take action this Lent! Make a difference. Sciaf collection will be on Easter Sunday. Please return the Wee Boxes before or by this date. Thanks.

Dunkeld Youth Service: 'Overcome' DYS Lent Retreat Date: 1st-2nd April 2017. Age group: 12-15 year. Venue: St. Ninian's Dundee; Palm Sunday National Youth Gathering. Date 09/04/17. Age group 12-25yrs. Venue: St. Mary's Monastery Kinnoull. Pls phone: 01382 225453

Other News:

Reflection: by Donal Neary SJ

A Human Heart

When people read this (Gospel) they say they see that Jesus is a real hu-man being, son of God, God of heaven, man of the earth, weep-ing over a friend.

His was a human heart. He liked friends and he found a home and a safe place with them, over the hill and away from the mob. We might picture him there – the talk, the chat, the prayers, the love; meals with other friends who dropped in, times of prayer and silence.

The one who can share a laugh, eat a scone, have a drink or a cuppa. The one who'd give a wink at the sign of peace! Not always so serious, even about religion. There's no such thing as a sad saint! He is a good friend. Friendship gives new spirit. When life is ending we will give thanks for friends, and regret the way we have drifted or hurt each other. Real friendship is when another's thoughts and life become at least as or more im-portant than our own. So the resurrection and the life is not just for after death. It is for now. We raise each other up in friendship and in love. In that is the grace of the Lord, himself a friend, for when we love, God lives in us.

Food 4 Thought this week:

- ⇒ If we learn to read everything in the light of the Holy Spirit, we realize that everything is grace!
- ⇒ Caring for the sacred gift of all human life, from conception to death, is the best way of preventing every type of violence.
- ⇒ The word of God is alive and powerful, capable of bringing about the conversion of hearts.
- ⇒ May the certainty of faith be the engine of our lives. —Pope Francis



Parish Website: www.ststephensblair.co.uk

Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No: SC001810