

## GLORIA:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## First reading Genesis 15:5-12,17-18 @

God enters into a Covenant with Abraham, the man of faith Taking Abram outside, the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can.' 'Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

## Responsorial Psalm Psalm 26(27):1,7-9,13-14

## Second reading Philippians 3:17-4:1 @

Our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes Christ to transfigure us

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proud of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glori-

ous body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt17:5 Glory and praise to you, O Christ. From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

## Gospel Luke 9:28-36 @

Jesus is transfigured before them  
Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

**The Creed:** I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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



# St. Stephen's R C Church Blairgowrie St. Mary's C/Angus/St. Luan's Alyth

17th March 2019. 2nd Sunday of Lent. Time of the Year  
Year, C. 2019.

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



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Catechists: Mrs. Kamila Doig. Email: [mazurka7tak@btinternet.com](mailto:mazurka7tak@btinternet.com); Mrs. Margaret Young e-mail: [mararcrafts@talktalk.net](mailto:mararcrafts@talktalk.net) 01250 875086  
Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation every Wednesday 6.00pm.  
H/Teacher: St. Stephen's P. S. Mr Simon Mckell.  
Phone: 871950

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Mrs Linda Forsyth. Email: [lady.linda@live.co.uk](mailto:lady.linda@live.co.uk) 01828632024.  
Parish Webmaster: Mr. Irek Kawalinski. [irekkowalinski@gmail.com](mailto:irekkowalinski@gmail.com)  
Music Directors: Mr. Tom Buckham and Mrs. Gail McIntyre  
\*Hospital Chaplains: Please call: Ninewells 01382 611282; P.R.I: 01738259371. \*Please let the priest know if you are having a long stay at the hospital and would like a visit.  
\*Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals: Please arrange preparation and date by appointment.

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

**Divine Mercy Devotion.**  
Tues after morning mass. Pls join us.

**Sac of Reconciliation:**  
6.00pm every Sat & 9am on Sundays.

**First Saturday of the Month:** Mass of Our Lady the BVM and Rosary every first Saturday of the month.

**Fam Rosary adoration**  
Weds 6pm, and mass for the sick last Weds of every month.

**Mass with St. Stephens P. School:** 1st Thurs & 3rd Fridays of the month.

## Parish diary for the week

**Vigil Mass:** 6.30pm Mass: St. Stephen's.

**Sunday:** 9.30am Mass: St Luan's; 11.00am: St. Step.

**Mon:**

**Tue:** 10.00am: Mass at St. Stephen's.

**Wed:** 6.00pm: The Jesus Club.

**Wed:** 6.00pm. Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament.

**Wed:** 7.00pm Mass at St. Stephen's.

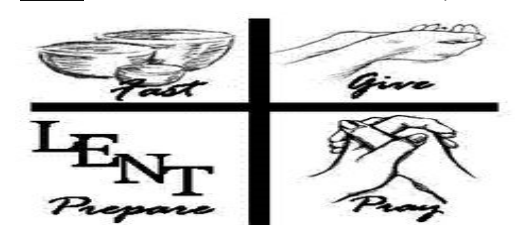
**Thursday:** 10.00am Mass at St. Stephen's.

**Friday:** 10.00am. Mass at St. Stephen's Primary School.

**Friday:** 3.00pm. Stations of the Cross at St. Stephen's.

**Saturday:** 6.30pm Mass: Vigil Mass: St. Stephen's.

**Sunday:** 9.30 am Mass: St. Luan's; 11.00am Mass: St. Stephen's.



## Mass Intentions for the week

- Nathaniel Ihiegbulam Linus Onuoha  
- Peter Nnubogu

## MASS READINGS OF THIS SUNDAY & POSSIBLE POINTS TO REFLECT ON.

**First:** Genesis - God makes a covenant with Abram: to your descendants I give this land. **Psalm:** Psalm 26 - The Lord is my light and my help / O Lord hear my voice when I call / It is your face, O Lord, that I seek / I am sure shall see the Lord's goodness. **Second:** Philippians - Remain faithful in the Lord: our homeland is in heaven, our saviour comes from heaven. **Gospel:** Luke - The Transfiguration. "This is my son, the chosen one. Listen to him".

**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.



Landschaft mit Verklärung Christofrancesco Zuccarelli (1702-1788)

## Prayers

### please:

Please remember the following in

your prayers:  
=====  
Ursula Edgar,  
Janet Melville

Roy Melville  
Nancy Dellaquaglia,  
James Warden  
Michael Rolls.

Ron Crisp  
Eilidh MacInnes  
LieseLotte Stuart,  
Neil McDowall

Irene Davie  
Michael O'Malley  
Kate O'Malley  
To be continued

## REFLECTION:

### Restoring our sight

While we were still without hope, God took us out of our emptiness and brought us into a new land, making with us a covenant of liberation.

But we remain 'set upon the things of this world,' burdened with 'the original darkness that shadows our vision.' Today's liturgy is about restoring our sight so that we can 'see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living.'

The disciples saw 'the bounty of the Lord' on the mountain-top. They witnessed the dazzling glory of Jesus shining in the company of Moses and Elijah, the glory of the fulfilment of the law and the prophets.

Abraham had also stood in the presence of the Lord, and he had been overwhelmed by a terrifying darkness pierced by the bright light of a smoking brazier and a flaming torch. The road from Abraham's encounter with God to the disciples' encounter with God was a long one.

Lent is an acting out of the long road from the covenant to its fulfilment. It is our public proclamation that we are a people who 'eagerly await the coming of our saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.'

We recognize that 'we have our citizenship in heaven,' but in the meantime we exercise our citizenship on earth for the coming of the kingdom of God.

We purge ourselves of our self-reliance, our thirst for power, and our preoccupation with self-interest, sacrificing and praying that God might 'deliver Israel from all her distress.' Christians, on pilgrimage toward the heavenly city, should seek and think of those things which are above. This duty in no way decreases, rather it increases, the importance of their obligation to work with everyone in the building of a more human world.

Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 1965: 57

## READINGS FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C:

First: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 - Moses and the burning bush - God's promise to deliver them. I am who I am - this is my name for all generations. Psalm: Psalm 102 - The Lord is compassion and love / My soul give thanks to the Lord / It is he who forgives your guilt / The Lord does deeds of justice / The Lord is compassion and love. Second: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 - Remember how the people under Moses were guided by a cloud - the one who thinks he is safe must be careful not to fall. Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 - Repent or you will perish - the parable of the fig tree, giving it one more chance.

## Two Very Important Programmes this Week, Please

**This Sunday 16th/17th:** Warm welcome to Fr. Willie Brandon (Sma) who is with us in St. Stephens this weekend for a Mission Appeal and will do all three masses of the weekend. Kindly support the missionary work he represents.

**Parish Lenten Retreat with Toni Hickey: Tuesday 19th/Wed 20th.** He gave us a Lenten Talk three years ago and has gladly accepted to be with us again this year for a Lenten Talk. Please join us for this programme. Tentative Programme

Tue: Talk 1 at 2. - 4.00 during which there would be a break for tea, (during or at the end.)

Talk 2 Evening 7.00 -9.00 again with tea.

Wed: A chat group in the morning 10.- 11. Talk 3 2. -4.00 during which there would be a break for tea,

“ This is my Son,  
the Chosen one.  
Listen to him.

Luke 9:35

## FROM DUNKELD DIOCESE

### The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of

**Fatima** is in our diocese and is visiting parishes and families. At the moment, this Statue of our Lay of Fatima is with us here in St Stephens.

If you wish to have a turn and have the pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima bless your home please sign a sheet at the back of the church. Everyone is invited welcome her into their home.

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH

### Many thanks to Pat and Michael Simpson who are leaving us:

This is a big loss to us but I'm sure that it is for their best interest that they find a home around where their children live.

Pat and Michael have been most outstanding in witnessing to their faith here in our parish through worthy and commendable participation at communal worships and exemplary lives. They gave their all to the ministry of Readers at mass. My prayers and that of the parish will go with them and may God lead and keep them safe.

Regards, **Gregory**

### Online Retreat with Daily Prayers: Walking Together with Jesus.

Weekly Retreat Meetings, guided prayer and faith sharing led by Mary O'Duffin. Meeting at St. John the Baptist RC Church, Perth.

Day and Time: Wed evenings in Lent. Wed. 13th/20th/27th March 2019 and 3rd/10th/April 2019 7pm-8.30pm.

**Liturgy of the Word for Children.** It is important that all children attend their Sunday Liturgy. The true message of each week of the year will be explained and the reasons for our joy explored. Age bracket for children's liturgy: 1-8.

**Foodbank.** Please remember to make some sacrifices for those who find the Food Bank a massive source of hope. Please take items for food bank into the lower hall and place them in the box next to the shelf on the left. Thanks.

**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 need of this care. Thanks.

**Last Sunday's offertory collection:** £441.30. Many thanks to you for supporting your parish.

**Gift Aid:** Gift Aid is available to all who pay tax as an incentive to generate some extra 25p from every £1 donations/offering you make. The form is available on request. Thank you for supporting your parish.

### A Letter To St Stephen's SSVF Conference, Blairgowrie

Please accept my thanks to you and the parishioners of St Stephen's Church for your generous donation of hats and gloves along with cupasoups which are very much appreciated by our residents. Although the weather has started to pick up this can still be a very difficult time for some of them and it is these little extras that make life more comfortable.

It may interest you to know that here in Dundee, Salvation Army Social Services currently run a 25 bed direct access hostel at Strathmore Lodge which has recently been refurbished and a 20 bed resettlement centre at Burnside Mill in partnership with Hillcrest Housing Association. We also run a Furniture Re-use Project which employs 3 staff and gives our residents voluntary work opportunities. Yours Sincerely, Ron Christie. Service Manager.

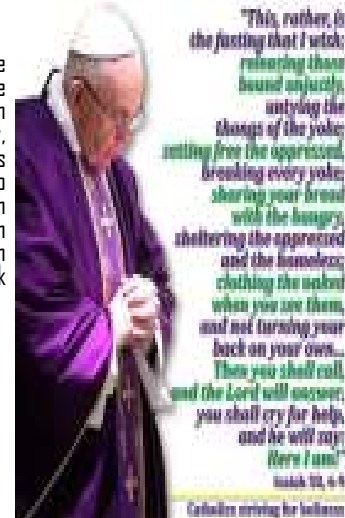
### " SSVF Homeless Appeal

Between now and the end of March, the SSVF Conference wish to repeat the annual Appeal for donations of woollen gloves, scarves, hats, socks (sorry, nylon socks are unsuitable) and boxes of powdered soup for distribution to local homeless persons by CATH/Perth Foodbank in Perth and the Salvation Army in Dundee. A box is provided in the Lower Hall for donations. Thank you."

## DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

### In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



"This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the chains of oppression, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry; sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own... Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer, and he will say: Here I am!"  
Matthew 23: 5-7

Caroline Murray for Imago