

## 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.

## 1st reading

**Malachi 3:1-4**

**The Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple**

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple;

and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of Hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the

sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23(24):7-10**

**2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18**

**He took to himself descent from Abraham**

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Christ too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The light to enlighten the Gentiles and give glory to Israel, your people.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel. Luke 2:22-40**

**My eyes have seen your salvation**

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses,

the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

*'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'*

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare. There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God;

and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour, was with him.

## 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 very lovely Sunday*

**Fr. Gregory Umunna**

## ST. STEPHEN'S R C CHURCH BLAIRGOWRIE

St. Mary's Coupar Angus,

St. Luan's Alyth

**2nd February 2020. The Presentation of the Lord**

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

**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.**

**2nd February: 9.30am Mass; St Luan's 11.00am; St. Stephen's.**



## The Presentation of the Lord



**Luke 2:22-40**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Gregory Umunna MA, Ph.D.

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

**H/Teacher:** St. Steph's P. S. Mr. Simon Mckell. Ph: 871950.

**Parish Volunteers:** **Catechists:** Mrs. Linda Forsyth

Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation every Monday 6.00pm in the Hall.

**Parish Safeguarding Coordinator:** Mrs. Linda Forsyth.

**Email:** [lady.linda@live.co.uk](mailto:lady.linda@live.co.uk) 01828632024.

**Parish Webmaster:** Mr. Irek Kowalinski.

**Email:** [irekkowalinski@gmail.com](mailto:irekkowalinski@gmail.com)

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

**Responsible Person for Euch. Ministers:** Mr. Alan Scott

**Responsible Person for Lectors:** Mr. John Thompson

**Responsible Group- Parish Social Justice issues:** SSSVP.

**Financial Adviser:** Mr. Mike Coyle.

**Responsible Person for Altar Servers:** Mr. Rolly Colanese.

**Hall Reservations for Events:** Contact no: 872171.

**Hospital Chaplains:** Please call: N/walls 01382611282;

**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 make appointment with the Priest before any arrangement

and date.

**Parish Website:** [www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk](http://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk)

**Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No:**

## Prayers please:

Please remember the following in your prayers:===== Janet Melville Nancy Dellaquaglia, James Warden, Michael Rolls. Ron Crisp, Eilidh MacInnes Lieselotte Stuart, Neil McDowall Michael O'Malley. To be continued

## Reflection: Holy Family

What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of St. Joseph? What was it like to have Jesus for a son, Mary as a wife and mother, and Joseph as a father and husband? Their home would have certainly been a sacred place and a dwelling of true peace and unity. But it would have also been so much more.

The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly 'just man.' Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones, St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus' public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was found with child out of wedlock. This would have been a topic of discussion among many acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfil all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would

have lived normal family life in every way.

This is significant because it reveals God's love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue.

Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

Today's Worship invites us to reflect on the Holy Family and to make efforts to imbibe those undying virtues that hallowed the little family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Just like the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph our families can become hallowed through our commitment and attention to God in faith, hope and love.

Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.  
Email: [peacegreg2002@yahoo.com](mailto:peacegreg2002@yahoo.com) Phone: 01250 872171

## 'Help us put the Loo in St Luan's'

Many thanks to Marion Duffy who co-ordinated fund raising to replace the toilet facility in St Luan's through [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) and to all who supported this initiative. Thanks to your efforts, St Luans will have a decent and upgraded toilet facilities to serve us.

## Meet up after Sunday Mass in St Luan's?

It has been suggested that once a month, eg first Sunday of the month, parishioners from St Luan's meet for coffee and chat in a local hotel. Please let Annemarie, Marion or Fr Gregory know if you are interested and arrangements will be finalised if sufficient interest. Thanks! Marion.

## Mass intentions for the January 2020

Late Roy Melvielle  
Late Edel Scarlet  
Late Margret Umunna  
Late Ursula Edgar  
Late Tim Corridon

## An important information Please

I'll be away from Jan 2nd to Feb 5th for my holiday to be with my family and to bury the remains of my late mother.

There will be no weekday Vigil masses but all Sunday masses: 9.30am and 11.00am throughout this period will be covered by Bishop Robson—5th of Jan and 2nd of Feb; Fr. Cassidy 12th Jan and 26th Jan and Fr Andrew Clark on the 19th of January.

In case of any emergency during this time, please phone Fr. Cassidy at Immaculate Conception Lockee 01382611282. Thanks. Fr. Gregory

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH

### A Passionate appeal Please:

If you live in Blairgowrie and attend the vigil mass regularly, would you please consider picking up and dropping off a lovely couple, Tom and Maud McGinn who have been part of our community for years and were frequent at mass until recently when they can no longer drive to mass. Please phone 873693 or speak to Fr. Gregory.

Liturgy of the Word for Children. Please remember that 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.



**Food Pantry Needs Foodbank.** Support to the foodbank supplies is an ongoing effort to-wards those who need to be served by this provision. Please contribute to this very worthy cause and, if Sunday isn't convenient, donations can be handed in to St Catharine's Centre during the week.

Thankyou very much for your support in this direction.

### A Gentle Reminder to all groups using Lower and Upper Halls.

Please ensure all the lights and switches are switched off, all plugs out of sockets. Thanks.

## "SSVP HOMELESS APPEAL

Over the winter months, the SSVP 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 homeless persons by CATH/ Foodbank in Perth and the Salvation Army in Dundee. A box is provided in the Lower Hall for donations. Thankyou."

Communion to nursing homes. house bound and the elderly are part of our ministry of care. Please let any of the Eucharistic Ministers or myself know if you know some-one who is need of this care. Thanks.

## St. Stephen's Primary School.

"Our local primary school has a limited number of places this year in all classes. The school's values of "Love, Integrity, Faith and Toler-ance" underpin an excellent Roman Catholic education for young learn-ers. St Stephen's Primary provides education in preparation for sacraments and the Pope Francis Faith Award, along with a biannual pilgrimage to Iona. Funding is in place to provide transport to and from school for families of St Stephen's and St Luan's who live out with Blairgowrie. To find out more phone 01250 871950. Please follow the school on Twitter @ststephensrcpri"

## International Rosary

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

## 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.

## Congratulations

to 2019 Christ-mas Hampers raffle winners: Mr John Swinney and Fr. Gregory Umunna. Many thanks to Mary O'Brien, Gail McIntyre and Elizabeth Sharp for helping to organize this event and for all those who bought raffle tickets.

## A newcomer to the parish?

Have you registered your name and family in the parish record? The parish community welcomes you. Please get a form from Fr Gregory, complete it and hand in the form or just pop it in through the door of presbytery. Thanks.