

## **St. Stephen's R C Church**

8 Bank Street, Blairgowrie Ph10 6DE, 872171

- St. Mary's Coupar Angus & St. Luan's Alyth.
- **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 18/6/23**
- **Parish website:** <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/> **Father's Day Celebration**
- **E-mail:** [ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddiocese.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.

### **Parish diary: Week beginning from 18/6/23**

#### **Sat/Sun:**

- Vigil Mass at 6.30pm. in St. Step's.
- Holy Mass at 9.30 am St. Luan's
- Holy Mass at 11.00 am in St. Step's

#### **Sat/Sun: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year A**

- Vigil Mass at 6.30p.m. in St. Step's
- Mass at 9.30 am. in St. Luan's
- Mass at 11.00 am. in St. Stephen's

#### **Mass intentions for the week:**

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-Family Rosary, adoration. Every Wed 6pm, and mass for the sick last Wed of the month.

-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.

#### **-Have you prayed your Rosary today?**

-Prayers please: Kindly remember those on our prayer list: Michael Rolls, Neil Mcdowall. Pam McKenna, Val Naughton, Dr. Paul Kinnear, Mary and George Flockhart, Tomasz Wegner Jaszkin. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Alex Forrester, Rita Robertson, Ciprano and Carmelita, Tom O'Mally, Roy Sweeney.

#### **Today's and Up Coming Events:**

- 25<sup>th</sup> June, This Sunday, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.
- 9<sup>th</sup> July, please support the Special collection for Peter's Pence. + Apostleship of the Sea.
- 30<sup>th</sup> July, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.
- 13<sup>th</sup> August, please support the Special collection for Bishop's Mensal Fund.
- 27<sup>th</sup> August, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.

#### **-- OPEN DOORS EVENT AT ST LUAN'S**

OPEN DOORS EVENT AT ST LUAN'S: 16 SEPTEMBER 2023.

We're hoping many of you have managed to find some old photos taken inside or outside of St Luan's over the years that you'd be happy to have displayed at the Open Doors Event. Photos will be scanned and the originals returned to you as soon as possible. If you have any photos you'd be happy to share, please put these in an envelope with your name on it and put the envelope in the box at the back of the Church. We'd also love to have any anecdotes or memories you might have and look forward to reading these as soon as you can let us have them - just pop them in the box too, please. If you'd prefer to send photos/stories electronically, please e-mail these to Marion at: [m.c.duffy@mirrenjones.co.uk](mailto:m.c.duffy@mirrenjones.co.uk) We're planning to make collages of the photos and memories you give us and these will be displayed in the Bowling Club for people to browse. If you have any questions, please speak to Daria, Elma, Marion or Oliver.

--**Parish Sponsored Day Coach Trip** for Parish Altar Servers and their Coordinator this Summer. Date: 24<sup>th</sup> July; Venue: Forth Bridge or Stirling Safari Park. Please confirm your attendance by writing your name on the sheet of Paper at the back of the church this Sunday. Thanks, **Rolly**.

--**Parish Diversity Day** celebration this Summer. As in previous celebrations before COVID19, the various nationalities within the parish are encouraged to be part of this event coming up on Sun 30<sup>th</sup> July after the 11.00am mass.

**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, Wednesdays 7.30pm; Divine Mercy, Tuesdays 10.30am; Adoration, Wed. 6.00pm.

--**Please visit Our Parish Repository** for your very lovely selection of Cards and other precious gift items.

**Scalan - Parish Day Out!** on Sunday 2nd July. BYO PICNIC LUNCH - We will need a minimum of 8 people for a small minibus or 14 for a bigger one. Please put your name down on the sheet at the back of the Church. Scalan can be found a mile beyond Chapeltown of Glenlivet. Thanks.

**Bric-a-Brac:** If you have unwanted gift items you may wish to donate to the church in support of the ongoing repair works, please hand them in or leave in the Lower Hall. Stalls will be set up in the Lower

Hall and outside on Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contact MOB 01828627723.

**The Bishop's Conference of Scotland** sincerely thanks clergy and parishes for their efforts to cope with the Covid pandemic. Now, since our country has returned to normal, and restrictions have been lifted, all parishes should have returned to pre-pandemic pastoral and liturgical practices. Clergy and parishes still maintaining restrictions should no longer do so. Parishioners who choose to follow restrictive measures should be treated with pastoral sensitivity.

**-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. Details of Parish account:

⇒ Bank: 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. Many thanks.

**\*Last Sunday Collection:** £287.55

Alyth Allotment £ 75.00

\*Figures exclude takings from Standing orders, bank transfers and direct debits. Comprehensive Parish Accounts are published on the Notice Board. Thank you.

**Very Important Information on the Condition of the Presbytery External Walls.**

Dear Parishioners, 18 months ago, I gave a full presentation of the conditions of the buildings associated with St. Stephens Parish Blairgowrie. While substantial works have been done in St. Stephen's church, St. Luan's church and surroundings, St. Mary's Cottage Coupar Angus and the abandoned two Flats (that now give us income) on No.10 Bank Street since my arrival here, the external walls of the presbytery both from Bank Street and John's Street are in very deplorable conditions. Please take time to walk around it. A closer observation of the external walls of the presbytery presents the following conditions:

**From Bank Street:** Sand stones works especially below the window level and at some other points nearer the roof are showing some serious weaknesses and need repointing; Stones works around windows have receded to more than 7

inches exposing window seals and frames; All the Sliding wooden windows are stiff and so do not open which are serious health and safety issues in the case of fire outbreak; All the windows there are single glaze and some are cracked.

**From behind the presbytery:** Sand stone works and window hoods are in deplorable conditions needing repointing; Previous efforts to use cements on sand stones has further made it worse as these surfaces have pulled off with years of frost getting in-between cement and sand stones; There are holes on the wall behind my kitchen as deep as 10 inches; Sandstones supporting the gutters are worn out leaving the gutters weak.

Aware that times are hard, we have been saving for this project which we intend to start this July. With the estimates coming in, there is a likelihood that we would be needing some help to complete. If you feel able to support the work on the parish presbytery external walls, it would be very much appreciated. You can reach out to Mike Coyle, Jim Graham or Fr. Gregory. Thanks.

-Estimates for fixing the external walls + double glazing of 11 windows on Bank Street of the Church House:£14,543.00. (Savings:£8,000.00) Target £7,543.00

Anonymous donations .... £250.00

Anonymous donation .... £ 50.00

Anonymous donation .... £500.00

General .... £183.54

Total donations so far for this project £936.54. Thanks.

**Reflection:** Exodus 19:2-6a, the first reading for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, is a beautiful passage that describes the arrival of the Israelites at Mount Sinai and God's message to Moses. God reminds the Israelites of how He delivered them from slavery in Egypt and declared that if they obey His commands and keep His covenant, they will be a treasured possession and a kingdom of priests. As Catholics, we too are called to be a people set apart for God, called to follow His commandments and live a life of holiness.

God's message to the Israelites in this passage reminds us of the importance of living a life of obedience to God's commands. Our obedience to God's will is not just about following rules, but it is an expression of our love and gratitude for all that He has done for us. When we live a life of obedience to God, we become a people set apart for Him, a holy nation that reflects His glory to the world.

As we reflect on this passage, we are called to examine our own lives and ask ourselves whether we are living a life of obedience to God's will. Are we following His commandments with joy and

gratitude, or are we struggling to live up to His standards? As we strive to live a life of obedience, we can take comfort in the fact that God is with us every step of the way. He has promised to be our God and to walk with us on this journey of faith, guiding us and strengthening us along the way. From Young Catholics

**“Perseverance is *remaining* in goodness.**

**Let us ask ourselves: what is my perseverance like? Am I constant, or do I live faith, justice and charity according to the moment: I pray if I feel like it; I am fair, willing and helpful if it suits me; whereas if I am dissatisfied, if no one thanks me, do I stop? Do my prayer and service depend on circumstances or on a heart that is steadfast in the Lord? If we persevere — Jesus reminds us — we have nothing to fear, even in the sad and ugly events of life, even in the evil we see around us, because we remain grounded in the good”**

*Pope Francis*

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

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

**Responsible Person for Lectors:** Seonaid Johnston.

**Responsible Group for Parish Social Justice Issues:** SSVDP

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

**Resp. Person: Altar Servers:** Rolly Colanse

**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

**Sat:** For Private Parishioner  
**Sun:** 9.30am For Parishioners  
**Sun:** 11am For Parishioners  
**Tue:** For Bishop Stephen Robson  
**Wed:** For Private intentions  
**Thurs:** For Private intentions  
**Fri:** For Private intention

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Gregory E. Umunna Ph.D.  
**Phone:** 01250872171.

**Email:** [ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddiocese.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:SC001810

**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.

**Catechists:** Mrs Linda Forsyth. Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation every Wed, 5.00pm in the Hall. Email:

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

**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)