

St. Stephen's R C Church 8 Bank Street, Blairgowrie Ph10 6DE, 872171
• St. Mary's Coupar Angus & St. Luan's Alyth.
• 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 9/7/23
• Parish website: https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/
• E-mail: 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 9/7/23

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
- Tues** – Holy Mass at 10.00am in St. Step's.
- Wed** – Holy Mass at 7.00pm in St. Steph's.
- Thurs** – Holy Mass at 10.00am in St. Step's.
- Fri** - Holy Mass at 10.00am in St. Step's.

Sat/Sun: 15th 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:

- Sat:** For Dani Murrison
- Sun:** 9.30am For Dani Murrison
- Sun:** 11am For Parishioners
- Tue:** For Bishop Stephen Robson
- Wed:** For Parishioner struggling with ill health
- Thurs:** For Ian Craig
- Fri:** For Ian Craig

- =====
- 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:

- Today, 9th July, please support the joint Special collection for **Peter's Pence. + Apostleship of the Sea.**
- Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th of July Priest's meeting in in Derby, Birmingham.

--24th July **Parish Sponsored Day Coach Trip** for Parish Altar Servers and their Coordinator this Summer.

- Saturday 29th at 12 noon, Marriage Silver Jubilee celebration: Antoinette Reilly
- 30th July, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.
- 30th July. Baptism of Alba Esther Dick. 11.00am mass.
- 30th July. Priestly anniv cele: Fr. Tob. @ St. Piux Dundee
- 30th July. **Parish Diversity Day** celebration
- 13th August, please support the Special collection for Bishop's Mensal Fund.
- 27th August, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.

Scalan Sojourn. Well done to an amazing

pilgrimage: 10 St. Stephen's parishioners enjoyed a wonderful trip on "Scalan Sunday" in convivial company, seeing Scotland's stunning scenery at it's best. It was a real blessing to participate in Mass with Bishop Toal, (Motherwell), 5 other priests, folks from a' ower th' place, and most-importantly, special souls from our very own parish community. The Hidden College/Seminary of Scalan lies in a beautiful historical setting. Sincere thanks to Anita, our lovely lady driver, and fellow passengers, for a memory to treasure. Jot 1st. Sunday in July in your diary, if you'd like a joyful journey to Scalan next year-- and no, there is no need to walk 1.5 kms along a dirt track; plenty of guide Samaritans willing to stop and take aboard passengers-as we did, right up to the seminary. Deo Gratias.

---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 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: 24th 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 30th 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.

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 16th & 23rd. Contact MOB 01828627723.

The Mass to mark Bishop Stephen's retiral has now been rescheduled. It will take place in St Andrews's Cathedral on **Thursday 24 August at 7pm**. An open invitation is extended to everyone.

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 200 Club:

As a parish community, we had the Parish 200 Club and it was organised by Roddy McDonald who, sadly has passed. If you would like to volunteer and run our parish 200 Club, kindly let Fr. Gregory know. Thanks.

-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:** £235.90

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

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

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

New Donations:

Anonymous donations £100.00

Total donations so far for this project £1,333.54.

Thanks.

Reflection:

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zechariah 9:9-10; Responsorial:

Psalms 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Romans 8:9-13

Matthew 11:25-30

Well, we all sometimes feel like giving up in life because of issues we face and are beyond our control. These issues range from sickness, financial difficulties, death of a loved one, workplace challenges etc.

Have you ever reached a point in life that you try to get help from your family, friends and neighbours but the problem never gets a solution?

Have you ever tried to get a solution for an emotional problem using money but your emotional situation remains the same?

Well, I have Good News for you today! The answer or solution to your problem is Jesus Christ. He knows all our weakness and also that sometimes the little strength we have can fail us. Therefore, He invites us to offload all our problems on Him and in return He will give us His yoke, which is good to bear and light. Jesus tells us that in Him we will find rest when we go on our knees and pray.

The yoke that Jesus in giving us, is that of humility and meekness. Jesus is saying that we always feel burdened and troubled because we lack humility and meekness. He tells us to be humble and meek, just like Him and we will find rest.

Therefore, when you fall sick, when you are financially constrained, when you are down

emotionally, when your friends, family and neighbours desert you, when you are fired by your boss at work, when you are angry etc, find rest at the feet of Jesus. Go on your knees, with a humble and contrite heart and tell Jesus all your problems. Jesus Christ will never let us down when we seek his help. He says that whatever we ask of our Heavenly Father in His name, we will get it. Therefore with humble hearts let's take our burdens unto Jesus and we will find rest. --A reflection from Catholicreadings.org

Pope Francis reminds us in the Joy of the Gospel, *Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Jesus Christ: we no longer say that we are 'disciples' or 'missionaries', but always missionary disciples.* The mission and vocation to hear and share the good news of the gospel belongs to all of us, not just some of us. The responsibility of promoting and building the Kingdom belongs to all the baptised. We should not be discouraged if and when people do not listen to us. The quality of our lives is the greatest example we can offer others. The church documents tell that *above all the gospel must be proclaimed by witness.* Jesus has called each of us by our name, he has filled each of us with his Spirit and sends us out in his name; we are not alone. --
Pope Francis

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

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

Email: 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

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Mrs. Linda Forsyth.
Email: lady.linda@live.co.uk 01828632024.

Parish Webmaster: Mr. Irek Kawalinski.
irekkowalinski@gmail.com

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

Responsible Person for Eucharistic Ministers: Mr. Alan Scott.

Responsible Person for Lectors: Seonaid Johnston.