

**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.

**NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE**

to pray for peace in the world, especially in the Ukraine Holy Mass at 3pm on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. Main Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert followed by a Rosary Procession. Homilist: Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family in the UK. All welcome.

**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:SC00810

**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**..... Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Comm & Confirmation every Wed, 5.00pm in the Hall. Email: .....

**Parish Safeguarding Coordinator:** . Email: .....

**Parish Webmaster:** Mr. Irek Kawalinski. irekkow- [alinski@gmail.com](mailto:alinski@gmail.com)

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

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

**Responsible Person for Lectors:** .....

**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

**Tear this off please:**... Are you going into the hospital? Do you have someone going into the hospital? Would you like him/her/you to be visited with communion, please fill the form below and return to Fr. Gregory.

Name:.....

Hospital:.....

Date:.....

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

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

8 Bank Street, Blairgowrie Ph10 6DE, 872171

St. Mary's Coupar Angus & St. Luan's Alyth.

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 30/7/23**

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

**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 23/7/23**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year A**

**PARISH DIVERSITY DAY CELEBRATION  
ONE MASS IN THE PARISH**

Mass at 11.00 am. in St. Stephen's. Everyone is invited to the Hall for some music and refreshments.

**Sun:**--Holy Mass at 11.00 am St. Step's

**Tue** – Mass at 10.00am in St. Steph's.

**Wed** – Mass at 10.00am in St. Steph's.

**Thur** - Mass at 10.00am in St. Steph's.

**Fri** - Mass at 10.00am in St. Steph's.

**Sat/Sun:**--Vigil Mass at 6.30pm. in St. Steph's.; Mass at 9.30 am St. Luan's; Mass at 11.00 am in St. Steph's

**Mass intentions for the week:**

**Sat:** 6.30pm.

**Sun:** 9.30am

**Sun:** 11 am. Maria Arely De Tovar De Bogota

**Tue:** For Bishop Stephen Robson

**Wed:** For Parishioner with ill health

**Thurs:** For Paul Umunna

**Fri:** For Aloysius and Georgina

**This Week's Message in a Glance... Parish Diversity Day Celebration**



**-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 Mer-**

**cy Devotion.** Tuesdays after morning mass.

Please join us. **-Mass with St. Stephen's Pri.**

**Sch:** 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms & 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 Kinnar,

Mary and George Flockhart, Tomasz Wegner

Jaszkin. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn,

Alex Forrester, Rita Robertson, Ciprano ad-

Carmelita, Tom O'Mally, Roy Sweeney.

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

--30<sup>th</sup> July, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.

--30<sup>th</sup> July. Many congratulations to Alba Esther Dick who is baptised at the 11.00am mass today.

---30<sup>th</sup> July. Priestly anniversary celebration: Fr Fr. Tob. @ St. Piux Dundee

--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.

—10th Sept: Sick and Retired Priests Fund

**---St Luan's Doors Open  
Event: Saturday 16 September 2023**

We're hoping for more photos/stories to add to our collages for the event on 16 September.

The sort of thing we have in mind is:

Do you remember going to Mass before Vatican Two? Could you describe any changes in the

St Luan's Mass after that? Were you on the parish Salamanca trip a few years ago? Have you any memories you could share?

Have you had a particular role in St Luan's, eg: altar server, cleaner, flower arranger and could you share any anecdotes?

Have you any stories/memories to share about any of the parish priests who have served in St Luan's since 1950? (Here's a list of their

names to help jog your memory: Frs. Jeremiah O'Donoghue, Kevin Smith, Patrick McNamara, Edmund Purcell, Hamish Stuart, Joseph Creegan, Patrick McInally, Hugh Sreenan, Ian Mullen, James Walls and Gregory Umunna)

Are there any former parishioners who stick in your mind and why?

Please put a your photos/stories/memories into the box at the back of the Church or if you prefer, e-mail these to Marion at

[m.c.duffy@mirrenjones.co.uk](mailto:m.c.duffy@mirrenjones.co.uk)  
--**Amazing Day Coach Trip.**

It was an amazing day coach trip for Parish Altar Servers, parents and their Coordinator last Monday 24<sup>th</sup>

July as group visited Two Bridges and the Island of Inchcombe. It was a lovely experience. Many thanks to the organiser and Coordinator of the altar servers, Rolly Colanese.

--**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 today 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.

**Bric-a-Brac:** A big THANK YOU to everyone who handed in goods, donations and support in any way.

Many thanks to the Ladies who took charge. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

**St. Mary's Coupar Angus** will, *ad interim*, be happy to receive and store your unwanted gift items and other items you may wish to donate in support of the Church fund. Please hand them in or leave

in the Lower Hall. Stalls will be set up in St. Mary's Coupar Angus at specified date in Spring and Summer.



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.

**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.

**Food 4 Thought**

"It is precisely in our frailty that we discover how much God takes care of us. The difficulties and situations that reveal our frailties are privileged opportunities to experience his love. Those who pray with perseverance know this well: in dark or lonely moments, God's tenderness towards us makes itself, so to speak, even more present. We feel God's tenderness more. This tenderness gives us peace; this tenderness makes us grow, because God draws close to us in his way, which is nearness, compassion and tenderness." *Pope Francis*

**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

**FAMILY MUSICAL EVENING - WITH A DASH OF DIVERSITY - FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2023**

You are invited - with ALL your family - children PARTICULARLY welcome - to an evening of music, song, dance and enjoyment on Friday 24th November 2023 in the Hall at St Stephen's, Blairgowrie. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks and prepare for a fabulously entertaining evening of music and song. If you would like to put on a display of song, dance or even a culture-specific "party piece", please let Fr Gregory know so that it can be included in the Programme. Please come along and be part of this November show and make it even more enjoyable!

**-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: P 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

\*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 external walls + double glazing of 11 windows on Bank Street of the Church House:£15,543.00. (Savings:£8,000.00) Target £7,543.00

**New Donations: Anonymous donations .... £396.46**

**Anonymous donations .... £500.00**

**Total donations so far for this project £3,380.00. Thanks.**

**Reflection: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Kingdom of God is today being likened to a fishing net which when thrown into the sea, collects

all sorts of stuff from the water like good fish, bad fish, immature fish, seaweed etc.

When the time now comes to sort out what is good and useful to them, all other stuff except the good fish is thrown away as rubbish into the fire. The good fish is given its value and the owner is happy.

This is exactly what will happen on the last day. Jesus will come and gather everyone together. Those who are of value to Him will be received in Heaven and those who will have lost their value in the eyes of God will be escorted to the fiery Gehennah, where they will burn, and

grind their teeth in pain forever. So then, what should we do to retain our value in the eyes of God? We should do the will of God which is to know Him, Love Him, serve Him, Praise and glorify Him all the days of our life. Avoid anything in this world that can deviate us from doing the will of God, especially

excess wealth and not obeying His commandments.

God created each one of us with a purpose, and this purpose is His will as stated above. So if you fail to do His will then you lose your value before His eyes and therefore your destination will definitely be the fiery Gehennah. Let us therefore purpose to seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things we need to do God's Will, will be added unto us.

**Still on the season of parable**

**"...Christians, motivated by the hope of God, are not pessimists; nor do they naïvely live in a fairy tale, pretending not to see evil and saying that "all is well". No, Christians are realists: they know that there are wheat and weeds in the world. Looking at their own lives, they recognize that evil does not only come from "outside", that it is not always the fault of others, that there is no need to "invent" enemies to fight against in order to avoid looking within themselves. They realize that evil comes from within, in the inner struggle that we all experience." ..Pope Francis**