



St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie
St. Lua's R C Church Alyth
St. Mary's Coupar Angus
26th Sunday of the Ordinary Time, Year A 1/10/23
Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/> E-mail:
ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Parish diary: Week beginning 1/10/23.

Please join us for October Devotion with Rosary 20 minutes before every mass.

Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. Pope Leo XIII personally started the practice of devoting October to the Rosary devotion. There is a plenary indulgence for those who pray the rosary in the church or at home. Present your intentions to Mary.

TO OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY O Virgin Mary, grant that the recitation of thy Rosary may be for me each day, in the midst of my manifold duties, a bond of unity in my actions, a tribute of filial piety, a sweet refreshment, an encouragement to walk joyfully along the path of duty. Grant, above all, O Virgin Mary, that the mysteries of the rosary may form in my soul, little by little, a luminous atmosphere, pure, strengthening, and fragrant, which may penetrate my understanding, my will, my heart, my memory, my imagination, my whole being. So shall I acquire the habit of praying while I work, by interior acts of admiration and of supplication, or by aspirations of love. Amen.

Sat - Vigil Mass 6.30pm- St. Steph;

Sun - Mass at 9.30 am St. Luan's;
- 11.00 am in St. Step's

Tue – Mass at 10am in St. Steps;

Wed –Mass at 7.00pm in St. Step's.

Thurs - Mass at 10.00am in St. Step's

- Mass at 1.30pm in St. Step's Pri. Sch.

Fri - Mass at 10.00am in St. Step's

Sat - Vigil Mass 6.30pm- St. Steph;

Sun - Mass at 9.30 am St. Luan's;
- 11.00 am in St. Step's

Mass intentions for the week:

Sat: 6.30pm. and **Sun:** 9.30am. For the Parish

Sun: 11am. For Jim Warden

Tue: For the intentions of Paul Brown and Family

Wed: For parishioners with ill health

Thurs: For the intentions of Paul Brown and Family

Fri: For Jan Dumon.

This week at a Glance:

The most important lesson we can take from the gospel of today is to seek the humility, openness, and genuineness of the tax collectors and prostitutes. They were praised by our Lord because they could see and accept the honest truth. Sure, they were sinners, but God can forgive sin when we are aware of our sin.

If we are not willing to see our sin, then it's impossible for God's grace to enter in and heal. Reflect, today, upon how open you are to seeing the truth of God and, especially, to seeing your own fallen and sinful state. Do not be afraid to humble yourself before God, admitting your faults and failures. Embracing this level of humility will open the doors of God's mercy toward you.

-St. Stephen's Parish Safeguarding Training.

-Please Note: Those who were unable to attend last Safeguarding training in our parish would have to complete their mandatory training to be able to continue their role and this is subject to trainers availability. We would look to hold a Saturday session for the remaining PVG holders asap. Thanks.

-Offerory Collection is part of our church tradition. A massive appreciations to those who continue to support the church via Standing Order, Direct debit, telephone transfers, envelops of use of the offertory collection box in the Church. By signing the Gift Aid form, your offertory collections can earn the parish a bit more. Thank you.

-Catechism Classes for boys and girls out with St. Stephen's Primary School who wish to make First Holy Communion and Confirmation in our parish in June 2024 is starting shortly weekly in the parish Hall. Register your child now. Email: or call Email: alzbeta.krajcikova@gmail.com Ph:07934884759. There will be no late registrations please.

-Have you prayed your Rosary today? – In your prayers, 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, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Roy Sweeney. –

Other Devotional Programmes of the Parish

Family Rosary and adoration. Every Wednesday 6.00pm - 7.00pm.

-Mass for the sick every Wed 7.00pm.

-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.

FAMILY MUSICAL EVENING-WITHADASHOF 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!

Today and Up Coming Events:

-15th October: please support the Special collection Mission Sunday collection.

-29th October, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.

-12th November, please support the Special collection Catholic Education Service.

-26th November, please support the Special collection for maintenance Fund.

-10th December, please support the Special collection for Poor Mission Fund.

-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.

-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.

-Children's Liturgy: Many thanks to Mary Wojtowicz and her team of the Liturgists for the wonderful work they do for us and I encourage the parents to please support their children to use this wonderful opportunity. There, the children learn about the message of each Sunday but also interact socially with other children.

-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:£256.54

* Building Maintenance Fund ...£338.86

* Open Doors at Alyth ...£60.00

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

-Reflection: Actions Speak Louder

In the Gospel passage for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, Matthew 21:28-32, Jesus presents a parable to the chief priests and elders. A father asked his sons to work in the vineyard. The first son initially refused but later obeyed, while the second son agreed but didn't follow through. When asked which son did his father's will, they acknowledged the first.

This story prompts us to reflect on the power of actions versus words. True transformation lies in our deeds, not just appearances. We might profess goodness but act differently. The sincerity of our hearts matters more than our knowledge. Our lives should reflect caring actions, for what we do matters more than what we know.

This reading reminds us that change is possible. Despite initial refusals or mere lip service, we can still choose to embrace what is right and answer God's call to serve. Our actions can reshape our paths, illustrating our commitment to God's will.

A Change of Heart

In Ezekiel, The virtuous who turn to wrongdoing face consequences, but the wicked who reform their ways will find life. This speaks of the opportunity for change and redemption.

Both the First Reading and the Gospel parable underscore the significance of turning away from wrongdoing and embracing righteousness. God's mercy extends to those who change their hearts, demonstrating that true repentance leads to life. This challenges us to assess our own hearts and actions, recognizing the power of change and the boundless reach of God's grace. --From Young Catholics

-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:.....

*Wishing you and your loved ones a lovely Sunday,
Fr. Gregory Umunna*