



**Join us for A Diocesan Lenten Retreat Day**

The temple of God is holy, and you are that temple\*

at St Mary's, Forebank, Church Hall, Forebank Road, DD1 2PB

on Saturday 2 March 10am until 3pm

Scripture - Song - Silence - Teaching - Sharing - Reflection

Celebration of the Eucharist & Anointing for witness

All are welcome: Register for a place at [StAndrew@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:StAndrew@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)

**Society for the Protection of Unborn Children:**

Dundee Branch with Dunkeld Diocese Invites you to an Afternoon for Life. Marriage, Family and Life Office President, Bishop John Keenan. Scottish Family Party Leader, Richard Lucas. Our Duty of Care, Dr Gillian Wright Saturday 16th March 1pm to 4.30pm. Our Lady of Victories, Forebank Road (bottom hall). Tea and coffee from 12.30pm A chance to catch up with pro-life friends. Creche places possibly available. Booking not essential. Please come along for all or part of the afternoon. For further information [mcgraw.clare@gmail.com](mailto:mcgraw.clare@gmail.com) or 07752527696

**5 Day Pilgrimage to Knock in October 2024  
Monday 14 to Friday 18 October 2024**

Travelling by air to Knock from Edinburgh Airport

The cost per person - £709 per person sharing (£909 in single room)

Chaplain - Fr Dr Tobias Okoro (PP at St Pius/St Patrick's, Dundee)  
The cost includes - Return flights Edinburgh - Knock  
Airport duty and passenger taxes

1 suitcase per person for the aircraft hold  
Four nights half board at Knock House Hotel  
Extra - Travel Insurance £45 per person

For more information phone - 01382 778449  
or on mobile - 07488 276858 / 07867 950633  
email - [stpiusx@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:stpiusx@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)

DIocese of Dunkeld - SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SC001810

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

Phone: 01250872171. Email: [ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddioecese.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: Elizabeth Bush: Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Comm & Confirmation every .....in the Hall. Email: [alzbeta.krajcikova@gmail.com](mailto:alzbeta.krajcikova@gmail.com) Ph:07934884759

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Maureen Jackson. 07952376985; Email: [ststephen-psc@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen-psc@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)

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

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

Responsible Person for Eucharistic Ministers: Mr. Alan Scott.

Responsible Person for Children's Liturgy: Mary Wojtowicz

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

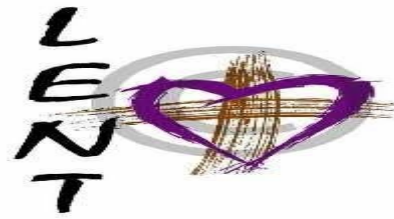
Grounds Flowers: Jennifer FitzPatrick

Adviser on Finance: Mr. Mike Coyle

Adviser on Fabric: Mr. Jim Graham

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 RC Church Blairgowrie**  
St. Luan's R C Church Alyth  
St. Mary's Coupar Angus  
3rd Sunday of Lent: Year B 3/2/24  
Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/>  
E-mail: [ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)  
Address: 8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE  
01250872171

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.

Father Gregory E. Umunna Ph.D.  
Parish website: <https://www.st-stephensblairgowrie.org.uk/>  
E-mail: [ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddioecese.org.uk)  
Contact Address: 8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE  
01250872171

**Parish diary: Week beginning from 3/3/24.**

Saturday 2nd March - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's

Sunday 3rd March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth

Sunday 3rd March - 11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's

Tuesday 5th March - 10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's

Wednesday 6th March - 11am: Stations of the Cross at St. Stephens Primary School  
- 6.00pm adoration, 7pm: Holy mass at St. Stephen's

Thursday 7th March - 10am: Stations of the Cross & mass at St. Luan's

Friday 8th March - 10.00am: Stations of the Cross & mass at St. Stephen's.

Saturday 9th March - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's

Sunday 10th March - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth

Sunday 10th March - 11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's

*This Sunday, the third of Lent,* re-instates the **Commandments** ... not suggestions. By then and through them, God gives us ten ways to protect our freedom from slavery. In the gospel, Jesus demonstrates the importance of having a pure heart through his actions in the temple. By driving out the merchants and money changers, Jesus was purifying the temple of all that was contrary to God's will. He was removing the distractions and impurities that had taken over the temple and restoring it to its intended purpose as a place of worship and prayer. This week through purifying our heart, we free it from all ungodly things, and so renew and rededicate ourselves to God as we too are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

**Mass intentions for the week:** Jim Warden (anniversary), Gerard Cabrielli, Tomasz Wegner Jaszkin.

**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. -Mass with St. Stephen's Primary School: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

Thursday 21st March: 5.30pm: In Praise of Mary, who suffered with her Son at the foot of the cross in his passion in St. Stephens.

**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. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Alex Forrester, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Roy Sweeney, Diana Richardson, Pamela -

**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.

**Warm Welcome:** Tea/Coffee, biscuits and a warm welcoming space in the Lower Hall after the 11.00am mass every Sunday to May 2024. Please feel free to pop in. More volunteers to help with serving please. Thanks.

**-Dates for the Sacraments in 2024:**  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Wednesday, 8th of May 2024. Time?? **Sacrament of Confirmation:** Sunday, 19th of May 2024. Time 2.00pm. **First Holy Communion** for School and Parish Candidates: Sunday, 2nd of June 2024. Time 2.00pm.

**Great News: We have a new Bishop!** The Holy Father has appointed **Father Martin Chambers** as the new Bishop elect of Dunkeld. Father Martin is a priest of the Diocese of Galloway We pray for him, and for one another and for the whole local Church. He will be ordained a bishop on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April at the Cathedral, 11 am . Everyone is invited."

**-St. Stephen's Easter Musical Evening** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of April, St. Stephen's Easter Musical Evening 6pm: Featuring talents, music, songs and instruments from parishioners and friends of the parish. Bring your friends and BYOB.



**-St. Stephen's Easter Musical Evening**  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of April, St. Stephen's Easter Musical Evening 6pm: Featuring talents, music, songs and instruments from parishioners and friends of the parish. Bring your friends and BYOB.

**Today and Up Coming Events:**

-10<sup>th</sup> March 2024, SCIAF Sunday . Please support the Special collection.  
-30<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it.

-Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of April: St. Stephen's Easter Musical Evening 6pm. Featuring talents, music, songs and instruments from parishioners and friends of the parish. Bring your friends and BYOB.

**-At the repository:** available are our 2024 Diary, rosaries, medals, holy pictures, candles etc and these will make lovely presents for family and friends. Please visit Our Parish Repository.

**-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.

**"Catholic Families for Life"** - Latest issue of newsletter from the Bishops' Commission for Marriage, Family & Life - download a copy on [www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk](http://www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk) from 1<sup>st</sup> March onwards.

**Very Important Information:** Last Sunday a visitor worshipping with us took ill while at mass and a call went out for anyone with first aid experience. Thankfully few of our parishioners namely, Dr. Maureen Hawden (GP), Gerrard Cameron, Monina Pachon and a few others with knowledge of First aid kindly supported. To equip more people with the knowledge of First Aid, I have been advised to encourage parishioners to

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either renew, update or avail themselves of this training. Unfortunately there are no classes in the area at the moment but after enquiries to Perthshire First Aid the administrator wondered if a group from St Stephens might be willing to undertake a 1 day course. Parish will be happy to pay for this training if we can get people to volunteer undertake a first aid course. A group of 3 - 4 people would cost £95 per person.

A group of 5 - 7 people would cost £90 per person.

8 - 10 group would be £85 per person.

Certificates are valid for 3 years. Do you think parishioners would be willing to undertake a first aid course? Please speak to Fr. Gregory.

**-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, it would be very much appreciated.

**-Offertory Collection** is part of our church tradition. A massive appreciation to those who make their offertory collection or support the parish via Standing Order, Direct debit, telephone transfers, envelopes or put their support in the offertory collection box in the Church. By signing the Gift Aid form, your offertory collection can earn the parish a bit more. Thanks.

**Details of Parish account:** 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's offertory coll. £398.94; BMF £198.43. No. of parishioners/families with monthly online payment as at December 2023 = 40 with a total value of £1,679**

Many thanks for your support to the parish.

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

**Reflection: The Temple**

The gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B takes place in the temple. We must understand that the temple in Jerusalem was considered the most holy place for the Jewish people, and it was a place where they would come to offer sacrifices and worship God. The Israelites believed God was really present in the temple. The sales going on there enabled people traveling from afar to purchase animals for sacrifice. This was a great convenience.

However, the presence of the merchants and money changers had turned the temple into a marketplace, which was not only disrespectful but also a distraction from the true purpose of the temple. Jesus, as the Son of God, recognized this and was filled with a righteous anger that compelled him to drive out the merchants and money changers.

In a similar way, we are called to reflect on this Gospel reading for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B and ask ourselves how we may have turned our own lives into a marketplace, where we prioritize material possessions and worldly pursuits over our relationship with God. Our focus must be on the Eucharist. We must not allow what is going on at our parishes to distract us from their central purpose - the worship of God.

We must also recognize that the temple in Jerusalem was a foreshadowing of the true temple, which is the body of Christ. As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is present in the Eucharist, and that every time we participate in Mass, we are entering into the presence of God. Let us approach the Eucharist with reverence and awe, just as the Jewish people approached the temple in Jerusalem. Let us also strive to make our own bodies and hearts a worthy dwelling place for Christ, so that we may be a true reflection of his love and mercy to the world.



**-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.

**-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.

**Quotes from Pope Francis:**

"Almsgiving, prayer and fasting are not mere external practices; they are paths that lead to the heart, to the core of the Christian life. They make us realize that we are ashes loved by God, and they enable us to spread that love on the "ashes" of so many situations in our daily lives, so that in them hope, trust and joy may be reborn."

Pope Francis  
.....

**Catechism of the Catholic Church: Article 2 THE PASCHAL MYSTERY IN THE CHURCH'S SACRAMENTS**

I. The Sacraments of Christ

1114 "Adhering to the teaching of the Holy Scriptures, to the apostolic traditions, and to the consensus . . . of the Fathers," we profess that "the sacraments of the new law were . . . all instituted by Jesus Christ our Lord."<sup>31</sup>

1115 Jesus' words and actions during his hidden life and public ministry were already salvific, for they anticipated the power of his Paschal mystery. They announced and prepared what he was going to give the Church when all was accomplished. The mysteries of Christ's life are the foundations of what he would henceforth dis-

pense in the sacraments, through the ministers of his Church, for "what was visible in our Savior has passed over into his mysteries."<sup>32</sup>

1116 Sacraments are "powers that comes forth" from the Body of Christ,<sup>33</sup> which is ever-living and life-giving. They are actions of the Holy Spirit at work in his Body, the Church. They are "the master-works of God" in the new and everlasting covenant.  
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**Family Celebration of the Holy Week 2024**

**ST. STEPHEN'S R.C. CHURCH, BLAIRGOWRIE**

8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE. &

**ST. LUAN'S R.C. CHURCH ALYTH**

Alexander Street, PH11 8AS  
Parish email: [ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)  
Phone: 01250872171  
Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk>

**Thursday 21st March:** 5.30pm: In Praise of Mary, who suffered with her Son in his passion in St. Stephens.

**Friday 22nd March:** Opportunities for all day Individual and Family reconciliation by appointment.

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B - Sunday March 24th**

Distribution, Procession, Blessing of Palm at all Masses  
+ Vigil Mass at 5.30 p.m. in St. Stephen's  
+ Mass at 9.30 a.m. in St. Luan's  
+ Mass at 11.00 a.m. in St. Stephen's  
+ Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 4.00 p.m. in St. Stephen's.

**Monday of Holy Week** – March 25th Mass at 10.00 am in St. Stephen's

**Tuesday of Holy Week** – March 26th Mass at 10.00am in St. Stephen's

**Wednesday of Holy Week** – March

27th Mass & Stations of the Cross at 10.00am in St. Luan's  
**Holy Thursday of the Lord's Betrayal** – March 28th  
Morning Prayer in St. Stephen's 10am.  
The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm in St. Step's. No washing of feet.

**Good Friday of the Lord's Passion** – March 29th (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)  
Morning Prayer in St. Stephen's 10am.

Stations of The Cross at 12.00noon in St. Luan's followed by The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.  
Stations of The Cross at 3.00pm in St. Stephen's followed by The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.

**Holy Saturday – March 30th** A day of waiting at the Lord's tomb.

-Morning Prayer in St. Stephen's 10am.  
+ 11.00am: Blessing of Easter Food Basket for the Polish Community

**THE EASTER VIGIL MASS:** Night of all nights.  
+ This is the crown and highpoint of the Christian liturgical year, from 5.30 pm at St. Stephen's.

**Easter Sunday Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord** - March 31st  
Renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Holy Water 9.30 am. in St Luan's  
11.00 am. in St. Stephen's Blairgowrie

**Suggested Scriptural Readings for the Holy Week and Easter celebrations:** Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1; Exodus 14:15; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10.

Have a blessed Easter celebrations  
— **Father Gregory Umunna**