

St. Stephen's RC Church Blairgowrie
St. Luan's R C Church Alyth and St. Mary's Coupar Angus
Third Sunday of Easter: Year B 14/4/24

Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/> E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk
Address: 8 Bank Street Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE

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.

Parish diary: Week beginning from 14/4/24.

Saturday 13th April - 5.30pm: Easter Vigil mass St Stephen's
Sunday 14th April - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth
Sunday 14th April - 11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's
Tuesday 16th April - 10.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's
Wednesday 17th April - 6.00pm adoration, 7pm: Holy mass at St. Stephen's
Thursday 18th April - 10am: mass at St. Luan's;
Friday 19th April - 10.00am: Mass at St. Stephen's.
Saturday 20th April - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St Stephen's
Sunday 21st April - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's Alyth
Sunday 21st April - 11.00am: Holy mass at St. Stephen's.

This Sunday, ...the risen Jesus appears, shows his wounds, eats fish and 'opens their minds to understand the scriptures' Similarly in Acts of the Apostles, Peter addresses his hearers by appealing to the ancient scriptures, inviting them and us today to repent from ignorance of God's living word in the Old testament.

Prayer: O God of mystery, out of death you delivered Christ Jesus, and he walked in hidden glory with his disciples. Stir up our faith, that our hearts may burn within us at the sound of his word and our eyes be opened to recognise him in the breaking of the bread. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives and reigns with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Mass intentions for the week:

Jim Warden, Monsignor Vincent Mba, Catherine Nolan: 90th Birthday, Bishop Gregory Ochiagha, Sofia Otremba, Zbigniew Otremba, Tomasz Otremba, Jan Kowlinski (anniversary)

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: 5.00pm every Saturday and 9am every Sunday, -Divine Mercy Devotion: Tues after morning mass. -Mass with St. Stephen's Primary School: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

In your prayers, kindly remember those on our prayer list: Michael Rolls, Neil Mcdowall. Pam McKenna, Val Naughton, Dr. Paul Kinneer, 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.

Let us Pray: God of life, source of all faith, through the waters of baptism you have raised us up in Jesus and given us life that endures. Day by day refine our faith, that we who have not seen the Christ may truly confess him as our Lord and God and share the blessedness of those who believe.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Today and Up Coming Events: -28th April: Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it.
Dates for the Sacraments in 2024: -Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday, 8th of May 2024. Time. 5pm. -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.

-June 12th: National Prayer Breakfast for Scotland, Edinburgh all morning and afternoon. -19th May: The Apostolate of Communication. Special collection. -26th May: Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it. -9th June: Day of Life Special Collection. Please support it. -30th June: Building maintenance Fund collection. please support it. July: Peter's Pence. August: The Apostleship of the Sea.

-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.

-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.

-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. £445.83; Holy Places £194.37, BMF £546.07. 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.

First Aid Training: The following people have indicated their interest to be part of the proposed First Aid training in the parish: Amanda Donnelly, Kian Donnelly, Juliet Vivers, Hayley Ritchie, Maria Dawson, Katherine Fraser, Ellie William, Gail McIntyre, Anne-Marie Hogan and Mary Wojtowicz. This is the final call before a meeting is arranged soon. Thanks.

Going Back to Galilee Without Fear

The Gospel of the resurrection of Jesus Christ begins with the journey of the women to the tomb at dawn on the day after the sabbath. They go to the tomb to honour the body of the Lord, but they found it open and empty. A mighty angel said to them: "Do not be afraid(28.5) and orders them to go and tell the disciples: "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee". The women quickly depart and on the way Jesus himself meets them and says: "Do not fear, go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me". (v10) "Do not be afraid, do not fear" These are words that encourage us to open our hearts to receive the message.

After the death of the master, the disciples had scattered; their faith had been utterly shaken, everything seemed over, all their certainties had crumbled, and their hopes had died. But now, that message of the women, incredible as it was, came to them as a ray of light in the darkness. The news spread: Jesus is risen as he said. And then, there was his command to go to Galilee; the women had heard it twice, first from the angel and then from Jesus himself: Let them go to Galilee; there they will see me". "Do not fear" and "go to Galilee". Galilee is the place where they were first called, where everything began. For each of us there is a Galilee, an existential Galilee, the experience of a personal encounter with Christ. Where is my Galilee?

Wishing you a lovely Sunday, Fr. Gregory Umunn