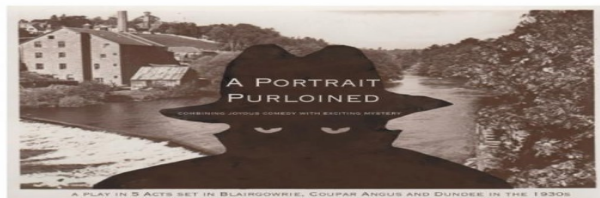


"A Portrait Purloined".

St. Stephen's, Blairgowrie, Summer 2025

If you'd like to be part of this summer's production of the mystery comedy "A Portrait Purloined," please speak to Leo or Esther Brown, or complete the form below and leave it in the box.



Praying for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life: There is a Holy Hour at 6pm followed by the Holy Mass at 7pm to pray for an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, as well as for our Priests. This takes place on 2nd Tuesday of each month in

We are beggars of Mercy: The story of the woman caught in the act of adultery in John 7:53-8:11 takes us to the heart of God's mercy. Being caught in the act of adultery would quickly catch headlines, especially when it was considered sinful as well as scandalous. Yet this is well within the embrace of God's mercy. Thank God for the inclusion of this story in the Gospel. The Bible tells us that God's mercy is as wide as the Ocean, deeper than the deepest sea, and higher than the mountains, and as far as the west is from the east. We are therefore beggars before God in need of mercy and forgiveness. No wonder the Eucharist itself is a prayer for mercy. "This is my blood of the covenant pour out for the forgiveness of sins..." Matthew 26:28. "No one is beyond the reach of God's mercy" St Theresa of Lisieux

PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest/Prison Chaplain: 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.

Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Comm & Confirmation ended for the year.

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Mrs Maureen Jackson 07952376985; Email: ststephen-psc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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

Music Directors: Mr. Tom Buckham and Mrs. Gail McIntyre. (Blair) The Donnelly Family (Alyth)

Responsible Person for Eucharistic Ministers: Mrs Maureen Jackson.

Responsible Person for Children's Liturgy: Mrs Mary Wojtowicz

Responsible Person for Lectors: Mr. Anthony Jervis (Alyth) Mr. Paul Brown (Blair)

Responsible Group for Parish Social Justice Issues: SVP

Responsible Person for Church Flowers: Jean Scott (Blair), Mrs Elma Sharp (Alyth)

Resp. Person: Altar Servers: Mr Rolly Colanese

Grounds Flowers: Mrs Jennifer FitzPatrick (Blair)

Responsible Person for St. Luan's RC Church, Alyth: Daria McDowall: dariam@gmx.com

Adviser on Finance: Mr. Mike Coyle

Adviser on Fabric: Mr. Jim Graham

A Team of Welcomers in St. Luan's and St. Stephen's

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:
Date:.....

Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.

Email: 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.

Trinity Sunday, Year C, 15/6/25

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

E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Scottish Charity No: SC001810



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.

Our Vision: To be a welcoming and participating Catholic community on a journey, striving to be led by the Spirit, strengthened by a bond of love and unity, guided by the gospel message of Christ, refreshed and nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ at the Eucharistic table. Enriched by a vibrant people of God from diverse backgrounds and supported by many gifts employed in various ministries and stewardships, we journey together hand-in-hand through life as a community.

Parish diary: Week beginning from 15/6/25

Saturday - 5.30pm: Vigil mass. St. Stephen's.

Sunday - 9.30 am: Holy mass at St. Luan's.

Sunday - 11.00am: Holy mass at St. Steph's.

Monday - 10.30am/1.30pm Masses and Ministry of Care, all day in Glenochil Prisons. s

Tues - 10.00am. Holy mass at St. Steph's.

Wednesday - 6.00pm Adoration, Rosary; 7.00pm Holy mass for the Sick at St. Stephen's.

Thursday - 10.00am - Holy mass at St. Luan's.

Friday - 10.00am Holy mass at St. Stephens.

Saturday - 5.30pm: Vigil mass St. Stephen's.

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

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

This Sunday, at 2.00pm: Holy Mass for First Holy Communion. We present:

Jan kotowicz

Saskia Baillie

Maya Siadkowski

Ivy Tweedie

Symonds Ollender

James Tennant

Wojciech Marcinkowski

Afrel Lambanicio

Please pray for the parish boys and girls who will be making their First Holy Communion. Tea/Coffee will be served in the Hall after the mass. Everyone is invited to join us.

Mass intentions: Those who have died recently: Fr Anthony Udogu, Ngozi Anukam, Jerry Oka.



This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad

"The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (CCC, No. 44).

This Week's Message in a Glance...

The three divine Persons are only one God because each of them equally possesses the fullness of the one and indivisible divine nature.

- ⇒ -Family Rosary and adoration. Every Wednesday 6.00pm-7.00pm.
- ⇒ Mass for the sick every Wednesday 7.00pm-7.30pm.
- ⇒ -Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5.00pm 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.

In your prayers, kindly remember our Beloved Dead: Those who have died recently: Valeria Naughton Alexander Forrester, Bill Waldron, Geo McGoldrick and those whose anniversary we remember now especially Mary Kate O'Brien.

Kindly remember also those on our prayer list:

Pope Francis, Michael Rolls, Neil McDowall, Pam McKenna, Mary and George Flockhart, Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Diana Richardson, Giles Umunna and Tony Donnan, Lisa Robertson, Philip Lafferty.

This Sunday's Food 4 Thought: On the Trinity

The word Trinity comes from the Latin word "trinitas," which means "three" or "triad." The Greek equivalent is "triados." The first surviving use of the term (there may have been earlier uses that are now lost) was about 170 A.D. by Theophilus of Antioch, who wrote:

"In like manner also the three days which were before the luminaries are types of the Trinity [Τριάδος], of God, and His Word, and His wisdom. And the fourth is the type of man, who needs light, that so there may be God, the Word, wisdom, man"

The Compendium of the **Catechism of the Catholic Church** explains it this way: "The Church expresses her trinitarian faith by professing a belief in the oneness of God in whom there are three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The three divine Persons are only one God because each of them

equally possesses the fullness of the one and indivisible divine nature. They are really distinct from each other by reason of the relations which place them in correspondence to each other. The Father generates the Son; the Son is generated by the Father; the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son" (No. 48).

"The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (No. 44).

When did the Church infallibly define the Trinity?

The dogma of the Trinity was defined in two stages, at the First Council of Nicaea (325 A.D.) and the First Council of Constantinople (381 A.D.). First Nicaea defined the divinity of the Son and wrote the part of the Creed that deals with the Son.

This council was called to deal with the heresy known as Arianism, which claimed that the Son was a supernatural being but not God..

Bishops' Message Day for Life presents an opportunity to celebrate the dignity of all human life from conception to natural end. The theme for 2025 is 'Hope Does Not Disappoint: Finding Meaning in Suffering'.

For as long as history has been written, the world has never been without struggle and suffering. Through the lens of television and social media, however, the suffering of the whole world appears on our personal devices. Many of us find it hard to make sense of a world in which suffering seems to press down from every direction: pandemic; war; homelessness; violence in our streets, addiction. Then, often without warning, we find ourselves caught up in the struggle when serious illness comes into our own lives. Suffering touches every person at some point in their lives. It is often associated with illness, grief, and loss. It is not only caused by physical pain but includes emotional suffering as well as 'soul pain', such as depression and despair.

Christians are not immune to this mystery and we often struggle to know how best to respond to it, and where we can find hope. "Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Rom 5:5-6). St Paul invites us to see that Christian hope is not just naïve optimism but, rather, an unshakeable trust in the power and presence of God who is with us always. This hope can endure the darkness of human suffering and even see beyond it. That is because Christian hope is anchored in God who is Love and whose love reaches out to us and lifts us up day after day. Care for the sick and suffering was central to the ministry of Jesus. Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan as a way of explaining what it means to be a "neighbour" to another person. The Good Samaritan is someone who sees and is moved to compassion (while others turn away), who draws close, who "binds up wounds", who accompanies the person in need, and who continues to care for as long as it is needed.

Often the healing Jesus offered was much more than just a physical cure: it included emotional and spiritual healing as well, because for Jesus, the human person is more than just a body needing to be fixed. Jesus invites us to "Go and do likewise" (Lk. 10:29-37). The alleviation of suffering is good and must always be part of our focus. But there remains, for many people, a suffering that cannot be taken away and has to be endured. How do we make sense of that? The claim that it is better to die than to suffer leads some people to suggest that euthanasia or assisted suicide might be more compassionate. As Christians, however, we follow Jesus who lived his entire life, including his suffering, in the confident hope that His Father loved him and would raise him up, and He did! The cross, which Jesus did not ask for and did nothing to deserve, has become a sign of hope for countless millions of people in every generation.

The death and resurrection of Jesus leads us to believe that, far from being futile or absurd, a life marked by suffering, when it is lived with generosity and patience, is full of meaning. People like Simon of Cyrene (who helped carry the cross), or St. Veronica (who wiped the face of Jesus) literally accompanied Jesus on the Way of the Cross. Modern saints like Thérèse of Lisieux and the soon-to-be first millennial saint Carlo Acutis understood that when we unite our suffering with the suffering of Christ for the good of the world, it is transformed through his grace. Most of us have known people like them. Far from being the end of hope, their suffering, when accepted and embraced, has shown itself to be a path to growth and ultimately to Resurrection.

This year's Day for Life is an invitation to pray for those who suffer and to remain with them like the Good Samaritan, bearing witness to their unique and unrepeatable value. We see this closeness in the generous and fruitful service of healthcare professionals, whose mission continues even when there is no longer any prospect of physical healing. We see it in another way in families, carers and chaplains who support their brothers and sisters who are sick or frail or struggling with the many burdens of life. As Christians, we affirm them and hold out to them the hope of Jesus Christ who does not disappoint us. **Most Reverend John Sherrington Archbishop of Liverpool England and Wales Right Reverend Kevin Doran Bishop of Elphin Ireland Right Reverend John Keenans Bishop of Paisley Scotland**

Today's and Up Coming

Today, : 29th June: Building maintenance Fund; 13th July: Peter's Pence; 27th July: Building maintenance Fund; 10th August: Apostleship of the Sea; 31st August: Building maintenance Fund; 14th September: Bishop's Mensal Fund; 28th September: Building maintenance Fund; 12th Oct: Mission Sunday; 26th October: Building maintenance Fund; 9th November: Sick and Retired Priest's Fund/Catholic Education Service; 30th Nov: Building maintenance Fund; 14th Dec: Poor Mission Fund; 28th Dec: Building maintenance Fund.

Mary's Meal Coffee Morning 21st June 2025 in Blairgowrie Town Hall

Any donations of raffle or tombola prizes most welcome! Can be handed in to Margaret Young or Lynne Fryer or brought on the day. Preparation time will be from 8-10am if you can help with setting up the Hall. Please encourage friends and family to come along - Doors open 10am - 12 noon Entrance £4 includes refreshments.

Please submit all items for the parish bulletin by 6.00 p.m. on Thursday each week.
Email: peacegreg2002@yahoo.com Phone: 01250 872171

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. By signing the Gift Aid form, your offertory collection can earn the parish a bit more.

-Details of Parish account: Name: TRUSTEES OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DUNKELD NQ3. Account Number: 28075068; Sort Code: 80-22-60 St Stephens RC Church.

Last Sunday offertory coll: £449.11, Day of Life< £213.38. Many thanks for your support to the parish. *Figures exclude takings from Standing orders, bank transfers and direct debits. Comprehensive Parish Financial Audits and Accounts are published on the Notice Board. Many thanks .



"I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, so that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead." Phil 3:8-14



Adoration in St. Stephen's, every Wed. 6.00pm-7.00pm. 'The Eucharist is that love which surpasses all loves in Heaven and on earth.' - St. Bernard. Please feel free to join us for adoration.



Ellie Morrocco: is running a Private Tuition with some group classes this summer on study skills and also for students starting the National 5 and Higher maths courses. There are offers of some places free of charge to the kids in the parish. There will be 12 spaces available on each course. Please speak to Ellie Morrocco Private Tuition 07976834977.

Mission Appeal

Fr. Patrick McCallion SPS
Will be visiting our parish and preaching mission on behalf of the Kiltigan Fathers on Sunday the 29th of June. That weekend will have only two masses: 9.30am in Alyth and 11.00am in Blairgowrie. Please welcome & support their missionary work.

St. Stephen's Parish Library.

Selection of Books on:
Spirituality/
Prayer

Lives of Saints/
Martyr

Theology/
philosophy
History/
Psychology

Pilgrimage sites

Pls feel free to borrow any from the shelves in the lower hall and return a week after use. Thanks.

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 some-one who is in need of this care. Thanks.



Children's Liturgy: I want to thank Mary Wojtowich 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.

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.



Tea/Coffee, Everyone is welcome to tea and coffee served in the Lower Hall after 11.00am mass in St. Stephens every Sunday morning after 11.00am mass. Thanks.

FINDING MEANING IN SUFFERING Hope does not disappoint An invitation to pray for those who suffer and to remain with them like the Good Samaritan, bearing witness to their unique and unrepeatable value.

Bishops' Message Day for Life presents an opportunity to celebrate the dignity of all human life from conception to natural end. The theme for 2025 is 'Hope Does Not Disappoint: Finding Meaning in Suffering'.

Based on the words of Carlo Acutis and Pope Francis.

Jesus, You wait for me. You let yourself be found when I think there is no hope. I need to set down the burdens of my history, my life, my sins, at Your feet, to consign to You the weight of my past. No matter how burdensome, how complicated, how terrible, it is always possible for me to consign it all to You, my loving and merciful God, and set out anew of life's journey. You show me the sick bed can be a holy place, where charity and love turn away indifference, and gratitude nourishes hope. Suffering can make me feel exiled, cut off, but with You it is a place of encounter, a school in which I learn to love and be loved, with humility and grace. Teach me, Lord, so that I may imitate this in my life. May the true measure of my life be shown in my relation to those sick and suffering. May I not banish suffering and those who suffer from my surroundings. May I not exclude those who are frail and housebound. Like the Good Samaritan, may I have compassion for those who suffer so much more than me. Like Saint Carlo Acutis Saint Therese, may I have the strength to embrace life's sufferings and offer them to You, for the Pope and the Church. Give me Your hope so that I may not fear, because with Your death and suffering comes life - eternal life; something extraordinary awaits us.

Anima Christi Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O Good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you That with your saints I may praise you For ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of St John Henry Newman O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

Helping Hands are needed in the Cleaning of our lovely church. Please consider helping us.



Speak to the Priest, please.

Parish Website: www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk

Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No: