



St. Stephen's R C Church.

8 Bank Street Blairgowrie Ph10 6DE, 872171

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

26th Sunday, Year B. 28/9/25

Parish Priest and Prison Chaplain: Fr. Gregory E. Umunna Ph.D

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

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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 and Mission: To be a welcoming and participating Catholic community on a journey, striving to be led by the Holy 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 and talents employed in various ministries and stewardships, we journey together hand-in-hand through life as a parish family of God's people.

Parish diary: Week beginning from 28/9/25

Parish Family Diversity Day celebration.

Please join us in the Hall after the mass.



Sunday

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

Monday – Prison ministry all day. SS Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

Tues – 10.00am Holy mass at St. Stephen's. St. Jerome

Wed – 10am Holy mass at St. Luan's. St. Theresa of the child Jesus

October Devotions begin. Rosary and Litany: There is a plenary indulgence for the recitation of these in Church, family or pious associations.

- 6.00pm Rosary, adoration, St. Stephens.

- 7pm. Holy mass at St. Stephens. Renewal of SVP promises

Thurs – Prison ministry all day. Holy Guardian Angels

Frid - 10.00am. Holy mass at St. Stephens.

- 6.00pm: Journey of Faith

Saturday – 5.30pm: Vigil mass. St. Stephen's. St. Francis of Assisi

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

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

Other Participatory Programmes of the Parish.

-Family Rosary and adoration. Every Wednesday 6.00pm-

7.00pm. Mass for the sick every Wednesday 7.00pm-7.30pm.

-Sac. of Reconciliation: 5.00pm every Sat and 9am every Sun.

-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.

- Journeying together in Faith Group – Every fortnight.

This week: The story of the Rich Man and Lazarus, or in Hebrew *Eliezer*, which means *God will help* could focus on

- the ultimate settling of accounts,
- the final judgment that will level off all injustices.
- It could urge the need to care for the poor on our own doorsteps, who call out for a better life.
- The rich man did not deny the existence of Lazarus, he just ignored it, or accepted drastic inequality as normality. There can be an ostrich mentality that often ignores the needs of those that are not well off.
- The promise of life after death should not be used as an anaesthetic to dull the need to work for justice in the real world.

Opening Prayer: O God of justice, hear our cry and save us. Make us heed your word to the prophets;rouse us to the demand of the gospel and impel us to carry it out. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Introduction to the Scripture Readings

Amos 6: 1, 4-7 Amos warns the wealthy about their selfishness.

1 Timothy 6: 11-16 Paul gives Timothy tips on being a disciple of the Lord Jesus. *Luke 16: 19-31* A reminder that wealth can insulate us from seeing the needs of others.

Kindly remember also those on our prayer list:

Michael Rolls, Neil Mcdowall. Pam McKenna, Mary and George Flockhart. Snooky Marshall, Maud McGinn, Cipriano and Carmelita, Tom O'Malley, Giles Umunna and Tony Donnan, Lisa Robertson, Philip Lafferty, Philip Jackson, Morag McInness.

Today's and Up Coming: 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. **Feb. 18th 2026, Ash Wednesday; 5th April 2026 Easter; 31st May 2026: Confirmation; 7th June 2026 First Holy Communion; 25th/26th June Joint Anniversary Celebrations for St. Luan's and St. Stephen's "300 years of Catholicism."**

-Details of Parish account: Name: **St. Stephens RC Blairgowrie.** Account Number: 28075068; Sort Code: 80-22-60.

Last Sunday offertory collection: £444.00;. 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 .

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 Thanks.

St. Stephen's Parish Library. Selection of Books on: Spirituality/ Prayer. Lives of Saints/ Martyrs, 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.

Journeying together in Faith Group. Next Session: 3rd Oct. 6pm. Topics discussed so far: **Prayer**: How, when and where to pray, types of prayer; **Purgatory**: meaning, why and how long before they are freed, Should we pray for or to those in purgatory; **Sin**: venial and mortal sins; **Reconciliation**; **Hell**, a state of deprivation not a place, devil, fallen angels, will and choice; **Mercy of God**: works of charity, **Kinds of Baptism**: Baptism by desire, blood and water etc. Following the recommendations of the parish group "Conversation in the Spirit." we shall continue to test run this initiative in our parish within an atmosphere of a relaxed, friendly and welcoming gathering every fortnight.



Children's Liturgy: I want to thank Mary Wojtowicz and her team of Liturgists for the wonderful work they do for us and I encourage the parents to please support their children to use this wonderful opportunity.

Parish Diversity Day Celebration: Sunday 28th September 2025. This year will showcase cultural diversity in a unique setting: Flags A4bsize, multi linguistic mass celebration and prayers, songs, poems, cloths, prints, culinary and many other initiatives from our diver communities in the parish.

A Reflection: **Gospel**: In all the parables of Jesus only one person is given a name. That person is named in today's gospel. It is a person who had been totally neglected – Lazarus. A name which means "God is my help." The name reveals the compassion of God. The message is that God notices, cares, and acts out of love.

The Gospel reminds us that God has the last and definitive word over rich and poor. We have plenty of guidance on what God expects of us. We have the prophets like Amos, the scriptures, the social teaching of the church, the preaching and example of Christ (the one who came back from the dead) and the witness of the saints. This should focus our attention and inform our priorities.

Our faith compels us to be committed to working for justice, and against poverty. Poverty in broadest sense –the lonely, the sick, bereaved, those trapped in addiction or anxiety, those unable to forgive.

There is a link between Inattentional blindness and sin. The rich man in the parable is not accused of gaining his wealth by unjust means. His sin is the sin of omission: he failed to "see the

gorilla." Self-centeredness leads to indifference towards others, an incapacity to see and feel their suffering. The rich man's sin was not that he was rich, but that he was not aware enough to share. We all have our personal and communal blind spots; listening and reflection can help us be more aware of the suffering of others

Our gifts are not for hoarding or self-indulgence. The name of Abraham is mentioned, a reminder that we have a covenant responsibility to each other. God's covenant is with an entire people which is one family. (2 Sam 7:8-17). Pope Francis: "I ask all people of goodwill to help build a culture of encounter, solidarity and peace."

We are given vision and take our direction from God, and this helps us to act out of love. Love is sensitive, attentive, proactive, generous and relieves suffering. Love helps us to notice and to act. We all have something we can share – to use our time and resources with an eye to the eternal (Matt 25:31-46). We have the gift of speech to offer a kind word, and the gift of compassion, because someone somewhere is hurting.

Be aware of the Lazarus' in our own communities...they may need our help in this life, and we may need their help in the next.

News from the Vatican: Pope Leo urges Catholics to pray daily Rosary for Peace in October

Pope Leo XIV invites the faithful to join in praying the Rosary every day during October to invoke God's gift of peace, and announces a Rosary in St. Peter's Square on October 11 as part of the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality.

Catholics across the globe will unite to pray the Rosary for peace in war-torn lands, especially during the month of October, which the Church dedicates to the Holy Rosary.

Pope Leo XIV made the announcement at the Wednesday General Audience.

He said the faithful in Rome will gather in St. Peter's Square on October, 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

"I invite everyone, each day of the coming month, to pray the Rosary for peace—personally, in the family, and in community," he said.

The Pope also invited Vatican employees to pray the Rosary daily in St. Peter's Basilica at 7:00 PM throughout October.

In his greetings to Portuguese pilgrims, Pope Leo lamented the "ruins wrought by murderous hatred."

He invited Christians to share with others "the love of Jesus that illumines and lifts up humanity."

The Rosary for Peace will be held during the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality, which takes place on October 11-12.

READ ALSO

[Our Lady of Fatima to travel to Rome for the Jubilee in October](#)

That day also marks the 63rd anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, which Pope St. John XXIII opened on October 11, 1962.

The original image of Our Lady of Fatima will be in St. Peter's Square for the Rosary prayer and the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality. -- *Wishing you a lovely weekend, Fr. Gregory*

Diversity Mass 2025

Entrance Hymn

Spirit of God come dwell within me
Open my heart O come set me free
Fill me with love for Jesus my Lord
O fill me with living water

**Jesus is living Jesus is here
Jesus my Lord come closer to me
Jesus our Saviour dying for me
And rising to save his people**

Lord how I thirst O Lord I am weak
Lord come to me you alone do I seek
Lord you are life and love and hope
O fill me with living water

Jesus is living.....

Lord I am blind O Lord I can't see
Stretch out your hand O Lord comfort me
Lead me your way in truth and in light
O fill me with living water

Jesus is living.....

Offertory Hymn

Lord you have come to the seashore
Neither searching for
the rich nor the wise
Desiring only that I should follow

**O Lord with your eyes set upon me
Gently smiling you have spoken my name
All I longed for I have found by the water
At Your side I will seek other shores**

Lord see my goods my possessions
In my boat you find no power no wealth
Will you accept then my nets and labour

O Lord....

Lord take my hands and direct them
Help me spend myself in seeking the lost
Returning love for the love you gave me

O Lord....

Lord as I drift on the waters
Be the resting place of my restless heart
My life's companion my friend and refuge

O Lord....

Communion Hymn

Kum ba yah my Lord kum ba yah
Kum ba yah my Lord kum ba yah
Kum ba yah my Lord kum ba yah
O Lord kum ba yah

Someone's crying Lord kum ba yah.....

Someone's singing Lord kum ba yah...

Someone's praying Lord kum ba yah....

Recession Hymn

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Sing and praise your God and mine
Great the Lord in love and wisdom
Might and majesty divine
He who framed the starry heavens
Knows and names them as they shine
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Sing and praise your God and mine

Praise the Lord his people praise him
Wounded souls his comfort know
Those who fear him find his mercies
Peace for pain and joy for woe
Humble hearts are high exalted
Human pride and power laid low
Praise the Lord the people praise him
Wounded souls his comfort know

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Peace and plenty crown your days
Love his laws declare his judgements
Walk in all his words and ways
He the Lord and we his children
Praise the Lord all people praise
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Peace and plenty crown your days

ST. STEPHEN'S RC CHURCH BLAIRGOWRIE

At mass we get to know Jesus better, become his friend and receive him. Mass attendance is key to preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Candidates are expected to show commitment by 75% and over of mass attendance.

Months	Candidate in preparation for 2026 sacrament.....			Sacrament in preparation	
November	1 st 2 nd	8 th 9 th	15 th 16 th	22 nd 23 rd	29 th 30 th
December	6 th 7 th	13 th 14 th	20 th 21 st	24 th 25 th	27 th 28 th
January	3 rd 4 th	10 th 11 th	17 th 18 th	24 th 25 th	31 st
February	1 st	7 th 8 th	14 th 15 th	21 st 22 nd	28 th
March	1 st	7 th 8 th	14 th 15 th	21 st 22 nd	28 th 29 th
April	4 th /5 th	6 th	11 th /12 th	18 th /19 th	25 th /26 th
May	2 nd /3 rd	9 th /10 th	16 th /17 th	23 rd /24 th	30 th /31 st