

Very important Meeting:

300 Years of Catholicism Joint Anniversary Celebrations of St. Stephen's and St. Luan's

Meeting of all the Committees to evaluate progress and strategize on Friday 28th of November 2025,
5.00pm. Lower Hall.

- ⇒ Highlights:
- ⇒ Report of all committees
- ⇒ Collection of all materials for press (Invitation cards, brochures, souvenirs and prayer leaflets)
- ⇒ Updates from Achieves and Historicity
- ⇒ Feedback on plan/estimates/costs for refreshments from the social groups for Alyth and Blairgowrie
- ⇒ Updates on plan/estimates/costs from the culture/displays for church flower/decoration group
- ⇒ Updates from Fabric
- ⇒ Updates from Liturgy Group on Choice of Music
- ⇒ Updates from Website management and designs
- ⇒ Updates from Media and publicity
- ⇒ Updates from Budgets, Business, ways and means.

Parish Pastoral Team

Parish Priest and 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.

Catechist: Gail McIntyre: Catechism Classes for 1st Holy Comm & Confirmation
every Wed, 4.30pm in the lower Hall. Email: gailmcintyre27@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Responsible Person for Eucharistic Ministers: Mrs. Maureen Jackson .

Responsible Person for Children's Liturgy: Mrs. Mary Wojtowicz

Responsible Person for Lectors: Mrs. Daria McDowall (Alyth) Mrs. Maureen Jackson (Blair)

Responsible Group for Parish Social Justice Issues: SSVF

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

Resp. Person: Altar Servers: Rolly Colanase

Grounds Flowers: Mrs. Jennifer FitzPatrick

Adviser on Finance: Mr. Mike Coyle

Adviser on Fabric: Mr. Jim Graham

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. Luan's RC Church Alyth.

33rd Sunday of the Yr. Year . Year C. 15/11/25

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 15/11/25

World Day of the Poor.

This weekend, in furtherance of the programme for the Jubilee Year of Hope and specifically, the Jubilee for the Poor, we welcome Mr Mike Coyle who has been a long-standing member of St. Vincent De Paul Society and has collaborated with the Society's work for the poor. He will share with us his experiences of bringing hope to the poor at the 11.00am mass this Sunday. Please take a listen.



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

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

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

Monday – Prison ministry all day. **St. Elizabeth of Hungary**

6.30pm Reception of Remains: Jim Young

Tues – 10.00am. **Funeral mass for Jim Young** at St. Stephens.

2.30pm Internment at Perth Crematorium

Wed – 10.00am. Holy mass at St. Luan's.

6.00pm Rosary, adoration, St. Stephens.

7pm. Holy mass at St. Stephens.

Thurs – Prison ministry all day.

Frid - 10.00am. Holy mass at St. Stephens. **The presentation of BVM**

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

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

This Week's Message in a Glance...

“Always live as though each day may be your last”

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** – Session, Every fortnight.

- **Don Bosco Group** with activities tailored to children & young people & open to everyone in the community. Every fortnight.

Remembering our Beloved Dead

Opening Prayer: Lord God of all the ages, the One who is, who was, and who is to come, stir up within us a longing for your kingdom, steady our hearts in time of trial, and grant us patient endurance until the sun of justice dawns. We make our prayer 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. Amen

This Sunday: Food 4 Thought

“Always live as though each day may be your last”

There are too many references to the Final Judgement in our Scripture for us to dismiss it as just a figure of speech. People of faith have benefitted from keeping the Judgement-Day as part of the horizon against which to assess the value of our daily activity.

Seeing our problems and our successes in the light of eternity, puts them into a new and different light and one which helps us to judge as God sees things.

A devotional advice much favoured by preachers, was “always live as though each day may be your last?” Most people feel disinclined to centre much attention on the last things. Sobering and spiritually purifying on occasion, yes, especially in November; but most days, like Martha in the Gospel we are fully occupied with immediate tasks, busy with many things.

Remember the practical advice given by St Paul to some people who were excitably looking out for the Lord's return and neglecting their ordinary duties. “Go on quietly minding your own affairs,” he said in today's reading. “And if anyone will not work, neither let him eat!”

Introduction to the Scripture Readings *Malachi 3: 19-20* Those who uphold God's name need have nothing to fear when the world ends. *2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12* A condemnation of laziness. *Luke 21: 5-19* St Luke writes about the end of the world and the second coming of Christ, with words of reassurance for disciples of the Lord.

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, James Jeffrey.

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. Stephen's every Sun. Thanks.
Annual Mass for Deceased Bishops, Priests, and Deacons will take place in the Cathedral at 1pm on Friday 21 November.

SSVP Christmas nibbles for senior citizens: Sandwiches, sausage rolls, traybakes, tea and coffees will be served. Date: Sunday, 7th December, Parish Hall, 1.00pm. Interested persons should please add their names to the list at the back of the Church.

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: 14th Nov. 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, **Kind of Baptism:** Baptism by desire, blood and water, **Pope Leo XIV Papal Exhortation Dilexi te** just released, Halloween and the eve of All *Hallows* in All Saints. 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.

Today's and Up Coming: 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: £517.91. Sick and Retired Priest/Cath Edu: £252.00. 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 .

Project Matthew 25:

This Christmas, make the joy of the season go round. Share with those who have little or nothing. Our focus this season are prisoners, the poor or less privileged. Support the PRISON APOSTOLATE, support to the FOOD BANK supplies with canned foods, biscuits, pastries etc. No cloths, shoes or bags please.

Box in the Lower Hall to collect items

There is an ongoing effort towards those who need to be served by this provision. Please contribute to this very worthy cause. Thankyou very much for your support in this direction.

Pope Says...: Grandparents and young 'grow together' in fruitful exchange

Wheat and weeds growing together Jesus' first parable in the Gospel passage, said the Pope, notes that wheat and weeds grow next to one another in the same field, which therefore reminds Christians to be realistic in our outlook on life. "In human history, as in each of our lives, there is a mixture of light and shadows, love and selfishness," he said. "Good and evil are even intertwined to the point of seeming inseparable."

He said that such a realistic attitude pushes aside ideologies and helps us realize that evil dwells not only "outside" of ourselves, but must also be confronted within ourselves.

..Pope Francis



"Every day, at home, on the street, at work, on holiday, we have the possibility of discerning good. And it is important to know how to find what counts: to train ourselves to recognize the precious gems of life and to distinguish them from junk. Let us not waste time and freedom on trivial things, pastimes that leave us empty inside, while life offers us every day the precious pearl of the encounter with God and with others! It is necessary to know how to recognize it: to discern in order to find it." *Pope Francis*

"Leo from Chicago" - The Documentary

The Vatican Dicastery for Communication presents the documentary "Leo from Chicago," with interviews, footage, and images that trace the history and explore the roots of Robert Francis Prevost in his native United States, including in-depth interviews with Louis and John Prevost. A production by journalists Deborah Castellano Lubov, Salvatore Cernuzio, and Felipe Herrera-Espaliat.

Sistine Chapel hosts ecumenical prayer service with King and Queen

King Charles III and Queen Camilla join Pope Leo XIV in the Sistine Chapel for Midday Prayer as part of their official state visit to the Vatican – marking a historic moment in Anglican- Catholic relationship.

Holy Mass for Staff in Catholic Schools at St. Andrew's Cathedral- Monday, November 17th, 6pm

Civic and Academic Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral – Sunday, November 23rd, 11am.

St Andrew's Day Dignity Not Detention Solidarity Gathering – Dungal IRC, Strathaven, ML10 6RF – Sunday 30th, November, 1pm
Join Justice & Peace Scotland to call for "Dignity Not Detention" and advocate for an end to the inhumane practice of unlimited immigration detention. The UK is the only country in Europe that does not have a statutory time limit on detention, meaning people can be held in prison-like conditions indefinitely with no idea when they will be released. We do so mindful of Pope Leo XIV's recent reaffirmation that we will be judged by how we treat the stranger.

Don Bosco Group: The Parish is beginning a programme, Don Bosco Group with activities tailored to children and young people and open to everyone in the community. The aim is to meet every other Friday from 6-7:15pm. St. Stephen's Hall. **Next session, 21st November.**

Basic idea: This project seeks to engage young people with meaningful activities. We **Learn** skills, **Perform** tasks, **Gain** confidence, **Grow** together and **Pray** together. In November we can start preparing a quiz/play for a parish Christmas social night. Contact person: Esther Brown sdjbya@gmail.com.



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.

Christmas Hampers 2025: Christmas is fast approaching and we thought that now would be the right time to ask for donations for the Christmas Hampers to be rifled in December – one for each church. There's a bag at the back of the church for you to donate any items you'd like to see included in the hampers. Raffle tickets will go on sale shortly. Thank you very much.

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.

Social/Family Night Friday, 12th December 6.00pm: Some poetry, songs and drama and more. ('And more' refers to others wishing to contribute as usually happens on these evenings) Bring your own bottle. All welcome.

Altar Servers Christmas party 19th December 2025, 6.00pm. Parish Hall. Lots of gifts, music, dance, games, snacks and fun.