

St. Stephen's R C Church

8 Bank Street, Blairgowrie Ph10 6DE, 872171

St. Luan's RC Alyth.

5th Sunday of the Year A 8/2/2026

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

E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk; **Scottish Charity No:** SC001810; **E-mail:** ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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 8/2/26

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.

Mond - Masses and Ministry of Care all day in Prisons.

Tues - Masses and Ministry of Care all day in Prisons.

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

- 6.00pm: Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sac

- 7.00pm Holy mass for the Sick at St. Stephen's.

Thurs -

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.

Feasts of the week: Tuesday- St Scholastica.

Saturday- St. Cyril and Methodius

-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 - Come and learn the faith we celebrate! Session, Every fortnight. Next Session is on the 14th of Feb.2026, 6pm. **Don Bosco Group:** with activities tailored to children and young people and open to everyone in the community. 6-7:15pm. Hall. Next session, 13th Feb 2026.

This Week's Message in a Glance... "You are the salt of the earth and the light of the World... If the salt stays in the shaker, it doesn't do its proper work. Only when it dissolves in the food can it give flavour to what we eat. The same thing happens with light. If it stays closed up and hidden away, it can't enlighten anyone. Only when it shines out in the dark can it illuminate and guide. A church isolated from the world can be neither salt nor light."

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.

Opening Prayer: Guard your family, Lord, with constant care, for in your divine grace we place our only hope. 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.

Introduction to the Scripture Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10; Palms: Psalm 111(112):4-9

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Gosp. Matthew 5:13-16

Foods 4 Thought: These challenging and most difficult Times Require us to LEND A HELPING HAND. Please let us know if you would like somebody to talk to at this difficult time. "Service is our work too; it makes our talents bear fruit and it gives meaning to our lives. Those who do not live to serve, serve for little in this

life. We must repeat this, and repeat it often: those who do not live to serve, serve for little in this life. We should reflect on this: those who do not live to serve, serve for little in this life." —Pope Francis

Coming Programmes and Events of the Parish:

15th Feb: Ecclesiastical Students Fund; 1st March: Building maintenance Fund. 15th March: SCIAF Sunday;
29th March: Building maintenance Fund; 12th April, Holy Places; 26th April, Building maintenance Fund; 10th May, The Apostolate of Communication; 24th May, Building maintenance Fund; 7th June, The Day of Life; 28th June, Building maintenance Fund; 12th July, Peter's Pence; 26th July, Building maintenance Fund; 9th August, The Apostleship of the Sea; 30th August, Building maintenance Fund; 13th September, Bishop's Mensal Fund; 27th September, Building maintenance Fund, 18th October, The Sick and Retired Priest's Fund & Mission Sunday; 25th October, Building maintenance Fund; 29th November, Building maintenance Fund; 13th December, Catholic Education Service; 27th December Building maintenance Fund, Poor Mission Fund
Feb. 18th 2026, Ash Wednesday; 18th February 2026 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. Steph's "300 years of Catholicism."
19th April: Mill Hill Missionaries will be preaching mission here in St. Stephen's parish in the weekend of 19th of April 2026. Please welcome them.

The Eucharist: As food, do I feel nourished after holy communion? Do I feel a sense of being blessed and graced at the end of each Mass? **As Sacrifice**, what have I offered as part of the sacrifice? **As communion**, Has the Mass strengthened my identity as a member of this worshipping community? **As thanksgiving**, do I give thanks always.

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

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.

This year's WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal focuses on Ethiopia As we approach the holy season of Lent, we are deeply grateful for the faithful partnership of parishes across Scotland.

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.



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

Last Sunday offertory collection: £430. 53. 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 .

Reflection by Loyola Press:

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent.

Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives. Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel.

Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden.

-Wishing you a lovely Sunday. Fr. Gregory

