

Our Parish Prayer

God our **Father**, You call us to walk together as one family of faith on a shared journey with Christ your **Son**. Pour out your **Holy Spirit** upon us, that we may be led in all we do by wisdom, courage, and grace

Strengthen the bond of **love and unity** within our parish. Shape our hearts through the **gospel message of Christ**, and renew us each time we gather at the **Eucharistic table**, nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son.

Bless this vibrant people of God - your people from many cultures, stories, and gifts. May every ministry, every act of service, and every stewardship offered in your name build up the Church and **reveal your presence among us**.

As we journey hand-in-hand through life, keep us faithful, joyful, and attentive to your call. Make us a community where all are welcomed, all are valued, and all are drawn closer to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. *(Inspired by our Parish anniversary celebrations & drawn from our parish vision. 22/5/26)*

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH 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:

H/T: St. Stephen's P. S: Lindsey Smith. Ph: 871950.

Catechist: Mrs. Gail McIntyre.

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

Parish Webmaster: Mr. Irek Kawalinski. irekkowalinski@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) Mrs Maureen Jackson.

Responsible Group for Parish Social Justice Issues: SSSP

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

Resp. Person: Altar Servers: Mr Rolly Colanse

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 vibrant 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:

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, Ph. 01250872171

St. Luan's RC Alyth.

21st Sunday Yr A 23/8/2026

Parish website: <https://www.st-stephens-blairgowrie.org.uk/>
E-mail: ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk; Scottish Charity No: SC001810.

Parish Priest/Prison Chaplain: Fr. Gregory E. Umunna S.T.D.; Ph.D.



*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 23/8/26

Saturday + Vigil Mass of Sunday: 5.30pm St. Stephen's

Sunday + Mass at 9.30 am. in St. Luan's

+ Mass at 11.00 am St. Steph's. (Fr's 29th Priestly anniversary)

Mon: Chaplaincy/Masses at 10.00am/11.45pm/2.30pm and all day surgery in HM Prisons Glenochil

Tues: 10.00am Holy Mass at St. Stephen's

Wed: 11.30 **Funeral mass for Sheila Brogan** at St. Stephen's.

6.00pm: Rosary, adoration at St. Stephens

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

Thurs:

Frid: 10.00am Holy Mass at St. Steph's.

Sunday 30th August: +Vigil Mass of Sun: 5.30pm St. Steph's

+9.30 am. Holy Mass in St Luan's

+11.00 am. Holy Mass in 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.

-Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5.00pm Saturdays in St. Stephen's and 9am every Sunday in St. Luan's.

-Divine Mercy Devotion. Tuesdays after morning mass in St. Steph's. **-Please join us.**

-Mass with St. Steph's Pri. Sch: 1st Fri. of the month; end of terms and core events masses.

-Don Bosco Group: with activities tailored to children and young people and open to everyone in the community.

Rehearsal for the upcoming Concert titled 'Reconnected' to be performed on Friday 11th September. 6pm. To join the team, please speak to Esther or Leo or contact sdjbya@gmail.com

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, Tony Donnan, Lisa Robertson, Philip Jackson, Morag McInnes.

This Week's Message in a Glance: Jesus said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. Each one of us must make a personal answer to Our Lord's question: "Who do you say that I am?"



"The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity."

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

Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No:

A moment of reflection: —From the Society of African Missions

Jesus makes a pointed and personal question to his closest companions, those who shared his life on a daily basis, witnessed his miracles, heard him preach and saw him pray: 'But you, who do you say I am?' (Mt 16: 15). This question is, in the words of Father Simeon, a Trappist monk, the 'hopeful query of a Lover who needs to know to what extent he is known, understood, and accepted in his deepest identity by those he loves, those to whom he has been at pains to manifest himself'. Simon, assuming a leadership role among the apostles, responds: 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God' (Mt 16:16). With these words, Simon is clearly confessing that Jesus, their teacher and guide, is indeed the long-awaited Messiah, the one in whom God's promises for the people of Israel are being realised. Clearly pleased with Simon's response, Jesus affirms it as divinely inspired and declares Simon blessed: 'Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah! For it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven' (Mt 16:17).

Jesus then goes on to give Simon a new name, a new identity, a new authority within the community he is forming, and an awesome promise in relation to the future: 'And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it' (Mt 16: 18). Peter (taken from the Aramaic root word for 'rock') is to become the rock, the foundation of the community that will carry the name and the authority of Jesus to the whole world. On him, together with his Apostolic companions as the faithful communicators of Jesus' life and message, Jesus will build his Church, a Church that will endure, despite the assaults of the Evil One and his minions.

We have here a testimony to the firmness of a foundation whose strength basically comes from the authority of Jesus and his promise to Peter: 'I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven' (Mt 16:19). These words echo the promise made by the Lord to Eliakim in our first reading from the prophet Isaiah: 'I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open no one shall close; should he close no one shall open' (Is 22:22). Jesus is conferring on Peter a unique role of authority in the Church. He is the one whose decisions in faith will be confirmed by God. The popes carry on this role...

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. Steph's Parish Library. Selection of Books on: Spirituality/Prayer, Lives of Saints/Martyr, Theology, History/Psychology, Pilgrimage sites. Pls feel free to borrow any from the shelves in the lower hall and return a week after use. Thanks.

Today/upcoming Programmes of the Parish: 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 Sund; 15th October, Happy Tummies Children's Kitchen; 25th October, Building maintenance Fund; 29th Nov, Building maintenance Fund; 13th December, Catholic Edu Service & Poor Mission Fund; 27th December Building maintenance Fund.

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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.



Communion to Care homes/House bounds, is part of our ministry of care. Please let us know if you know some-one who is in need of this care. Thanks.

Please Pray for the work of evangelisation in Prisons: There are transformations and rebuilding of lives, inmates making peace with themselves, choosing the part of reconciliation, getting baptised, confirmed and receiving communion. Pls keep them in your prayers. Ta.

--Details of Parish account:

Name: St. Stephens RC Blairgowrie.

Account Number: 28075068; Sort Code: 80-22-60.

Last Sunday offertory collection: £563.41. 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 .

We need more helping hands please, with:

- ◇ Church cleaning
- ◇ Book Keeping
- ◇ Housekeeping
- ◇ Church Flowers
- ◇ Children's Liturgy ...Pls speak to the priest, Ta.



COFFEE MORNING: "HAPPY TUMMIES CHILDREN'S KITCHEN, NIGERIA. DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Please note we're planning to have our annual coffee morning for the Nursery on Saturday 17 October in Airlie Street Hall. We'll be collecting for the usual stalls over the coming weeks. Please watch this space..... ." Daria

MARY'S MEALS: UPCOMING EVENTS 2026 REQUEST FOR HELPERS: Lynne Fryer (e:mail Lynnef39@outlook.com) has asked for volunteers to help at a number of events happening before December 2026. Details are on the notice boards at the back of both churches. If you'd like to help at any of these events, please contact Lynne directly or speak to Margaret (Young) in St Stephen's or Daria (McDowall) in St Luan's. Lynne thanks you all for your continued support for Mary's Meals.

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