

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: SVP

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:

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.

18th Sunday Yr A 2/8/2026

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 2/8/26

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

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

+ Mass at 11.00 am St. Stephen's.

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

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

Wed: 10.00 Holy mass at St. Luan's.

6-6.45pm Baptismal Session

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. Stephen's

Sunday 9th August: +Vigil Mass of Sunday: 5.30pm St. Stephen's

With baptism of Fergus McLernon;

+9.30 am. Holy Mass in St Luan's

With baptism of Aurelia Fernando

+11.00 am. Holy Mass in St. Stephen's

This Week's Message in a Glance: "Brothers and sisters: What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our 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 Jackson, Morag McInnes.

"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:

... "In our first reading today, God extends a special and universal invitation to all of us and offers us everything free of charge. His gifts, his love, and care are as free and limitless as the air we breathe. Most important, Christ knows our basic needs. The only thing God wants from us as he invites us today is: "Come...listen, listen to me...pay attention, come to me, listen and your soul will live..."

What a simple condition this is? All he wants is "come", listen", and "pay attention!" This is a universal invitation. Also, this invitation expresses the urgency of the matter. It is urgent because, the longer we delay, the harder it will be for us to come. Also, there will be less opportunity for us. Through this invitation, Isaiah reminds us that God wants us to experience his love, comfort, and to enjoy his provision for us (Is 40:1).

In the second reading, Paul speaks with great confidence about the love of God for us. Of course, he speaks as one who has experienced this love. He assures us that nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, "not troubles, persecutions, lacks...for I am certain of this, neither death nor life, nor any created thing can ever come between us and the love of God..." Paul stresses the inability of all these to separate us from the love of Christ. None of these is capable of diminishing the love and friendship that exists between Christ and every true believer.

In today's Gospel, Jesus practically demonstrated and manifested his love for us, his people. The feeding of the five thousand shows the profound generosity of God and his great love towards us. The twelve baskets full of fish and loaves that were leftover show the overflowing generosity of God's gifts to us – gifts that bring blessing, healing, strength, and refreshment. God never rests in caring for our needs. Jesus never disappoints those who earnestly seek him.

What do we learn from today's gospel? Quiet a lot! First, Jesus both sympathizes and empathizes with us in our distress. He feels what we feel and comes to our aid. Second, whenever we come to him, he never casts us away. Third, he defies all odds in order to make us comfortable. He makes the impossible happen just for our good.

Fourth, the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves, is a sign that prefigures the superabundance of the unique bread of the Eucharist, and the love of God which sustains us on our journey. The love of God continues to heal us every day of our life. It continues multiplying our loaves, and it continues to comfort, and satisfy us. His banner over us is love (Song of Songs 2: 4). When God gives, he gives abundantly.

Finally, the little ones who presented their loaves and fish were instruments of love in Christ's hands. Jesus needed those items to perform his miracle of love. So, they participated in the miracle. Today, Jesus also invites us participate in his miracles." –Fr. Canice Njoku



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.



The Eucharist:

is deeply nourishing as food, as Sacrifice, as communion, and as thanksgiving. Has the Mass strengthened my identity as a member of this worshipping community?

Communion to Care homes/House bounds,

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.

Many prisoners in HMP Perth and Glenochil are working hard to rebuild their lives, making peace with themselves, choosing the part of reconciliation, getting baptised, confirmed and receiving communion. Fr. Greg. Ta.

--Details of Parish account:

Name: St. Stephens RC Blairgowrie. Account Number: 28075068;
Sort Code: 80-22-60.

Last Sunday offertory collection:

£634.30; BMF £341.74. 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.



Today/upcoming Programmes of the Parish:

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 & Poor Mission Fund; 27th December Building maintenance Fund.

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.

Tea/Coffee: Everyone is welcome to meet and greet as well as tea and coffee served in the Lower Hall after 11.00am mass in St. Stephens every Sunday morning after 11.00am mass.



Bishops of Scotland: "We assure the Prime Minister of our prayers for wisdom, courage and integrity as he undertakes the responsibilities of this high office. We look forward to working constructively with him and his Government on the many issues that affect the lives and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, and we pray that the United Kingdom will continue to use its influence in the service of peace, justice and human dignity of everyone.