

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:ststephen-psc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Webmaster:** Mr. Irek Kawalinski. [irekkowalinski@gmail.com](mailto: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:** SSVF

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**19th Sunday Yr A 9/8/2026**

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

**E-mail:** [ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:ststephen@dunkelddiocese.org.uk); Scottish Charity No: SC001810.

**Parish Priest/Prison Chaplain:** Fr. Gregory E. Umunna S.T.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 9/8/26

**Saturday** + Vigil Mass of Sunday: 5.30pm St. Stephen's  
With the baptism of

-Fergus McLernon

-Lawrence Nnamdi Ukaegbu

**Sunday** + Mass at 9.30 am. in St. Luan's  
With the baptism of

-Aurelia Eden Fernando

+ Mass at 11.00 am St. Steph'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 **St. Clare**

**Wed:** 10.00 Holy mass at St. Luan's. **St. Jane Frances**

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 **St. Maximilian Kolbe**

-6pm: Mass for Mons. Basil O'Sullivan's 70th @ Dunblane

**Sunday 16th 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](mailto: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, Giles Umunna and Tony Donnan.

**This Week's Message in a Glance:** "Presence: God is present where we least expect him, although it is a hidden, unseen presence, not always easy to discover. It takes faith nearer than the door." So the apostles were amazed to see Christ coming to them in the middle of the storm, for (at that stage) they were men of little faith.

Elijah, that lonely refugee, faithful to his God despite cruel persecution by Jezebel, discovered the mysterious presence of God in the still, small voice of his own soul."

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

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**Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No:**



### A moment of reflection:

... "This Sunday's Gospel passage (see Mt 14:22-33) speaks of Jesus walking on the water of the stormy lake. After feeding the crowds with five loaves and two fish – as we saw last Sunday – Jesus commands the disciples to get into the boat and return to the other shore. He dismisses the people and then climbs the hill, alone, to pray. He immerses Himself in communion with the Father.

During the crossing of the lake by night, the disciples' boat is hindered by a sudden wind storm. This is normal on a lake. At a certain point, they see someone walking on the water, coming toward them. Upset, they think it is a ghost and cry out in fear. Jesus reassures them: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear". Then Peter – Peter who was so decisive – answers: "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water". A challenge. And Jesus tells him: "Come". Peter gets out of the boat and takes a few steps; then the wind and waves frighten him and he begins to sink. "Lord, save me", he cries, and Jesus grasps him by the hand and says to him: "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?".

This Gospel narrative is an invitation to abandon ourselves trustingly to God in every moment of our life, especially in the moment of trial and turmoil. When we have strong feelings of doubt and fear and we seem to be sinking, in life's difficult moments where everything becomes dark, we must not be ashamed to cry out like Peter: "Lord, save me" (v. 30). To knock on God's heart, on Jesus's heart. "Lord, save me." It is a beautiful prayer! We can repeat it many times. "Lord, save me." And Jesus's gesture, who immediately reaches out His hand and grasps that of His friend, should be contemplated at length: this is Jesus. Jesus does this.

Jesus is the Father's hand who never abandons us, the strong and faithful hand of the Father, who always and only wants what is good for us. God is not in the loud sound, God is not the hurricane, He is not in the fire, He is not in the earthquake – as the narrative about the Prophet Elijah also recalls today that says God is the light breeze – literally it says this: He is in the "thread of melodious silence" – that never imposes itself, but asks to be heard (see 1 Kgs 19:11-13). Having faith means keeping your heart turned to God, to His love, to His Fatherly tenderness, amid the storm. Jesus wanted to teach this to Peter and the disciples, and also to us today. In dark moments, in sad moments He is well aware that our faith is weak – all of us are people of little faith, all of us, myself included, everyone – and that our faith is weak our journey can be troubled, hindered by adverse forces. But He is the Risen One! He is present beside us lifting us back up after our falls, He helps us grow in faith. Maybe in the dark, we cry out: "Lord, Lord!" thinking He is far away. And He says, "I am here." Ah, He was with me! That is the Lord. The boat at the mercy of the storm is the image of the Church, which in every age encounters headwinds, very harsh trials at times: in situations like that, she may be tempted to think that God has abandoned her. But in reality it is precisely in those moments that the witness of faith, the witness of love, the witness of hope shines the most.

—Pope Francis—

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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.



**Deanery mass & installation.** St. Stephen's parish Blairgowrie will be hosting Bishop Andrew McKenzie, the priests and representative parishioners of St. Fillan's Deanery, consisting of 14 Churches within Perth and Kinross on the inaugural Deanery mass & installation of The Very Rev. Fr. Gregory Umunna, Dean of St. Fillan's Deanery, on Thurs. 29th October, 7pm. Please, let us as a parish community support this programme as usual, work towards it and make welcome our guests when the day comes. Thanks.

**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.

### --Details of Parish account:

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

### Last Sunday offertory collection:

£635.91. 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 Fowers
- ◇ Children's Liturgy ...Pls speak to the priest, Ta.



### Today/upcoming Programmes of the Parish:

9<sup>th</sup> August, The Apostleship of the Sea; 30<sup>th</sup> August, Building maintenance Fund; 13<sup>th</sup> September, Bishop's Mensal Fund; 27<sup>th</sup> September, Building maintenance Fund, 18<sup>th</sup> October, The Sick and Retired Priest's Fund & Mission Sund; 15<sup>th</sup> October, Little Tummies Kitchen; 25<sup>th</sup> October, Building maintenance Fund; 29<sup>th</sup> Nov, Building maintenance Fund; 13<sup>th</sup> December, Catholic Edu Service & Poor Mission Fund; 27<sup>th</sup> 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.



**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

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