

St. Stephen's Primary School.

"Our local primary school is St. Stephen's Primary School. The school's values of "Love, Integrity, Faith and Tolerance" underpin an excellent Roman Catholic education for young learners. St Stephen's Primary provides education in preparation for sacraments and the Pope Francis Faith Award, along with a biannual pilgrimage to Iona. Funding is in place to provide transport to and from school for families of St Stephen's and St Luan's who live out with Blairgowrie. To find out more phone 01250 871950. Please follow the school on Twitter @ststephensrcpri"

New to the Parish? Please pick a form at the entrance of the church, complete and hand in the form. Thanks. New members are always welcome to come along and attend or visit the following parish groups: Divine Mercy, Tues 10.30am; Adoration, Wed. 6.00pm.

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: ststephpsc@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: SSVF

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

Resp. Person: Altar Servers: Mr Rolly Colanese

Grounds Flowers: Mrs Jennifer FitzPatrick (Blair)

Resp. 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.

24th Sunday Yr A 13/9/2026

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 13/9/26

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.

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. Our Lady of Sorrows

Wed: 10.00 Holy Mass at St. Luan's. St. Ninians

6.00pm: Rosary, adoration at St. Stephens.

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

Thurs: 6.00pm: Diocesan Vocation Mass at the Cathedral

Frid: 10.00am Holy Mass at St. Stephen's. Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian

Sat: 9.00am: Marriage, family and life Mass. St. Columba, Dundee;

10am-12.30pm: Day on Synodality: Diocesan Implementation Meeting. St. Mary's Forebank Dundee

Sunday: +Vigil Mass of Sun: 5.30pm St. Steph's **Fire Drill**

+9.30 am. Holy Mass in St Luan's **Fire Drill**

+11.00 am. Holy Mass in St. Stephen's **Fire Drill**

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, Jim Bradley.

This Week's Message in a Glance: It is inconsistent to celebrate our God as the Lord of compassion and love, unless we show mercy to those who have wronged us. Today's Gospel calls us to forgive as Christ forgives us. Some of the finer minds among the Old Testament writers already perceived this connection: "If one has no mercy toward another like himself, can he then seek pardon for his own sins?"

"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:

-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. Activity dates up to Christmas 25/9; 9/10; 23/10; 06/11; 20/11; 04/12; 18/12;

An Amazing Concert. A BIG THANKS to Esther, Tom, Gail, Mary D and all the Acts. Thanks to all those who graced the event with their presence. It was a lovely evening. I'm already looking forward to Xmas Show.

Today/upcoming Programmes of the Parish: 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.

A moment of reflection: —By failing to forgive, we hurt ourselves more than anyone else. A woman, pushing on in years, boasted to her pastor that she did not have an enemy in the world. He was very impressed. What a wonderful thing to be able to say after all those years! And then she added:- 'I have outlived them all'. I suppose if we live long enough we will also be able to make the same statement.

We have all been hurt in some way or other in the journey of life—made fun of in school by a teacher, not invited to the wedding, didn't get the job I thought I should have got, or at a more serious level, betrayed by someone you trusted, abused physically or sexually and so on.

Sheila Cassidy, who was herself tortured in South America, had this to say:- 'I would never say to someone 'you must forgive'. I would not dare. Who am I to tell a woman whose father abused her or a mother whose daughter has been raped that she must forgive? I can only say: 'However much we have been wronged, however justified our hatred, if we cherish it, it will poison us. We must pray for the power to forgive, for it is in forgiving that we are healed'. Nelson Mandela continually reminded his fellow prisoners in South Africa that unless they let go of their hurts they would remain in the grip of their abusers.

By failing to forgive, we hurt ourselves more than anyone else. Surely this is what Jesus had in mind when he told how the merciless servant was cast into prison when he refused to forgive his fellow servant. I don't think he was suggesting that God would cancel his mercy. He is simply saying that an unforgiving spirit creates a prison of its own. It builds up walls of bitterness and resentment and there is no escape until we come to forgive.

Forgiving and letting go is not easy, especially when the wound is very deep. This is why I call forgiveness the 'F' word, because it's not to be used lightly. Forgiveness is a choice and often involves a three stage process: (1) I will never forgive that person (2) I can't forgive (forgiveness seen as a good thing, but the hurt is too great) (3) I want to forgive and let go with God's help.

Also we must learn to forgive ourselves. Imagine you are responsible for something very serious. You are driving a car with drink. There is an accident and a young person is killed. That life cannot be brought back. For more and more people there is a something in the background, some skeleton in the closet—a broken marriage, an abortion, a pregnancy outside marriage, a broken relationship, a serious mistake. And for many of us we do not believe that there is another chance much less a seven times seventy chances. —Asso. Cath. Priests

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.

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—MARY'S MEALS: UPCOMING EVENTS 2026 REQUEST FOR HELPERS: Pls contact Lynne Fryer (e:mail lynnef39@outlook.com)
—Annual Vocations Mass this coming Thursday at 6pm in the Cathedral. Presider Bishop Andrew, Preacher Fr Emmanuel Odeh. All are invited.
— Diocesan synodality event on Saturday 19th September, 10.00am-12.30pm in the church hall at St Mary, Forebank. All are invited.

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 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.

COFFEE MORNING AIRLIE STREET HALL 10.00 am SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER 2026: We'd be really grateful if could please consider donating items for our upcoming coffee morning both for the Raffle and for the Tombola stall. There is a box at the back of the church for donations - thank you. Nearer the time there will be sheets available for you to let us know if you'd be willing to provide baked goods for us to sell, if you'd be willing to help and if you'd be happy to contribute biscuits/cakes/refreshments for us to serve up.

FIRE DRILL: In accordance with Health and Safety Legislation, we need to carry out a Fire Drill in both Churches. Our plan is to do so towards the end of our Sunday Masses weekend of 20th September. **Gail, Maureen, Daria to support us pls.**

Parish Family Diversity Day Celebration on Sun. 4th Oct, 11am mass: One mass this Sund. Celebrating a vibrant people of God from many cultures, stories, gifts and talents yet journeying together hand-in-hand through life with hearts shaped by the Gospel message of Christ and nourished by the Eucharist. Please celebrate with us at the mass and in the Hall after the mass with plenty food, drinks, light music, culture & other refreshments.

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.

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.



-Details of Parish account: Name: St. Stephens RC Blairgowrie. Account Number: 28075068; Sort Code: 80-22-60. **Last Sunday offertory collection:** £491.30. 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.

We need more helping hands please, with: Church cleaning, Book Keeping, Housekeeping, Church Flowers, Children's Liturgy ...Pls speak

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