



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

## PARISH CONTACTS

### Parish Priest

Fr Robert Afayori Tel. 01786 473749  
Email: fr.robertafayori@stirlingstmarys.org

Assistant Priest Fr Gabriel Emeasoba

## FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL

### Co-ordinating Chaplain

Canon Pat Boylan – 01324 823310

**CHURCH OFFICE Hours:** Tues-Thurs - 10am-3pm

**Address:** 15 Upper Bridge St, STIRLING, FK8 1ES

**Phone:** 01786 473749

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**St Mary's Church**, Upper Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1ES (SMY) 01786 473749

**Church of the Holy Spirit**, 1 McGrigor Road, Stirling, FK7 9BL (HSP)

**Church of St Margaret of Scotland**, Drip Road, Stirling, FK9 4UA (SMT) 01786 474883

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH:

Regina Ammam, Irene Bett, Mary Bett, Hugh Bonner, Isabel Boyle, Alan Brown, Anne Cairns, Margaret Carruthers, Donald & Edna Copland, Helen Conway, John Cawley, Thomas Devine, Margaret Doherty, Patsy Docherty, Vera Eastwood, John Glencross, Baby Ava Gordon, Agnes Heggie, David House, Julia Hughes, Helen Killiard, Lusia Koloczek, Joe Lahbib, Terry & Allan MacDonald, Georges Marquetty, Marlene Mathieson, Beth Meldrum, Isabel McDonald (Lafferty), Cathy McIvor, Karen McKay, Margaret McKay, May Millar, May Robertson, May Robinson, Margaret Mullin, Margaret O'Rourke, Ruby Quinn, Margaret Rainy, Cherie Todd, Celia Walker, John Wilson, Greta Wright.

**Live Stream:** In St Mary's, all Masses are livestreamed. Search for St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvGpDF7rOVU> Or see the Live steam link on our Website - search on [stirlingstmarys.org](http://stirlingstmarys.org)

**Last Rites - Emergency callouts:** The arrangements will vary between different hospitals and care homes. Please follow all the safety protocols provided by them. If the person is at home, please contact the Parish.

**Regular Mass Schedule under further notice: But please see the Church Schedule (next page) which confirms any exceptions /additions week on week!**

	St Mary's	Holy Spirit	St Margaret's
<b>Monday</b>	10.00am	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	No Mass	10.00am	No Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am
<b>Thursday</b>	10.00am	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Friday</b>	10.00am	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	10.00am	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	6.00pm (Vigil) 11.00am	9.30am	11.00am 6.30pm

Note: Monday is Fr Robert's day off. Any messages left on a Monday may not be picked up til Tuesday.

### Archdiocese Covid Update April 2022:

#### Message from the Bishops' Conference of Scotland

The legal requirement to wear face coverings in churches in Scotland is removed from **Monday 4 April**. There is no need to wear a face covering in church from this date (though you can continue to wear one if you wish). Please continue to respect the space of fellow parishioners and remember to sanitise your hands upon entering and leaving church

#### FAQs:

- What about cleaning? Should parishes maintain the rigorous cleaning regimes adopted during the pandemic to date?

**Resp:** Cleaning regimes may revert to pre-pandemic levels of cleaning.

- What about the sign of peace?

**Resp:** The sign of peace may be reintroduced but it should be made clear that some people may not be willing to have physical contact at this time. In which case a bow would be appropriate.



**Church Schedule for This Week: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May**


Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before weekdays 9.30am Mass

Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 2	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	Confession (and by Appointment)
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm (Vigil) 11.00am	9.30am	11.00am 6.30pm	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May ST ATHANASIUS - MEMORIAL	10.00am ▪ <i>Special Intention: Friends and Relations of Carmelita Fleming</i> ▪ <i>Teresa McNair - Birthday on 4th May</i>	No Mass	No Mass	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES - FEAST	No Mass	10.00am ▪ <i>Brian Oates (RIP) 5th Anniversary today</i> ▪ <i>James Finnegan (RIP)</i>	No Mass	9.30am - 10.00am before Mass
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 3rd Week in Eastertide	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ <i>Teresa Hamilton (RIP)</i> ▪ <i>George Rammage (RIP)</i> ▪ <i>Angela Mulheron (RIP) Anniversary 15<sup>th</sup> May</i>	-----
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 3rd Week in Eastertide	10.00am ▪ <i>Special Intention: Julie Ciemiega for God's Blessing that she may grow in love towards God</i> ▪ <i>Special Intention: John B Ross for his 75th Birthday 12th May</i>	No Mass	No Mass	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 3rd Week in Eastertide	10.00am <i>Funeral Mass Jean Lawless</i>	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am - 10.00am before Mass

<p>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 3rd Week in Eastertide</p>	<p>10.00am ▪ <i>Special Intention:</i> <i>Mr &amp; Mrs Johnny Brown, Nelly Brown &amp; Cecilia Brown</i></p>	<p>No Mass</p>	<p>No Mass</p>	<p>9.30am - 10.00am before Mass</p>
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**PARISH NEWS**

*May the choirs of Angels come to greet you; may they speed you to paradise*

  
*Of your charity  
please pray for the soul of*

**Janet McCormack** *who died 5th April, aged 96*

**Carol Ogilvie** *who died 6th April, aged 61*

**Jean Lawless** *who died 11<sup>th</sup> April, aged 83*

**Christopher Anthony Cummings** *who died 3<sup>rd</sup> April, aged 52*

**Ann Marie Graham** *who died 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022, aged 70*

**Change of Mass Schedule at St Mary's**

Please note the following changes which are now in place:

- **Sunday Morning St Mary's:** one Mass only at 11.00am (replaces the 10.00am and 11.30am)
- **Mondays St Mary's:** Mass every Monday at 10.00am

**Weekly Sunday Plate Collection:** *(Excludes standing order payments)*

Date	St Mary's	Holy Spirit	St Margaret's	Easter Special Collection
17 <sup>th</sup> April	£1061.00	£159.00	£393.00	£684.50
24 <sup>th</sup> April	£769.00	£190.00	£349.50	

**Youth Group** Next Meeting Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm St Margaret's Hall. Aged under 18? Please come along and join us!

**The Month of May: The Month of Our Lady** To mark this month of Our Lady as a Parish, we intend to have Rosary prayers with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary's Church from Monday to Friday at 7:00pm. Please come with your family and friends, and let us pray for the intercession of Our Lady in these difficult times we live in. Furthermore, there will be Rosary prayers every morning before Mass at 9:30am. (No Rosary on Friday 7.00pm 6<sup>th</sup> May due to 24hr Adoration)

**24 Hours Eucharistic Adoration St Mary's Church Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May** This will start after 10.00am Mass Friday and continue through to 10.00am Mass Saturday. You can register:

- By email [admin@stirlingstmarys.org](mailto:admin@stirlingstmarys.org)
- By phone 01786 473479
- Via the Contact Form on the website
- Or you can leave your name on the list in the Church

**Pentecost Preparation "If you knew the Gift of God..."** A series of 5 talks is being offered in Sion House at St Mary's beginning on Wednesday 4th of May after the Rosary in the run up to Pentecost to gain a deeper knowledge of our own soul and the function of grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit in us: "Where the spirit of the lord is there is freedom" (2 Cor 3:17). These talks will begin just after the Rosary each Wednesday and last between 30 to 40 minutes.

**New Dawn Day in St Mary's Parish, Stirling Saturday 21st May 2022** This is a day of prayer and worship led by seasonal and well-gifted priests and lay faithful in the UK. The purpose is to rekindle our faith and reconnect more fervently with Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The day starts on Saturday 21st May with Mass at 10am and closes at 8pm with a Healing Service. There will be time for confessions and one-on-one prayers.

The programme for the New Dawn Day is as follows:

10.00am	Holy Mass - Theme - Mary the Spouse of the Holy Spirit
11.00am	Praise & Worship - Introductions
11.30am	Testimony - Michael MacPhee
11.45am	Talk 1 Holy Spirit
12.30pm	Lunch
1.45am	Praise & Worship - Gary Lowe
2.00pm	Talk 2 Reconciliation - Fr Stephan Park
2.45pm	Workshops x3
3.30pm	Break - Tea & Coffee
3.45pm	Prayer Ministry - Exposition - Rosary - Confessions
4.45pm	Break - Evening meal
6.00pm	Praise & Worship
6.15pm	Testimony
6.30pm	Healing Service
8.00pm	Salve Regina - finish

**40 Days For Life Last Hour Silent Candlelight Vigil** 103 people took part in the last hour on the main road outside the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Govan in memory of all the unborn babies and mothers and fathers who died during the 40 days vigils around the world.

**St Mary's St Vincent de Paul Conference** Christ has risen! A Happy Easter to all, particularly our benefactors. We have asked for a Mass to be offered for your intentions.

**Our Lady's Primary School Appeal THANK YOU!!!** Fr Robert has received a lovely note from the Primary 7 children who have asked we send on their thanks to all parishioners "We are writing to thank you and the Parish for the very generous monetary gift you have given to Our Lady's Primary 7 class. We greatly appreciate all the help you have given us and we are all very excited to have the opportunity to go on our class residential..."

**Sunday Teas at St Mary's** will be available in Sion House after Mass this Sunday.

**Open Evening (online) -MA in Applied Catholic Theology** The MA in Applied Catholic Theology is being offered by St Mary's University in partnership with the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, at the Gillis Centre in Edinburgh, beginning in September. The course provides a thorough grounding in key aspects of Catholic theology and develops the key skills to apply that theology to the challenges and opportunities of the contemporary world. Teaching is flexible and the programme is suitable for graduates of most academic disciplines. Find out more at the online Open Evening on Tuesday 17 May, 6-7pm. Register at [bit.ly/smu\\_openevening](https://bit.ly/smu_openevening)

**Wedding Anniversaries** Archbishop Leo will celebrate a Mass for Married & Engaged Couples on Wednesday 18 May at 7pm at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh. All married and engaged couples are welcome on the night but if you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, or know couples who are, the Archbishop would like to send a personal invitation. Please submit names, address and number of years being celebrated to Fr Jeremy Milne: [vemarriage@staned.org.uk](mailto:vemarriage@staned.org.uk) or at 0131 334 1693.

**Event for Married Couples** The Archdiocese is hosting an afternoon retreat for married couples at 3pm on Sunday 8 May at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh. It will be led by Brian & Maureen Devine, a Catholic couple from England renowned throughout the UK for hosting inspiring retreats. Register for this free event at [bit.ly/ArchEvenbrite](https://bit.ly/ArchEvenbrite) or register by phone at 07833 208 211.

**40 Hours' Devotion** Each parish in the Archdiocese is having 40 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to help renew our Faith and love of Jesus Christ. It continues at St Mary & St David Hawick, from Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May. It is at St Margaret's in Dunfermline the following weekend. Full programme for the Archdiocese is at [bit.ly/40hoursschedule](https://bit.ly/40hoursschedule). Find out more about Eucharistic Adoration: [bit.ly/40HoursPlaylist](https://bit.ly/40HoursPlaylist)

**Mass for Vocations** The monthly Mass for Vocations takes place at 6:30pm on Monday 2 May at St David's Church, 41 Eskbank Road, Dalkeith. Please pray that more young people respond to God's call to the priesthood and religious life in our Archdiocese.

**African & Caribbean Mass** This monthly Mass takes place at 1pm on Sunday 1 May in St Patrick's, Cowgate, Edinburgh. All welcome!

**Safeguarding vacancies** The Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency is looking to appoint a Director of Safeguarding and a Head of Safeguarding Training. Details at <https://www.scsafeguarding.org.uk/News/Vacancies>

**Catholics in health and social care** If you work in health and social care and are interested in learning about the ethical challenges, register now for Catholics in Health and Social Care. It's a Zoom event and is ideal for those who missed the same event which took place recently at the Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. It takes place 11:30am-4:45pm on Saturday 14 May. Register at <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2022/05/catholics-in-health-and-social-care>

## Testimonials from Young Adults from the Ireland Pilgrimage



Many thanks to Charlene and Luca, under the guidance of Father Robert for organising this week of retreat and pilgrimage. For me it made possible many opportunities of personal spiritual growth and enlightenment through private prayer, while also growing in community with other young Catholics through common prayer and times of joy shared together, not without hardships, changes of plans and unforeseen circumstances which turned out to be all for the greater good, more fruit bearing and advantageous. Anonymous.

An amazing pilgrimage experience with a great group of friends.

We are a random bunch who are united in faith. New members welcome. John-Paul

I am Pierre from Madagascar. I am student at the University of Stirling and part of Saint Mary's parishioners. I really appreciate the organisation of the pilgrimage for young adults for many reasons that I will mention few of them. First of all, it was an opportunity for me to refresh my life after a fast and hard study at the University. While I was always busy with the study, this pilgrimage helped me to renew my faith and improve my relationship with God, my creator. Secondly, the trip allowed me to escape from my daily routine so that I can reflect about my future. Before the pilgrimage, I had concerns about my work back in my country. Praying and listening to the Holy Spirit allowed me to write as much solutions and resolutions to face the challenges and obstacles for my work. I feel confident now to embrace my new career just after my study. Finally, the pilgrimage was an opportunity for me to learn from others about the way we live faith and follow Jesus's path. The testimonies at Cenacolo, the kindness of the family who homed us, the devotions of all religious and priest who supported us during this time are an unforgettable moment for me. All of these gave me hope that Jesus is working and will never let down his Church. Moreover, the young adult group helped me to grow in faith together and share our life to be more fruitful. Thank you. Pierre

As a non-baptised member of the young adults group exploring faith, this pilgrimage was an absolute delight to be part of. The structure of the trip was very well planned, we had a very real and raw experience of Ireland, and of Faith itself. We had just enough of the history, and visiting the historic landmarks and towns to give a real sense of how our saints had lived and suffered. We met some wonderful priests and nuns and families along the way, all very welcoming and humble. Knock in particular was a super warm and inspiring little town. Well worth the visit and providence certainly prevailed for us. We all came home full of stories, smiles and most importantly peace. Lou

Having never been to Ireland before, let alone on a pilgrimage there, this trip has been an incredible experience! Aside from getting to experience beautiful Holy places such as Knock and challenges such as climbing Croagh Patrick, spending time with a great, devout group of people and seeing the generosity and warmth which our hosts showed us has really inspired me to follow their examples and live my own faith more devoutly! I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to go on this pilgrimage, and feel like it has made a real difference in the way I see myself in relation to God and other people for the better. Harry

This Pilgrimage was a chance for repentance, renewal and for me to really prove my Faith which I profess daily. It was a wonderful experience full of Grace and Blessings. We were able to visit so many amazing religious and cultural sites along with the immense gift of daily Mass, confessions, formative talks and fun recreational activities. Every Priest, religious sister and fellow faithful we met along the way, were all perfect example of what Our Lord meant when He asks each of us to take up our Cross and follow Him, filled with joy and inflamed with the Love of Christ. We need more young people to be able to have this chance to deepen their Faith and Follow Christ, who is our ultimate goal. Sophie