



PARISH CONTACTS

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FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL

Co-ordinating Chaplain

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Parish Website – stirlingstmarys.org

Facebook: [St Mary's Catholic Parish Stirling](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCatholicParishStirling)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tues-Thurs - 10am-3pm

Phone: 01786 473749 **Email:** admin.stmarystirling@staned.org.uk

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

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

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

Please note: Fr Jamie's day off is a Monday and the office is closed. Therefore any messages left will not be picked up until Tuesday.

Hospital Stay: If you or your loved ones are admitted to Hospital, please let the Parish Office know and we will arrange for the Hospital Deacon to visit with Holy Communion and to provide spiritual support.



We know the Easter Story ends but try to put yourself in the place of Mary Magdalene or one of the disciples as they put the pieces together for the first time. What would you be thinking and feeling as this absolutely unthinkable thing unfolds?

Like the characters in the Gospel, we also often encounter the risen Christ in oblique signs and symbols, things that are easy to overlook in all our busyness. What in your life might be an overlooked symbol of resurrection?

Easter Message from Fr Jamie

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. Easter is the great celebration of victory of life over death.

Ours is an Easter religion. We do not deny or turn away from the evils that surround us: the wars that have killed some 100 million people in our (last) century; the poverty that grips more than half of the human race; the hunger that kills millions every year and ruins the lives of millions more; the discrimination that divides the human family into contending parties.

We do not deny these miseries, but we refuse to surrender to their power because of our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Suffering will be vindicated; death will be overcome; a new life will arise: that is the Easter message of the paschal mystery.

Let us feast with joy in the Lord. Just as Christ passed through death to resurrection, so too will the world pass through its suffering to the glory of a new life.

There is no room for despair: our Easter faith tells us that God will raise us up and renew our lives.

I wish you all an Easter filled with God's peace and joy. May this joyful season renew and strengthen us on journey of faith. As always, I express my thanks and gratitude to all the volunteers who keep our parish going as we endeavour to be Christ's witnesses in the world of today.

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*

Ethel McEwan *who died 7th March, aged 73*

Margaret Conway *who died 17th March, aged 91*

Mary Kelly Whyte *who died 1st April, aged 94*

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish: Irene Bett, Mary Bett, Allan Brown, Derrick Bruce, Mary Burns, Bobby Brown, Baby Carter, Kevin Carty, John Cawley, Margaret Doherty, Margaret Lowe, Kevin Mackin, Sally Martin, Isabel McDonald, Cathy McIvor, May Millar, Margaret McKay, Beth Meldrum, Joe Meldrum, Gilbert Murphy, Margaret Neilson, Margaret O'Rourke, Ruby Quinn, May Robinson, Cherie Todd, Anna Woods, Mary Woods.

Note: To add a name to the Prayer List please complete the form (which you will find at the back of the Church) and pass to the Parish Office.

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

Date	St Mary's	Holy Spirit	St Margaret's
2 nd April	£677.00	£1754.40 (2 weeks)	£566.50

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Youth Group and Young Adults Group Activities

- On Good Friday there will be a Stations of the Cross walk led by the youth and young adults of the parish. It will begin right after morning prayer around 10.30am at St Mary's. The route will be circular via Cambuskenneth Abbey. All are invited and welcome to join!
- On Holy Saturday all young people are invited for the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady Pilgrimage where we will visit 7 churches finishing at St Mary's. We leave after morning prayer which begins at 10am. Please speak to Charlene or Luca for a consent form and for more information!
- Young adults meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th of April at 7pm.
- Easter Day Out for Youth Group (12-17) is on Thursday 13th of April beginning with morning mass at 10am St Mary's and followed by a hike up Ben A'an. Please bring a packed lunch! Speak to youth leaders for consent forms or more information.

Fr Jamie Lourdes Visit Fr Jamie is travelling to Lourdes on Easter Sunday. If you have any petitions, please give them to Fr Jamie before he leaves.

Divine Mercy Sunday The Divine Mercy Novena will start on Good Friday after Morning Prayers at St Marys and will continue until Divine Mercy Sunday (16th April) with Benediction at St Mary's 3.00pm,

Holy Spirit Tuesday Teas will resume on 11th April.

2023/24 Gift Aid Envelopes are now available for collection at the back of all 3 Churches. Please use the new envelopes for all weekly donations after 6th April. Previous years envelopes must not be used after 6th April – as we would be unable to claim the Gift Aid. Many Thanks.

SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal. Thank you all so much for your support of the SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE Lenten appeal. Please return your WEE BOXES as soon as you can. You can also donate to SCIAF by visiting sciaf.org.uk/weebox or by calling 0141 354 5555.

Mens Group We are starting a Mens Group in the parish. Men of all ages are welcome. The first meeting will be on Saturday 22nd April and will start with 10am Mass at St. Mary's and then a walk up Ben Ledi in the Trossachs. Suitable footwear and clothing to be worn and please bring a packed lunch as we'll be away most the day.

Parish Pastoral Council The next meeting will be held on April 27th. Please refer to a member of the council (by 20th April latest) with details of any item you would like raised your behalf.

Pro-Life Parish Life APRIL 2023 FESTIVAL FOR LIFE and Pro-Life Chain: Saturday, 22nd April: 10am Rosary at Sacred Heart Church, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ, followed by SPUC's Pro-Life Chain, 11am on Lothian Road. Refreshments afterwards, approx. 1.15pm Register for the Rosary: <https://bit.ly/LifeFest23>

Church Schedule for This Week: Sunday 9th April

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am before weekdays Mass

Sundays: Year A. Weekdays: Year 1	St Mary's (SMY)	Holy Spirit (HS)	St Margaret (SMT)	Confession (and by appointment)
Sunday 9th April EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	8.30pm (Vigil) The Resurrection of the Lord 11.00am Mass The Resurrection of the Lord	9.30am Mass The Resurrection of the Lord	8.30pm (Vigil) The Resurrection of the Lord 11.00am Mass The Resurrection of the Lord Note: No Evening Mass	
Monday 10th April MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10.00am ▪ George Wright (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am - 9:50am before Mass
Tuesday 11th April TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Josie Flynn (RIP)	No Mass	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Wednesday 12th April WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	No Mass	No Mass	10.00am ▪ Pdraig Friel (RIP)	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Thursday 13th April THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10.00am ▪ Margaret Kelly Pow (RIP)	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Friday 14th April FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10.00am ▪ Peter Smith	No Mass	No Mass	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass
Saturday 15th April SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10.00am ▪ Derek Maher (RIP)		10.00am ▪ Susan Strickland (RIP)	9.30am- 9:50am before Mass