



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC



3rd Sunday of Advent - Year (C)
15th December 2024



A Hearty Welcome! If you are just visiting our parish today, we bid you welcome. If this is the first time you have been to Mass for a while, welcome back! We hope our time together unites us in God's love.

DATE	CHURCH	TIME & LITURGICAL SERVICE	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 14th	St. Margaret's	11am - Holy Mass (and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick) 5.30pm - Holy Mass	For the sick of St Margaret's John & Mary Collingborne RIP
Sunday 15th	St. Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am - Holy Mass 11am - Holy Mass	Joe Wilson RIP John Tonner RIP
Monday 16th		NO MASS	
Tuesday 17th	St. Margaret's Holy Name	10am - Holy Mass & Novena of St. Margaret 11am - Holy Mass (and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick)	Elizabeth & Thomas Hutton For the Sick of Holy Name
Wednesday 18th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am - Holy Mass 10am - Holy Mass & Novena of St. Margaret	Deceased members of the Ferrari family For unborn Children
Thursday 19th	St. Margaret's	10am - Holy Mass	McGarry & Grattan Families
Friday 20th	St. Margaret's	10am - Holy Mass	Helen Burnett OCDS
Saturday 21st	St. Margaret's	10am - Holy Mass 10.30am-Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am - Confession 5.30pm - Holy Mass	Barbara Chamberlain OCDS Noreen McInerney

Daily Opening of St. Margaret's Church excluding Mondays, 9am-4pm, to allow quiet time for personal prayer and reflection.

Mass Intentions

If you would like a mass to be offered, complete a Mass Intention envelope (for SM in the card stand; for HN on the table at the entrance of the church) and either hand it to the Priest or put through the Presbytery door. For legibility, please print your intention in block capitals. Please note mass intentions slots can regularly already be filled, up to a month in advance.

Novena of St. Margaret

The Novena of St. Margaret will be held every month from the 10th to 18th after morning mass at St. Margaret's.



Obituary: Please remember in your prayers:

Joe Wilson; Funeral will take place on Friday 27th December at 10am with requiem mass in St. Margaret's followed by burial at Dunfermline Cemetery.

John Tonner; Funeral will take place on Monday 30th December at 11.30am with requiem mass in Holy Name followed by burial at Culross Cemetery.

Betty Broadley; Funeral will take place on Tuesday 31st December at 10am with requiem mass in St. Margaret's followed by cremation at Dunfermline Crematorium.

May they Rest In Peace. Our thoughts & prayers go to the bereaved families and friends.

Very Rev John Canon Urquhart; One of the former parish priests of St. Margaret's Canon Urquhart who served the parish from 1984-89 sadly passed away on 30th November. His funeral takes place at St Bernadette's, Larbert, on Thursday 19 December at midday and his mortal remains will be received to the church on the previous evening at 6.30pm. There will be a memorial mass for the repose of his soul on Monday 23rd December at 12pm at St. Margaret's. May he Rest In Peace.

Maintenance Works in the Church

Due to the current ongoing maintenance work in St. Margaret's Church (replacing our lighting system), weekday masses for all of next week will be held in the Lady Chapel.

Holy Name RCPS are holding their Christmas Coffee Afternoon on Wednesday 18th November at 2.15pm and parishioners are welcome to come along and join them for a cuppa and a mince pie.

Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick in Advent will be held in St. Margaret's on Sat 14th December at 11am, and in Holy Name on Tue 17th Dec at 11am. **If you require transport to attend either mass, please get in touch with the parish office.**

Sacramental Preparations for Children

Parents who's children attend a non-Catholic school and want their children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation / First Holy Communion / Confirmation next year are requested to register by 15th December 2024. Please contact kayfrizell@gmail.com

St Margaret's RCPS Glee Choir

They are performing 'Annie' on Monday 16th December at 5pm in the school. We would love to have our parishioners join us.

SSVP Christmas Appeal

SSVP are holding their annual Christmas appeal to assist the many families they support throughout the year. During Advent, a donation box is placed in the Porch for your donations. Donations of power cards, gift cards and vouchers would be greatly appreciated. Alternatively, cash donations can be paid into the Ssvp bank account; details can be found on the back page of the newsletter. We thank you in advance for all your continued support.

Holy Name SSVP Conference Christmas Appeal

Holy Name SSVP are holding their Christmas Appeal to help local families in need. We would welcome food vouchers or a donation to purchase food vouchers. Please hand your contributions to either Alison Groves or Marie Glancy. Many thanks.

Safeguarding Recommendation

Children who are using any facilities whilst in the church should be accompanied by an appropriate adult, preferably using the toilets at the entrance, if it is in St. Margaret's.

Catholic Directory 2025

The 2025 Archdiocesan Directory are ready for distribution and are available at the back of the church for a small donation, which would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped into the Repository donation box located on the back wall of the church.

Marriage, Family and Life

The Catholic Families for Life Newsletter is available to read online. Visit <https://marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk/newsletter/>

St. Margaret's Tea And Toast remaining date for 2024 after Mass is Sunday 22nd Dec, and will resume on Sun 12th Jan 2025.

Hogmanay in the Crypt

Hogmanay in the Crypt. Don't sit at home watching TV this Hogmanay. See in the New Year with your friends in the Crypt for an evening of Games, Quizzes and Music. Tickets on sale after weekend Masses.

Sick of the Parish

We would like to ask your prayers for: **Gail Pearce, Elaine Cormack, Denise Reilly, Jane Fentiman, Maureen Black, Margaret McPherson, Anne Donaldson Nan Lomas, Margaret Fotheringham, Jim Cusick, Janet McIlwaine, Moira McGuigan, May Reid, Ann Begg, Esther Wren and Margaret Wilson** during their period of illness.

Jesse Tree

A Jesse Tree is a depiction in art form of the ancestors of Jesus, shown in a branching tree which rises from Jesse of Bethlehem, the father of King David. The Tree of Jesse originates in a passage in the Book of Isaiah which describes metaphorically the descent of the Messiah and is accepted by Christians as referring to Jesus. The various figures depicted in the lineage of Jesus are drawn from those names listed in the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke.

During each week of Advent this year we will mark our journey towards Christmas with the Jesse Tree.

Week One

In week one, we acknowledged the first 7 days of Advent by placing the following 7 symbols on our Jesse Tree to represent some of the Key Ancestors of Jesus or moments in history that precede him: The Story of Creation is symbolised by the sun, moon, stars, sky, earth and water.

The Story of the Fall of Adam & Eve is symbolised the Tree, the serpent, and an apple with a bite.

The Story of Noah and the Ark is symbolised by an ark on water with a rainbow and dove in the sky.

Abraham and Sarah are represented with a camel in the desert and many stars in the sky.

Issac, the son of Abraham and Sarah, is represented with a ram on an altar fire.

Jacob, the son of Isaac, is represented with a ladder going up to heaven, Jacob was also called Israel.

Joseph, the son of Jacob, is represented with an image of his multi-coloured coat of dreams.

Week Two

In week two we placed the 7 symbols on our Jesse Tree to illuminate the following 7 days of Advent:

Moses and the Passover are represented with a Lamb under a blood marked door frame.

The 10 Commandments are represented with an image of 2 tablets of stone with the numbers 1 to 10.

Ruth & Boaz are the grandparents of Jesse, therefore the great grandparents of King David, and they are shown as grain.

Samuel, the prophet, anointed a young King David and is symbolised with a burning lamp.

Jesse is symbolising with a tree stump and a small shoot coming from its side because Isaiah writes "A shoot will come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will bear fruit".

David wrote all of the Psalms and was a shepherd, he is symbolised with a shepherd's crook and a lire.

Solomon was wise because he asked for wisdom and he is represented with a beautiful crown.

Week Three

This week on our Jesse Tree we have placed 7 symbols to represent the following parts of the genealogy of Jesus:

The prophet Elijah is symbolised with an Altar of Fire after the miracle to prove God's existence.

Jonah the prophet is symbolised by the whale that swallowed him and spat him out.

Isaiah had many visions about God, and he is symbolised by the High Throne that he sees God sitting on.

Daniel is represented by a lion after God saved him from a sure death for breaking the laws of King Darius.

Mary, the mother of Jesus is symbolised with a peaceful, loving image of her with 12 stars over her head.

Joseph was a carpenter and is represented by a saw, a rule and a hammer.

We encourage you to come up after mass and look for each of the symbols displayed and reflect on their meaning.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Presbytery & Parish Office Address: St. Margaret's Presbytery, 4 Viewfield Terrace, Dunfermline, KY12 7HZ

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Parish Website & Social Media

stmargaretsnews@gmail.com

Newsletter - Deadline Friday 10am

Sacraments

Please Contact the Parish office to make an appointment with Fr Syriac to arrange: Baptisms, Marriages (6 months notice req'd), Funerals, Sacrament of the Sick or visits to the Housebound/Hospital.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

'St Margaret's R C Church'

80-06-55

00720303



'The Holy Name Parish'

83-33-00

00176355



**'St. Margaret's
One World Group'**

83-33-00

10191867

SM

'SSVP AE02044'

80-06-55

00768139

HN

'SSVP AE02040'

80-22-60

13364166

GIFT AID - If you are a taxpayer and would like to enrol for Gift Aid, please contact the parish office.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY & MONTHLY STANDING ORDERS/DIRECT DEBITS

SPECIAL COLLECTION

SM: 7th & 8th Dec

Offertory £655.14 - **SO/DD** £1020.00

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY: 11/10- 12/11/24

Offertory £1196.74 - **SO/DD** £1060.

Building Fund - SM: 7+8/12/24 -

£457.18

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 2024/25

**St. Margaret's Parish
Building Fund**

1st Sunday of every month

**Christmas Season - Diocesan
Crib (Care Fund)**

**5th Jan - Bishops' Conference
Justice & Peace**

**30th March - Diocesan
SCIAF & Episcopal**



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ST. MARGARET'S IS A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. ANDREWS AND EDINBURGH,
A CHARITY REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND SC0008540





SCRIPTURE READINGS

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR (C)



FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Sing aloud, O daughter of Sion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Fear not, O Sion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Philippians 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Luke 3:10-18

At that time: The crowds asked John, 'What, then, shall we do?' And he answered them, 'Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.' Tax collectors also came to be baptised and said to him, 'Teacher, what shall we do?' And he said to them, 'Collect no more than you are authorized to do.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what shall we do?' And he said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, 'I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 12:2-3. 4b-d. 5-6. R3

**Shout aloud and sing praise,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Psalm Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

**Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.
Alleluia.**

THE NICENE ("Niceno-Constantinopolitan") Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ST MARGARET'S PARISH - ADVENT CALENDAR 2024

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
Friday 13th	'Christmas in Music and Words' Concert	7pm	St. Margaret's
Saturday 14th	Holy Mass & the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick	11am	St. Margaret's
Sunday 15th 3rd Sunday of Advent	Children's Liturgy Christmas Party	10.30am	St. Margaret's
Monday 16th	SM RCPC Glee Choir performing 'Annie'	5pm	St. Margaret's Primary School
Tuesday 17th	Holy Mass & the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick	11am	Holy Name
	SCHS Christmas Concert (booking required)	6.30pm	St. Columba's High School
Wednesday 18th	Christmas Coffee Afternoon	2.15pm	Holy Name Primary School
	Advent Reflection & Reconciliation Service	7pm	St. Margaret's
Sunday 22nd 4th Sunday of Advent	Final St. Margaret's Tea And Toast for 2024	10.30am	St. Margaret's
Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve	Carol singing Holy Mass	5.30pm 6pm	Holy Name
	Carol singing Holy Mass	7.30pm 8pm	St. Margaret's
Wednesday 25th Christmas Day	Holy Mass	9.30am	St. Margaret's
	Holy Mass	11am	Holy Name
Sunday 29th Feast of The Holy Family	Gathering of all children who were baptised in 2024 and their families	9.30am	St. Margaret's
	Gathering of all children who were baptised in 2024 and their families	11am	Holy Name

PARISH REGISTER... TO BE LAUNCHED IN THE NEW YEAR!

The benefits of having a parish register are:

Improved Communication

The Parish Register will serve as a centralized resource for keeping parishioners informed about important updates, events, and initiatives. Whether it's sharing schedules, delivering newsletters, or announcing urgent messages, the register ensures timely and accurate communication with everyone in the parish community.

Reduced Risk of Exclusion

Without a register, some parishioners might miss important information or opportunities to participate in parish activities. The register minimizes this risk by providing an inclusive communication framework that reaches everyone.

To be continued next week....