



# ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

## HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR (C)  
5<sup>th</sup> October 2025



*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 4th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 11am – Baptism of Eloise Duffy 5.30pm – Holy Mass	Finlay Smith (Well-being)  Benjamin Watson RIP
<b>Sunday 5th</b>	St. Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass	Catherine M'Vey RIP Matt McDonald RIP
Monday 6th		NO MASS	
Tuesday 7th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	To follow
Wednesday 8th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	To follow
Thursday 9th		NO MASS	
Friday 10th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 7pm – Holy Mass – Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession	To follow
Saturday 11th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	People of the Parish  Peter Thomson RIP
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	St Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass	Jessie Kelly RIP Ottavio & Jean Verrecchia

### Amended mass schedule

We will have visiting priests Father John Peter and Father Lixon to cover Masses this week – please see the amended mass schedule above.  
Thank you to the Parishioners who are helping in Father Syriac's absence.

### 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.

### Parish Newsletter

Please feel free to take a copy of the newsletter for a family member, a neighbour or anyone unable to come to church. Email the Parish to receive a digital copy.



## **Please remember Father Syriac and his family in your prayers**

As per our email communications this week, Father Syriac and his family are grieving the sudden passing of his beloved brother James who died on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Father has returned to India to be with his family. Your prayers for the Palakudiyil family are most welcome.

## **Season of Creation – Thanksgiving Mass for creation and the blessing of pets**

To appreciate the gift of creation bring an image of your pets, printed or on phone at masses (9.30am & 11am) on 5th October. Thank you to the congregation for your participation in celebrating this Season of Creation: thanks to all those who have placed either plants or crops in front of the altar; and those who have participated in photography/drawing competition; and also to the St Margaret's and Holy Name Primary schools for their participation in the Liturgy.

## **RCIA – still time to join**

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults group runs weekly on Tuesday evenings 7–8.30pm in the Crypt. If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, there is still time to join. Please speak with Fr Syriac.

## **One World Group breakfast**

The OWG will be hosting the next breakfast in the Crypt in St Margaret's on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, after Sunday Mass. All are welcome to come for a chat with a cuppa and cooked-breakfast rolls.

## **Annual Parish Golf outing**

We were blessed with a fine day for this year's outing on 28 Sept, which helped to produce good scoring. Congratulations to the Winner of the SMPGA Trophy John McDonald. Paul Johnson won the inaugural John McCormick Memorial Shield, which was kindly presented by John's family. Thank you to everyone who attended for making it a memorable and fun day.

## **Pray and act for Gaza**

Justice & Peace Scotland invites you to 'Pray and Act for Gaza' as we approach two years of war in the Holy Land. On Tuesday 7th October, please join our 'Light a Prayer for Peace' action by lighting a candle and saying a prayer for peace. You are also encouraged to write to your MP urgently calling for action to end the suffering in Gaza. Find out more and download a template letter here: [www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/Light-a-Prayer-for-Peace](http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/Light-a-Prayer-for-Peace)

## **Sick in the Parish**

We would like to ask your prayers for: **Barbara Orr, Tony Cascarino, Albert & Pauline Gatt, Kathleen Penman, Frances Henderson, Wilma Ovenden, John Ashe, Peter McCourt, James Payne, John Cassells, Andrew Kelly, Teresa Lynch, Gail Pearce, Margaret Fotheringham, Elaine Cormack, Denise Reilly, Maureen Black, Margaret McPherson, Anne Donaldson, Nan Lomas, Janet McIlwaine, Esther Wren, Anne McPherson and Margaret Wilson** during their period of illness. If you would like a family member or friend to be remembered in the bidding prayers, please complete the form which are at the back of each church.

## **Pastoral Visits for the Sick and Housebound**

If you or a loved one need a visit from Fr Syriac or one of the Eucharistic Ministers due to illness, hospitalisation, or being housebound, we are here for you. To arrange a visit, please contact the parish office.

# ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

For a full list of upcoming events in the Diocese  
visit:  
[www.archedinburgh.org/news-events](http://www.archedinburgh.org/news-events)

## **Day of Prayer for Peace**

The Bishops of Scotland invite all Catholics to keep Tuesday 7 October as a day of prayer for peace.

*God of peace and justice, We pray for the people of the Holy Land: Israeli and Palestinian, Jew, Christian and Muslim. We pray for an end to acts of violence and terror. We lift to you all who are fearful and hurting. We ask for wisdom and compassion for those in leadership. Above all, we ask that Jesus the Prince of Peace, establish lasting reconciliation and justice for the Holy Land and all nations. Amen.*

## **The Calix Society**

The Calix Society is an association of Catholic alcoholics who meet to grow in their relationship with God through prayer and meditation (Alcoholics Anonymous' 11th Step). It welcomes anyone who wishes to join in prayer and fellowship. Meetings are on Tuesdays, 7–8pm, starting 21 October at St Patrick's Church, The Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1TQ. For more information visit [www.calixsociety.org](http://www.calixsociety.org)

## **St Pier Giorgio Frassati book tour**

A book tour to celebrate the recent canonisation and the publication of *15 Days of Prayer with St Pier Giorgio Frassati* (New City Press, 2025), visits St Albert's Chaplaincy, 24 George Square, Edinburgh. EH8 9LD, on Friday 17 October, 5.15pm. Free event, all welcome.

## **Catholic Conversations for Women**

Women who are recent converts, those considering Catholicism, and those who are desirous of faith-focused discussion are welcome to this event on Saturday, 25 October, 3.45pm–4.45pm in the St Andrew's Parish rooms (77 Belford Rd, EH4 3DS). All welcome to join for Holy Hour with Adoration and chanted Vespers from 5.10pm in the convent with the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma. To register, email [edinburgh@almamercy.org](mailto:edinburgh@almamercy.org) or call 0131 343 3380.

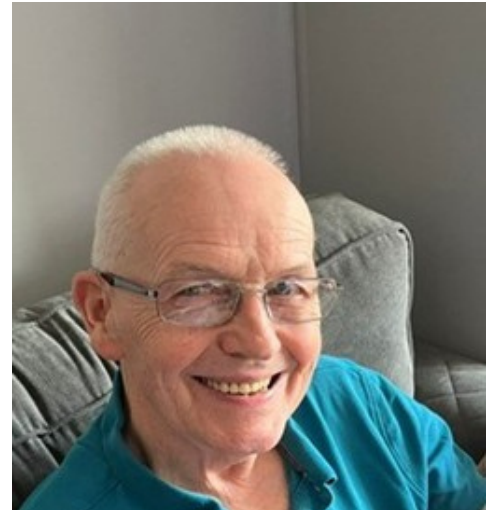
# SPOTLIGHT: CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF DEVOTION



**FATHER AELRED, 1985**

## **A Tribute to a Lifetime in the Priesthood and in the Order of Preachers for Fr. Aelred Connelly (John)**

*By Marie Glancy of Holy Name for her  
beloved brother, Father Aelred*



**FATHER AELRED, 2025**

**Reaching a milestone such as 40 years in the Priesthood is a testament to unwavering faith, steadfast commitment, and a life devoted to service. On the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2025 we will gather in gratitude and admiration to honour a remarkable journey that has been shaped by prayer, learning, compassion, and a tireless dedication to sharing the Good News.**

### **The Journey**

John was born on 7 November 1953. He attended Holy Name Primary and St Andrew's High Kirkcaldy. After two years at Blairs Seminary he studied for two more years at Scots College, Rome. From 1974-78 he studied history at the University of Edinburgh before moving to Drygrange in the period 1978-80. In 1980 he joined the Dominican Order where he made his Simple Profession on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1981. John was ordained as a priest in The Mercy Convent Lauriston in Edinburgh on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1985 and celebrated his first Mass in Holy Name on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>. Between the years of 1983 -1986 John studied at New College in Edinburgh and gained a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

John's Dominican ministry has, since ordination, taken him to Oxford, London, Leicester, Glasgow and Edinburgh. He has been student chaplain at Strathclyde University, Leicester University and De Montford University. He was chaplain at the Royal Free Hospital London. John has worked with prisoners in Wormwood Scrubs and Polmont Young Offenders Institution. He is currently based at St Albert the Great's Church in Edinburgh.

From the moment he answered the call to join the Order of Preachers, his life became a living witness to the Dominican spirit. Through times of joy and challenge alike, his devotion to the path of Saint Dominic has shone as a beacon for all who have had the privilege to know him.

### **Teaching, Preaching, and Guiding**

His vocation has not been a solitary one. Over four decades, he has embraced the Dominican mission: to contemplate and to share the fruits of contemplation. Whether from the pulpit, in work situations, or through the gentle guidance of a listening ear, his words and actions have touched countless lives. He has been a faithful preacher, a wise teacher, and a compassionate guide, gently leading others towards truth and light. John has always acknowledged the example set by his parents, John and Helen. He has always played an important and supportive role in his family as a brother to Kevin and Marie, brother-in-law to Barbara and Michael, Uncle to Anne-Marie, Rebecca and Josh and Great Uncle to Aidan.

### **A Pillar of the Community**

Within his community, his presence has been a source of strength and encouragement. His kindness, humility, and patience have uplifted fellow brothers and sisters, fostering unity and a sense of belonging. The generosity of spirit he has shown extends beyond the walls of any one house or parish, reaching all whose lives intersect with his.

### **Legacy of Love and Service**

As we celebrate this extraordinary milestone, we give thanks for the legacy he continues to build. His example encourages us all to live with greater faith, hope, and love. The seeds he has planted over forty years now bear fruit in the lives of those he has taught, counselled, and accompanied on their own journeys.

**On this special occasion, we pray that John may be blessed with continued health and joy in your service. May he find deep satisfaction in all he has given and all he has become. Thank you for his forty years of tireless devotion, for his courage to preach the truth, and for his generous heart that has enriched our community and the wider Church.**

**All Parishioners are welcome to attend a special commemorative Mass at Holy Name to celebrate Fr Aelred Connelly's anniversary on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 12pm.**



## Season of Creation Nature Photography Contest

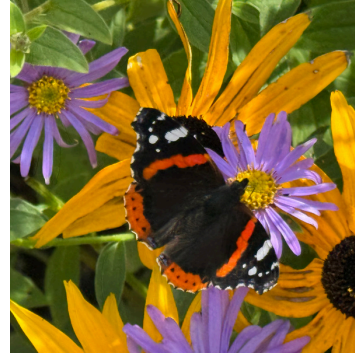
We have had a wonderful and enthusiastic response to our Season of Creation photography competition, which is now closed. Our independent judge is pouring over the entries with the winner to be announced in the coming weeks.



**CAT BY RACHAEL THOMPSON**



**RED SEAWEED UNDER MICROSCOPE  
BY MARTIN WILKINSON**

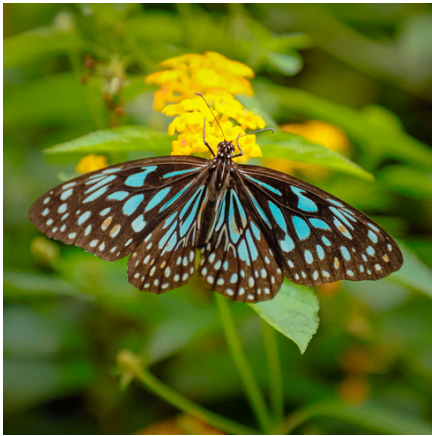


**BUTTERFLY BY  
MARY-GRACE FLINN**



Season of Creation 2025

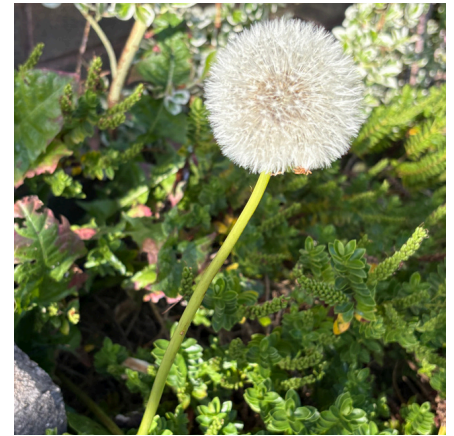
**View the full  
gallery on  
the  
website!**



**BLUE TIGER BUTTERFLY  
BY JOHN MCGUINNESS**



**SPIDER BY JOHN STEPHENS**



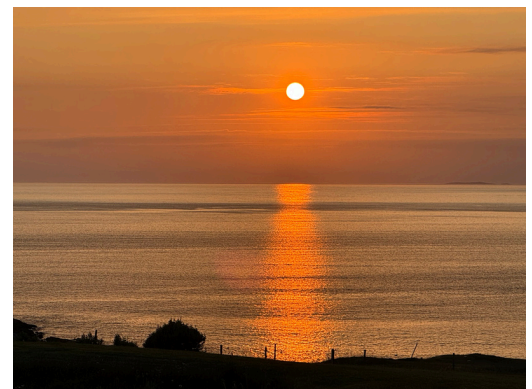
**DANDELION BY JANETTE JEW**



**FROM THE FORTH RAIL BRIDGE  
BY SUSI LUNN**



**HARRIS BEACH BY MARY-GRACE FLINN**



**HARRIS SUNSET BY MARY-GRACE FLINN**



**EURASIAN NUTHATCH  
BY MARIA FORREST**



**CELLS OF LIFE, EDINBURGH  
BY MARIA FORREST**



**LOW TIDE AT DALGETY BAY BY  
MARTIN WILKINSON**



# PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Presbytery & Parish Office Address:

St. Margaret's Presbytery, 4 Viewfield Terrace, Dunfermline, KY12 7HZ



[www.stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk)



All Liturgical Services in St. Margaret's Church are livestreamed.

**Fr. Syriac Palakudiyil**  
**Parish Administrator**

[frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk](mailto:frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk)  
Phone: 01383 625611

**Colleen Gilchrist**

**Parish Office Admin Asst & Crypt Bookings**

[priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk](mailto:priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk)  
Phone: 07706 083493 / 01383 625611

**Parish Website & Social Media**

[stmargaretsnews@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretsnews@gmail.com)

**Newsletter - Deadline Friday 10am**

## Sacraments

Please email or phone the Parish office to make an appointment with Fr Syriac to arrange: Baptisms, Marriages (6 months notice required), Funerals, Sacrament of the Sick or visits to the housebound/hospital.

## UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 2025

**SM & HN**  
**Building Fund**  
1st Sun every month

**19th Oct** - Holy See:  
Missio

**9th Nov** - Diocesan:  
Day for the Poor

## ST MARGARET'S PARISH REGISTER

### Registration Instructions

1. Use QR code
2. Enter your details
3. An email will be sent with an invitation to My ChurchSuite.



You can use My ChurchSuite to edit your personal information, and to update your contact preferences.

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY & MONTHLY STANDING ORDERS/DIRECT DEBITS

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**SM - OFFERTORY**  
**20/21 Sept:** £810.11  
**SO/DD** £1020.00

**HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:**  
**11 Jul-13 Aug:** £1211.28  
**SO/DD** £1084

N/A

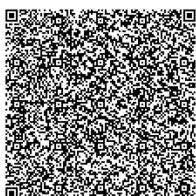
## PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

## CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO  
If you're a UK Tax payer, contact Parish office to register for Gift Aid

**'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

## SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT INFO:

**SM** [mike\\_robertson@sky.com](mailto:mike_robertson@sky.com), T: 07851 793295 / **HN** T: 07709 110706

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# SCRIPTUREREADINGS

## 27TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR (C)



### FIRST READING Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the Lord answered me: 'Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end – it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

'Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.'

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

At that time: The Apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, "Come at once and recline at table"? Will he not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink"? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty." '

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**1 Peter 1:25**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The word of the Lord remains for ever  
and this word is the good news that was preached  
to you.  
Alleluia.**

**Responsorial Psalm  
Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a  
O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts.'**

## 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.