



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC



ALL SAINTS – YEAR (C)
2nd November 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 1st	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	James Joseph RIP Winifred Brannan RIP
Sunday 2nd <i>All Saints' Day</i>	St Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass	Peter Carney RIP Jimmy Cusick (80 th B'day)
Monday 3rd <i>All Souls' Day</i>	St. Margaret's	7pm – Holy Mass & Candle Service for the Deceased	Faithful departed of the Parish
Tuesday 4th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	Mary Canning RIP Charles Wickam
Wednesday 5th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	James Joseph RIP Dianne Repsch (nee Black)
Thursday 6th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass	Fr Syriac's Family
Friday 7th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 7pm – Holy Mass – Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession	Neil Sinclair RIP Francis Ferguson, David Hughes & Family
Saturday 8th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	Moyra McDonald RIP Fr Chris

Holy Mass & Candle Service for the Deceased

On Monday 3 Nov at 7pm, there will be a Holy Mass & Candle Service for the Deceased for All Souls Day at St Margaret's. There will be a Holy Mass & Candle Service at Holy Name on Thursday 11th Nov at 7pm.

Enrolment for the First Confession & First Holy Communion

Children who are being prepared for the Sacraments this year will be enrolled on Saturday 8 November during the Vigil Mass.

Mass Intentions

If you would like a mass to be offered in November for your deceased loved ones, 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.



Obituary – Please remember in your prayers:

Peggy McPhail – Funeral details to follow. Our thoughts & prayers go to the bereaved family and friends. May her soul rest in peace.

New Parish Office email address

The Archdiocese has updated the Parish office email address which is now: office.stmargaretunfermline@staned.org.uk
Please use this address going from now on. The priest email is still being kept active as an alias for a short while.

One World Group Craft Fair, 9 Nov

The OWG fundraising Christmas Craft Fayre is next Sunday 9th Nov from 12–3pm. Please support this event. Professional crafters are bringing their goods for you to browse and pick up some Christmas presents. Tombola, teas and coffees and filled rolls also available. Please note: to allow for set up, there will be no Tea & Toasts in the Crypt after Mass on this day.

Ladies Group Craft evening

Our women's group card making evening is on Tuesday 25 November at 7pm in the Crypt. All women in the Parish are welcome. Bring your own nibbles and beverage(s).

Red Wednesday, 19th November

Our Scottish cathedrals will join Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) in celebrating Mass to remember Christians across the world who suffer for their faith. 80% of all religious persecution in the world is directed against Christians, and our brothers and sisters in Christ desperately need our prayers and support. #RedWednesday Masses are on 19th Nov at St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow at 1pm; and Edinburgh: St Mary's Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh at 7pm.

Campaign Against Assisted Dying (CAAD)

Frances Burniston is a CAAD volunteer looking for interested Parishioners who might get involved in writing to MSPs etc ahead of a crucial vote in parliament. She is working in a joint project with the Catholic Parliamentary Office, supported by The Bishops of Scotland. If you are interested, please contact Frances on 07901 94638.

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, 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

Diploma in Catechetics – register now

Explore the richness of the Catholic faith in 2026 by taking the Diploma in Catechetics. The popular course is run by the Archdiocese and takes place at 7.30pm each Thursday on Zoom, starting on 22 January. Be quick, places limited to 100. Cost £220. Registration and details at bit.ly/diploma2026

Day for the Poor

Next Sunday is the annual special collection for World Day for the Poor. All funds will go to the Mercy Centre, run by the Sisters of Mercy at St Catharine's Convent of Mercy, Lauriston. Sr Aelred Timmins said: *"Homeless people come here every day for food, sometimes for sleeping bags, most of all they're looking for friendship and a listening ear. Please keep us in your prayers, and we are grateful to anybody who is able to support the works of mercy in this house."* Donate online at bit.ly/dayforpoor. Watch the 45 second video at bit.ly/mercycentre

All Souls' Day

Archbishop Cushley will offer Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, especially those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery in Edinburgh. This will take place on All Souls' Day, Monday 3 November at 10am in Mount Vernon Cemetery Chapel, 49 Mount Vernon Rd, Edinburgh, EH16 6JG.

Advent Rosary for Life

Every Monday in Advent at 7.45pm to pray for unborn children, their mothers, and all pro-life intentions. Each session is on Zoom and lasts about 30 minutes. Following the Rosary there is a short reflection from a guest speaker: Deacon David Harper (1 Dec, Diocese of Motherwell), Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (8 Dec, March for Life UK), Fr Jamie McMorris (15 Dec, St Margaret's, Edinburgh), and Archbishop Leo Cushley (22 Dec). All are warmly invited to take part. Register at bit.ly/rosary25



Month of Remembrance Memory Tree

The parish is delighted to introduce a Memory Tree – a living reminder of the loved ones who have gone before us and a focal point for our prayers for the faithful departed. It is a beautiful, concrete expression of the Church's ancient teaching that the living and the dead are forever united in Christ. It brings the doctrine of the communion of saints, the practice of suffrages for the faithful departed, and the hope of the resurrection into the everyday life of the community, turning a simple tree into a liturgical aid that invites prayer, remembrance, and hope.

The symbolic significance

The branches of the Memory Tree represent the living and the dead as one body, rooted in Christ and growing toward the light of eternity. By hanging a tag with the name of our deceased ones, the tree becomes a symbol for suffrage for the dead, encouraging us to keep their memories alive and offer prayers and the Holy Eucharist for their repose.

Theological Foundations

Communion of Saints – the tree's branches embody the Church's belief that the faithful on earth are united with those in heaven and in purgatory, sharing in each other's prayers.

Prayer for the Dead – hanging a name is an invitation to offer suffrage, especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, for the souls in purgatory, as the Church commends the dead to God's mercy and offers her prayers.

Hope of Resurrection – Just as the tree's branches grow upward, we look forward to the promise of resurrection: "the seed of the body will rise in glory" (CCC 1683). The Memory Tree reminds us that death is not the end, but a step toward the new heavens and new earth.

In this way, a Memory Tree becomes more than a decorative object; it is a liturgical aid that brings the living into a concrete act of prayer, remembrance, and hope, fully aligned with the Church's tradition of honouring the dead while looking forward to the glorious resurrection.

How it works

It is very simple! Take a tag and a pen from the tray, write the name/s of your deceased ones on the tag and hang it on a branch.

We invite everyone to join this beautiful expression of love, remembrance, and hope. Please encourage your friends (regardless of their religious status) to come along and take part in this beautiful act of remembrance.

May the Memory Tree inspire us to pray continually for those who have gone before us, trusting in God's infinite mercy.



PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Presbytery & Parish Office Address:

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



www.stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk



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

Fr. Syriac Palakudiyil
Parish Administrator

frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk
Phone: 01383 625611

Colleen Gilchrist

Parish Office Admin Asst & Crypt Bookings
priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk
Phone: 07706 083493 / 01383 625611

Parish Website & Social Media

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

9th Nov - Diocesan:
Day for the Poor

23 Nov - Diocesan:
Catholic Education

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
18/19 Oct & 25/26 Oct: £2030.57
SO/DD £1020.00

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:
13 Aug-10 Sep: £1172.02
SO/DD £1061

MISSIO SUNDAY, 19 OCT
SM: £854.10

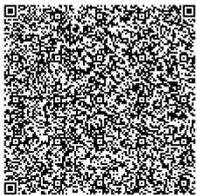
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

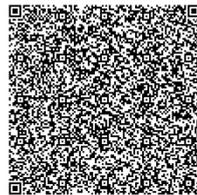
CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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, T: 07851 793295 / **HN** T: 07709 110706

ST. MARGARET'S IS A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. ANDREWS AND EDINBURGH,
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SCRIPTUREREADINGS

ALL SAINTS – YEAR (C)



FIRST READING

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, 'Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.' And I heard the number of the sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?' I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-3

Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12a

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R cf. 6

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord, and I will give you rest.

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.

Feast of All Saints

St Margaret's statue restoration project

At the end of last year Fr Syriac noticed that the statues in the church were looking a wee bit tired and in need of some TLC. He requested the Fabric Committee to engage someone who was able to restore our statues to their original condition. As it is the Feast of All Saints, we reflect on the project and celebrate their glorious restoration.



REMARKABLY THE PIATA IS CARVED FROM WOOD

At the same time, Fr Syriac also made a request of our Parish Community to consider donating to the cost of the Statue Restoration Project. Thanks to your kind donations we raised £5420.

Preserving these works as a legacy for future parishioners

When we started the Project we identify 6 statues we wished to restore: St Margaret, Sacred Heart, Our Lady, Joseph, St Anthony and St Theresa.

However, when the first restored statue was returned, we realised we had this one opportunity to restore ALL the statues in the church so we added St Cuthbert, St Mungo, the Piata, the Large Crucifix and the Veneration Crucifix.

During the restoration work we were able to identify that most of the statues originated from Paris and are almost 100 years old. If you look closely at the base of the statues there is some limited information regarding dates and origin.

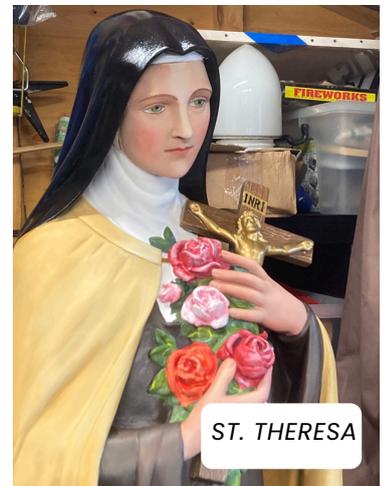
The total cost for the renovation and restoration of all the statues was £7970. We believe the money was well spent in preserving our statues as a legacy for future parishioners.



OUR LADY



THE LARGE CRUCIFIX



ST. THERESA



JESUS & MARY PIATA



ST. ANTHONY

SPOTLIGHT: STATUE RESTORATION PROJECT

Special thanks

Our special thanks go to Harry Swan who is the talented expert we engaged to undertake our Statue Restoration Project. Harry hails from Airdrie and has retired from his career as a signwriter and mural painter. Harry spent a significant part of his working life creating and painting scenery for films such as 39 Steps, Whisky Galore and lots of other major films. He also spent four happy years working on Outlander.

Although retired, Harry is extremely active having restored statues elsewhere in the Diocese. He also applied gold leaf to Our Lady of Light that adorns the top of the old Co-op building overlooking the Kingston Bridge in Glasgow.

We hope you agree that the work Harry completed here at St Margaret's has brought new life to our statues and restored them to their former glory.

As we celebrate the Feast of All Saints it is appropriate that we mark the completion of our major 'Sainly' Statue Restoration Project.

Many thanks to everyone involved and for your generous donations that made the Project possible.



Harry & Our Lady of Light



ST. Margaret



Our Lady and Joseph



Harry & Sacred Heart before restoration



Harry with Joseph & Sacred Heart AFTER restoration

Thank you!

To all of the parishioners and families whose generous donations funded this impactful project:

- Veronica Price
- Anne McPherson
- Denise Reilly
- Jane Agnew
- Sonia Mallan
- Mike & Maria Spencer
- Herbert Adams
- Fran & Elaine McNicoll
- Alex & Bridie Burns
- Allan Dewar (for the Dewar family)
- Saturday PM Group
- John, Rosemary & Racquel Thompson
- Charlie & Maureen Kelly
- Kathie & Peter Whyte
- Tom & Catriona Mellon
- Brian & Margaret McLaren
- Monica Ager

And many others who wished to remain anonymous

And a huge thank you to those who helped with manually removing, moving and reinstating the statues in their rightful place.

This was no small feat and is gratefully recognised:

- Paddy Mallan
- Sean Mallan
- Mike Penlowski



SPOTLIGHT: STATUE RESTORATION PROJECT

Behind the scenes...

Over the course of several months, and multiple trips, the statues were carefully removed, transported, returned and reinstalled in the church. It's a good job that we have a Fabric Committee of strong gents who, under Harry and his team's careful direction, were up to the job! Thanks to Paddy, Sean, Mike and others who lent a hand.

