

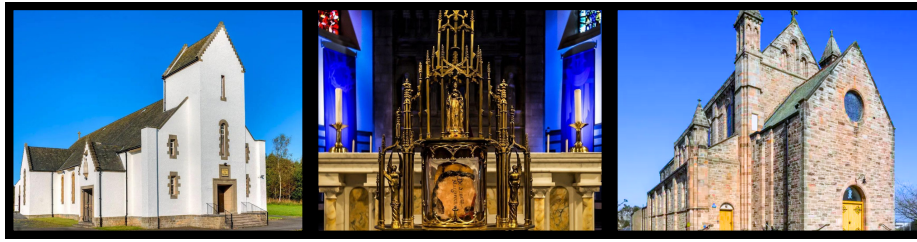


ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR (A)

30th 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 29th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	The deceased relatives & friends of Samantha James Francesca & Rocco Guidice RIP
Sunday 30th <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	St Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass	David Dobson RIP Barbara Orr RIP
Monday 1st <i>St Andrew of Scotland – Solemnity</i>	St Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass	The Holy Souls
Tuesday 2nd	St Margaret's Holy Name	10am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Name Primary School Mass	Maurice McCarron RIP Peggy McPhail RIP
Wednesday 3rd	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	John (jock) Shields RIP Jack Farmes RIP
Thursday 4th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass	Paddy Doherty
Friday 5th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 7pm – Holy Mass 8pm – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession	Richard Hogg RIP MK Mathew RIP
Saturday 6th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	Eamon Fitzgerald RIP Gus Ramsay RIP

Additional Mass during Advent – there will be Mass on Mondays at 10am throughout the season of Advent.

Holy Name Primary School – Pupils from HNPS will join us for Mass on Tuesday 2 Dec at 11am.

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.

Christmas Cards available to buy – A reminder to all parishioners that we have a good selection of Christmas cards etc. in the Stall at St Margaret's, at the rear of the church. Each item has a price and there is a payment box at the Stall. Thank you to our volunteers for refreshing the card and leaflets stands.

PARISH NEWS

To receive our weekly newsletter by email,
please send an email to: stmargaretsnews@gmail.com



Obituary – Please remember in your prayers:

Barbara Orr: Her Requiem Mass will be at Holy Name on Thursday 11 December 11.30am, then at Dunfermline Crematorium.
Mary Sweeney: Her funeral will be at St Margaret's with a Requiem Mass on Tuesday 16 Dec, 10am, followed by interment at Culross Cemetery.
Agnes Hunter: Her funeral will be at St Margaret's with a Requiem Mass on Wednesday 17 Dec, 10am followed by interment at Dunfermline Cemetery.
John Doherty: His funeral service will be at St Margaret's with Requiem Mass on Thursday 18 Dec, 10am followed by interment at Dunfermline Cemetery.
May their souls rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends.

Dunfermline Gilbert & Sullivan Festive Concert, 29 Nov – Due to scheduling clashes, the concert won't be going ahead.

One World Group – Thank you & last breakfast of 2025 – A huge thank you to the parish for your support of the Christmas Craft Fayre. We raised £401.50! The next OWG breakfast will be in St M's Crypt on Sunday 30 November. Hot filled breakfast rolls, tea & coffees in return for a small donation.

Men's Group – Next meeting is Thursday 4 December starting at 7.30pm in the St M's Crypt. All men of the Parish are welcome to attend.

Children's Liturgy Group – In celebration of Advent, the Children's Liturgy Group will be running every Sunday at St Margaret's. All children are welcome to attend and learn about the Gospel through stories and activities. If your child has special needs, a parent or guardian can accompany them to the Crypt.

Christmas Music & Words concert with Queen Anne Singers, 14 Dec – Join the Queen Anne Singers for their annual Christmas Concert at St Margaret's on Sunday 14 Dec, 7pm. Tickets are £10 for adults, under 18s free – in aid of Mary's Meals. Available from One World Group and Choir members, or on the door.

Christmas Flower workshop, 15 Dec – Liz and Sonia Mallan from the SM Florist team invite you to an evening to make your own Christmas table arrangement on Monday 15 Dec, 6.30–8.30pm in St Margaret's Crypt. £25 each, to cover cost of materials with proceeds going to Fife Women's Aid. Refreshments will be provided.

Sick in the Parish – We would like to ask your prayers for: **Herbert Adams, Therese Walsh, 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

For a full list of upcoming events in the Diocese
visit:
www.archedinburgh.org/news-events

Mass for the Solemnity of St Andrew – The Solemnity of St Andrew, our National Patron, is on Monday 1 December. Archbishop Cushley will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 12.45pm. You are encouraged to venerate the Apostle's relics at the National Shrine of St Andrew in the Cathedral. At 7pm there is a Holy Hour with sung Vespers and Eucharistic Adoration.

Diploma in Catechetics – 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. Register at bit.ly/diploma2026

Sunday: Nativity Blessing & Carol Concert – Archbishop Cushley joins religious leaders from across the city of Edinburgh for this annual event at Assembly Hall Courtyard on Mound Place, Edinburgh, before a Blessing of the Nativity Scene on The Mound backed by music from the Salvation Army Band. Sunday 30 November, 3–5pm.

Sunday: SCIAF Advent Carol Service – An Advent Carol Service, in partnership with SCIAF, takes place at Sacred Heart Church, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, on Sunday 30 November at 4pm. Readings and carols sung by the Edinburgh Jesuit Church Schola Cantorum.

Rorate Masses at St Mary's Cathedral – The beautiful Rorate Masses begin the first week of Advent. The Mass is lit only by candles, representing Mary's role in bringing the Light of the World into the darkness of the world. Celebrated at 7pm on Thursday 4 (Celebrated by Archbishop Cushley); Thursday 11 & 18, Monday 22 December.

Advent Retreat – Saturday 6 December, 10am–7pm & Sunday 7 December, 3–5.30pm, St Margaret Mary's Church, Boswall Parkway, Granton, Edinburgh, EH5 2JQ. Led by Fr Bart Parys, SVD. All welcome, including families and individual worshippers. Registration is essential. Visit retreat.light-lifescotland.org.uk

Advent Walking Retreat, Sunday 7 Dec – The walk starts in Culross in Fife (birthplace of St Mungo) at 11am and finishes at the National Shrine of St Margaret, Dunfermline. There will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Adoration with Benediction followed by 5.30pm Mass. To register for this free event and for times please email Deacon Pat Carrigan at obl.columba@gmail.com

SPOTLIGHT: SEASON OF ADVENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin the holy season of Advent this Sunday, I invite you to embrace its profound spiritual gifts. Advent is more than a countdown to Christmas; it is a sacred time of waiting and hope, preparing our hearts for Christ's first coming as the humble Infant in Bethlehem and his glorious return at the end of time. Drawing from the prophets and the teachings of the Church, this season calls us to conversion and joyful expectation, urging us to repent, restrain our desires, and recognise the Lord's presence in our daily lives.

In the words of the Church, Advent renews our "ardent desire for his second coming," uniting us in vigilant faith as we meditate on the mysteries of salvation. Let us use these four weeks to light the candles of our Advent wreath, attend daily Mass, and practice works of charity—preparing not just our homes, but our souls, to welcome the Saviour who is already near.

The Children's Liturgy Team at St. Margaret's is excited to invite your children to join them for special sessions during all four Sundays of Advent. These gatherings are designed to provide a welcoming space to the children where they can pray, reflect, and build community under the guidance of experienced catechists. It is to help our children to engage more deeply with the Mass in an age-appropriate way, fostering active and conscious participation in the liturgy as encouraged by the Church.

Let us together make this Advent a time of spiritual renewal for our families. May the peace of Advent fill your hearts. Let us journey together toward the joy of Christmas.

**Yours in Christ,
Fr Syriac**

Advent Calendar of Events

Sat 29 Nov Gin Tasting in the Crypt, 7.30pm <i>ST M</i>	Sun 30 Nov 1 st Sunday of Advent	Sun 30 Nov OWG breakfast <i>ST M</i>	Mon 1 Dec Additional Advent Mass, 10am	Tue 2 Dec Holy Name PS Mass, 11am	Thur 4 Dec SMPS Christmas fair, 5.30pm	
Sat 6 Dec Advent Walking retreat, 11am	Sun 7 Dec 2 nd Sunday of Advent	Sun 7 Dec Last tea & coffee in Dec <i>ST M</i>	Thur 11 Dec SMPS Upper school Advent Nativity, 1pm & 6.30pm	Fri 12 Dec SMPS Infant Advent Nativity 1pm	Fri 12 Dec Holy Name PS Nativity followed by Coffee Afternoon, 1.30pm	
Sat 13 Dec Mass for the Sick, 10am <i>Holy Name</i>	Sun 14 Dec 3 rd Sunday of Advent	Sun 14 Dec Children's Liturgy group Christmas Party 	Sun 14 Dec Christmas concert with Queen Anne Singers, 7pm	Mon 15 Dec Christmas flower workshop, 6.30pm	Tue 16 Dec Advent Reflection & Penitential Service, 7pm 	Tue 16 Dec St Columbus Hight School Christmas concert, 8pm
	Sun 21 Dec 4 th Sunday of Advent	Wed 24 Dec Christmas Eve Carol Singing 5.30pm, followed by Mass 6pm <i>Holy Name</i>	Wed 24 Dec Christmas Eve Carol Singing 7.30pm, followed by Mass 8pm <i>ST M</i>	Thur 25 Dec Christmas Day Holy Mass, 9.30am <i>ST M</i>	Thur 25 Dec Christmas Day Holy Mass, 11am <i>Holy Name</i>	Sun 28 Dec Feast of the Holy Family

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.

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Parish Administrator

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Phone: 01383 625611

Colleen Gilchrist

Parish Office Admin Asst & Crypt Bookings

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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

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
22 & 23 Nov: TO FOLLOW
SO/DD £1020.00

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:
11 Sep-10 Oct: £1063.96
SO/DD £1080

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
SM: TO FOLLOW
HN: £138.96

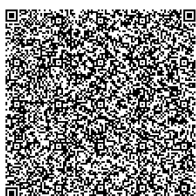
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

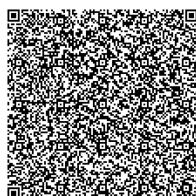
CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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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SPOTLIGHT: SEASON OF ADVENT

Each week, during the season of advent, we will be reflecting on themes and scripture as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Lord Jesus Christ.

Advent week 1: Promises on a tree

This week we reflect on the start of Salvation from Creation to the covenants made with prophets and patriarchs, heralding the future salvation using scripture passages.



The Creation

Genesis 1

As God squats in the dust, gathering it into the form of a man, he has another human in mind—Jesus Christ.

Though Jesus has yet to be born into the world, when he is, he will define humanity for all time.

Noah

Genesis 6:11-14, 7:17-8:3, 9:8-13

God's promise to Noah to preserve life until the end of time gives us the chance to be saved.



Abraham

Genesis 15:1-6

God called Abraham to leave his own country and promised to give him a land, to make him a nation and to bless the whole world through him.

Soloman

1 Kings 5:5, 6

Son of King David, known for wisdom and built Temple to God's instructions



Isaiah

Isaiah 11:6-9

One of the main prophets sent by God to call people to salvation and to the light

The Ten Commandments

Deuteronomy 5:1-7:12

God promised to free the people of Israel from slavery and gave them his law. Jesus comes to fulfil that law, to keep the commandments that we fail to keep, to reverse the fall, and to break the curse. He does what we cannot. And when we are united to him by the power of the Holy Spirit, we mysteriously keep the law, too.





SCRIPTUREREADINGS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR (A)



FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’ For out of Sion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Romans 13:11-14a

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



GOSPEL Matthew 24:37-44

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

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

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 122(121):1-2. 3-4a. 8-9. R cf. 1
Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
Psalm 85(84):8
Alleluia, alleluia.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.
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.