



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR (A)

11th JANUARY 2026



*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 10th	St. Margaret's	5.30pm – Holy Mass	Lilian & Hendry Kuwaja (wellbeing), Chamberlain family
Sunday 11th The Baptism of The Lord	St Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass	McGarry & Grattan Families, John Barret RIP For the Deceased Members of the Ferrari & Valencia Families, Barbara Orr RIP
Monday 12th		NO MASS	
Tuesday 13th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Communion Service 10am – Requiem Mass for Herbert Adams	
Wednesday 14th	Holy Name	9am – Communion Service	
Thursday 15th	St. Margaret's	10am – Communion Service	
Friday 16th		NO MASS	
Saturday 17th	St. Margaret's	5.30pm – Holy Mass	Patricia Donala RIP

Fr Syriac's annual leave

Please note that Fr Syriac is on leave, visiting with his family at home in India, until 30th January. Visiting Priests are covering Masses etc during this time. Fr Peter Kelly and Fr Ajeesh will be covering Masses for us this month.

Second Collections this weekend

There will be a second collection on 10th & 11th January in aid of Justice & Peace Scotland – read more information in this week's Spotlight.

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.

N.B. On days when multiple Mass intentions are mentioned, each intention will be celebrated individually by priests who experience a shortage of Mass offerings.

Parish Newsletter – updated deadline for submissions

If you have a submission for the newsletter – which we deeply appreciate receiving – please send your content **no later than 10am on Wednesdays**. This is 1 day earlier to assist us with collating a quality newsletter for you. 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:

Herbert (Bert) Adams: His funeral will be at St Margaret's with a Requiem Mass on Tuesday 13 Jan, 10am. May his soul rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Advent Season thank you

As we have ended Season of Advent, I want to express my thanks to all of our Parish volunteers who dedicated their time and care to help us all to prepare and celebrate the birth of Lord Jesus Christ, here in our Parish. My thanks especially go to the liturgy group, music group, altar servers, eucharistic ministers, florists, pass keepers, cleaners and visiting priests for the Advent reflection service. Your individual and collective efforts created a fitting atmosphere and environment to faithfully and prayerfully celebrate the birth of our Saviour. God Bless. –*Father Syriac, Parish Administrator*

Children's Sacramental Preparation

This will commence on Tuesday 13 January, in the Crypt at St Margaret's from 5.30–6.30pm. All children enrolled are asked to attend.

Children's Liturgy

After a short hiatus, Children's Liturgy is back from this Sunday, 11 Jan during Sunday Mass. A reminder that all children age 4 (who attend nursery) to 11 years old are welcome to attend. If your child has additional needs, parents/guardians are welcome to accompany them.

St. Margaret's Teas and Toasts

Teas n Toast will start again on Sunday 11 January at St M's. If anyone would like to cover a slot on the serving rota, please contact Charlotte Macintosh: cjm909@btinternet.com

Sick in the Parish – We would like to ask your prayers for: **Mike Pendlowski, Therese Walsh, Tony Cascarino, Pauline Gatt, Kathleen Penman, Frances Henderson, Peter McCourt, James Payne, 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

Diploma in Catechetics

Explore the richness of the Catholic faith in 2026 by taking the Diploma in Catechetics. The course is run by the Archdiocese and takes place at 7.30pm each Thursday on Zoom, starting 22 January. Cost £220. Register at bit.ly/diploma2026

Vacancy – Support & Property Administrator

The Archdiocese is seeking to appoint an Administrator to provide support to the Property Director and general administrative support within the Archdiocesan offices. Some experience in Property and Health & Safety is essential for this role. Experience in hospitality would also be beneficial. To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter detailing how your skills and experience make you suitable for this role to recruitment@staned.org.uk by Friday 23 January 2026.



My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

There is a zoo in Mexico which I visited a few years ago, and it has one exhibit which is labelled "the most dangerous animal on the planet". As you look in to the enclosure to see that animal, you see yourself. For what is in the enclosure is a mirror, and the most dangerous animal is humanity. Human beings are a danger to the world and to themselves.

When we lock the door of our house at night, we do so to protect ourselves from our fellow human beings. When our country stockpiles its arms and builds up its military defences, it does so to protect itself from our fellow human beings.

We all long for peace, we have a deep desire for peace – yet peace is shattered by our fellow human beings.

Each year we start the new year with a prayer for peace, but, as we do so, we look around and see war and conflict, death and destruction – all caused by humanity.

Every dispute arises, every fallout with our neighbour starts, every military intervention begins in the same place – the human heart. Because in our heart there is anger, bitterness, greed, envy, pride, fear. It only takes a little spark to flame a fire.

The more at risk we feel, the more we take action to protect ourselves, with better locks on our door, or more weapons for our army. Better locks on our door may help keep out the thief, but more arms for our army just tends to encourage our potential enemy to do the same and increase their weapons, and we end up no safer than we were before.

So, our prayer for peace is not just that armies will stop fighting, that acts of terrorism and warfare will cease, that countries will live in harmony with one another. Our prayer is for every human heart, our own included, to be purified of all that is within it that leads to conflict. We pray for disagreements to be settled without resorting to violence, for human life be valued as precious, and for the taking of human life to never be seen as a means to resolve human disputes.

We are each of us part of humanity, and we all struggle to have that peace in our heart, that leads to peace in our family, in our neighbourhood and in our world.

We pray for peace, since only with God's help can we overcome the human weakness that makes humanity a danger to the world and a danger to ourselves.

May God answer our prayer and fulfil the longing of our heart for peace.

With my prayers and good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'William Nolan', with a small cross symbol to the left of the first letter.

William Nolan
Archbishop of Glasgow, President of Justice & Peace Scotland

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

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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 - 2026

SM & HN
Building Fund
1st Sun every month

Justice & Peace
11 January

SPUC
18 January

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
Christmas collections: £1945.38
27/28 Dec: £835.35
SO/DD £1020.00

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:
13 Nov - 10 Dec: £986.49
SO/DD £1035

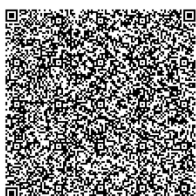
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

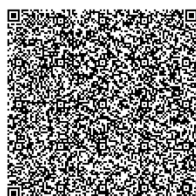
CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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

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SCRIPTUREREADINGS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR (A)



FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the Lord:

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

'I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Acts 10:34-38

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all – you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b, 9b-10. R11b
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Mark 9:7

Alleluia, alleluia.

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:

'This is my beloved Son; listen to him'.

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.