



# ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

## HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR (A)  
18th 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 17th	St. Margaret's	5.30pm - Holy Mass	Patricia Donald RIP
Sunday 18th 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	St Margaret's Holy Name	9.30am - Holy Mass 11am - Holy Mass	Helen O'Neill, Fr Syriac's Family For the Deceased Members of the Ainslie & McLaughlin Families, Crilly & Cusick Family
Monday 19th		NO MASS	
Tuesday 20th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am - Communion Service 10am - Holy Mass	Ian Henderson RIP, Graham Robertson
Wednesday 21st	Holy Name	9am - Communion Service	
Thursday 22nd	St. Margaret's	10am - Communion Service	
Friday 23rd		NO MASS	
Saturday 24th	St. Margaret's	5.30pm - Holy Mass	James Healy RIP

### Annual Car Parking Fee - St Margaret's

It's time to renew your car park access - you will be emailed directly to renew and arrange fee payment. If you would like to purchase all-year round access (outwith Mass times) to the St Margaret's Car Park you can do so for a fee of £50 per person, per year. Email [office.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk) with your full name and mobile phone number to register. You can pay to the St M's bank account (details on page 4) or drop an envelope with cash to the Presbytery. One fee and mobile number per user.

**Fr Syriac's annual leave** - Please note that Fr Syriac is on leave, visiting with his family at home in India, until 30th January. Fr Peter Kelly and Fr Ajish is covering Masses for us this month.

**There will be a second collection for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children this weekend at St Margaret's and next weekend (24/25 Jan) at Holy Name.**

### 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.



## Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy takes place 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.

## SVDP Christmas Appeal - Thank you!

Heartfelt thanks in for all the vouchers and donations donated to the St.Margaret's SVDP for Christmas. Many families were helped and due to the wonderful generosity we still have vouchers that we are donating. We also helped families needing assistance in St.Margaret's Primary, St Bride's Primary and St Columba's.

## Tea & Refreshments after Mass - Holy Name

The teas & coffees in Holy Name will start this Sunday and be held every second Sunday thereafter. Everyone is welcome.

## Changes to Bank details - St Margaret's

To streamline our administration and reduce manual paperwork, we are moving our parish bank account from Bank of Scotland to the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS). This change allows us to move away from cheques and paper statements, saving our volunteers and staff significant time. New bank details are on Page 4. Thank you for your continued generosity.

## Lost Property

New church lost property box now located in St Margaret's at the Repository (Church Shop). Lost property is donated to a local charity shop every 2 months.

## Love & Beauty in St John's Spiritual Canticle, 20 - 22 February 2026

2026 marks the centenary of the declaration of St John of the Cross as a Doctor of the Church. In honour of this anniversary, Fr Matthew Blake, OCD will offer a weekend reflecting on the themes of love and beauty in the most celebrated poetry of the great Spanish mystic. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/love-beauty-in-st-johns-spiritual-canticle>

## Marriage Preparation residential weekend course, 13 - 15 March 2026

The CHC's weekend marriage prep course is intended for couples who wish to engage more deeply with the Catholic vision for marriage. Structured around the elements of the marriage rite, couples will reflect deeply on foundational Scriptural texts to gain a deeper understanding of both the natural and Sacramental aspects of Matrimony. The weekend is framed by prayer, time for reflection personally and as a couple, group discussion and a social. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation>

**Sick in the Parish** - We would like to ask your prayers for: **Mike Pendowski, 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](http://www.archedinburgh.org/news-events)

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Archbishop Cushley is Bishop President for Ecumenism in Scotland and shares the following message: "In Scotland we are blessed to share friendships with Christians of other traditions, friendships rooted not in convenience but in a genuine desire to follow Christ more faithfully. The Catholic Church in Scotland has officially acknowledged friendship with the Scottish Episcopal Church; The St Ninian Declaration reminds us of our shared witness, charity and service. The St Margaret Declaration, meanwhile, encourages honest and warm dialogue grounded in truth with our friends in the Church of Scotland. These commitments do not gloss over sincerely held differences of the past or the present. Rather, we endeavour to see in each other a fellow disciple of Jesus of Nazareth, and to grow together in charity as brothers and sisters in Christ. We acknowledge real differences between our Churches, and we do so without fear, because friendship among Christians is not a threat to faith but a fruit of it. So we pray for unity by placing ourselves before Christ, asking that He deepen our love for His Church, strengthen our respect for one another, and lead us, in His time and by His grace, closer to the unity He desires."

## Explore

Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will for you. Monthly gatherings will be hosted by the Archdiocese at St Columba's Church, 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, EH9 1SN. The first one takes place from 4pm to 7pm on Sunday 25 January 2026. To register, email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO at [religiousvocations@staned.org.uk](mailto:religiousvocations@staned.org.uk)

## Catholic Conversations for Women

All women are welcome to this event with the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma on Saturday 31 January, 3.45-4.45pm in St Andrew's Parish rooms (77 Belford Rd, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS) for refreshments and faith-focused discussion on preparing for Lent. A Holy Hour will follow with Adoration & Vespers from 5.10pm. Register at [edinburgh@almamercy.org](mailto:edinburgh@almamercy.org) or call 0131 343 3380.

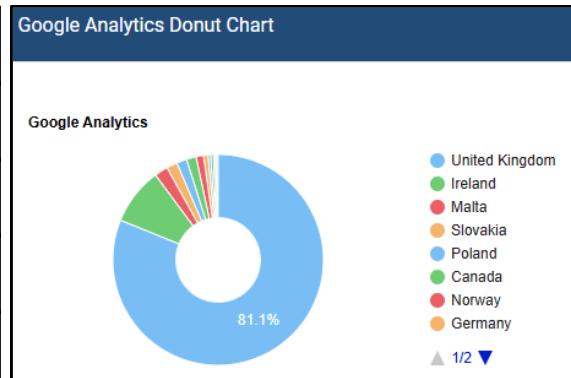
# SPOTLIGHT: LIVESTREAM, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS

**With some additional support for the Parish Office, we have been able to put more time and effort into our online presence and increasing our digital communication.**

Why does that matter? More and more people are going online for information, to interact and our life of Faith is no exception.

One of the key ways people interact with St Margaret's is watching the **live stream of our masses**. Over the Festive period, to date, over 1200 viewers from around the Globe, including as far away as Canada and Slovakia!

COUNTRY	TOTAL VIEWS	COUNTRY	TOTAL VIEWS
United Kingdom	985	India	5
Ireland	106	United Arab Emirates	5
Malta	25	Philippines	3
Slovakia	20	United States	2
Poland	19	China	1
Canada	18	Italy	1
Norway	14	Sweden	1
Germany	8	<b>Grand total</b>	1213



## Website visits & Social Media growth

In the last 3 months of 2025, we had **5000 visits** to our website.

Our increase in social media posts have helped to increase how visible we are not only to our **557 Facebook** and **63 Instagram** followers, but also reached the wider local community who use social media. Particularly events like the Festive Craft Fayre and Christmas Concert with the Queen Anne Singers. These posts - and all your comments, likes, and shares - contributed to a steady stream of **4900 visits** on Facebook.

The next goal is to increase our number of followers so that more people in our local communities will be drawn to the Church and Catholic Faith.

## How can you get involved digitally?

One of the key ways to get involved is to join the **470 parishioners on the Parish Register**. We had a real-life example of how beneficial this is recently, with the emergency closure of Holy Name. We were able to swiftly spread the message by emailing everyone on the register, as well as notifying in the newsletter and on social media. Details of how to register are on Page 4. If you struggle to do that, please email or call the Parish office.

Furthermore, you can follow and interact with our social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram.

## Do you have Digital skills you could volunteer?

We are looking for enthusiastic website and social media savvy parishioners to join our Parish Communications & Digital team. Working alongside Colleen and me, you will be helping to update the Parish website, social media posts and analytics. Our website and social media help us to reach more people in our communities and provide useful information about our churches.

If you have a few hours you can regularly spare - weekly or monthly - please send an email with some info about yourself to [stmargaretsnews@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretsnews@gmail.com)

**Sonia Mallan, Parish Newsletter & Comms**

# 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  
Phone: 01383 625611

**Colleen Gilchrist**

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

**Sonia Mallan**

**Parish Comms & Digital**  
stmargaretsnews@gmail.com  
**Newsletter deadline Wednesday 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

**SPUC**  
18 Jan (SM)  
25 Jan (HN)

**SCIAF & Episcopal**  
15 March

## 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**  
3/4 Jan: £752.52  
10/11 Jan: £657.28  
SO/DD £1020.00

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

**Building Fund 3 & 4 Jan**  
SM: £575.18 / HN: £171.21  
**Justice & Peace 10 & 11 Jan**  
SM £498.75 / HN: £156.78

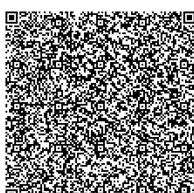
## PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

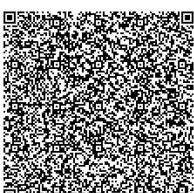
## CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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'**  
83-06-08 21522638



**'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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# SCRIPTURE READINGS

## 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR (A)



### FIRST READING Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'

And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him — for I am honoured in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength — he says:

'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

### GOSPEL John 1:29-34

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

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

### Gospel Acclamation

**John 1:14a, 12a**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;  
to all who did receive him,  
he gave the authority to become children of God.  
Alleluia.**

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 40(39):2, 4ab. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. R8a, 9a  
Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

## 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.