

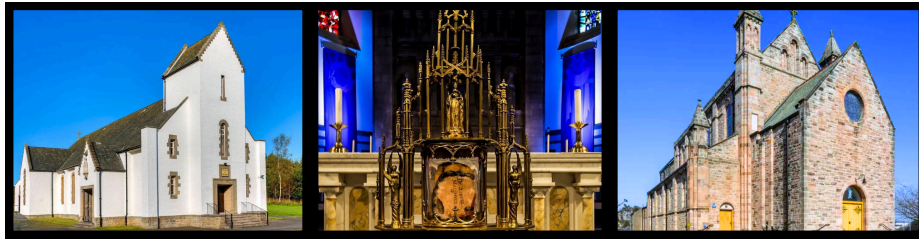


ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR (A)
1st MARCH 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 28th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confession 2.15pm – Baptism of baby Noah Comerford 5pm – Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	Betty Brand Barbara Crighton RIP
Sunday 1st March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	St Margaret's Holy Name St. Margaret's	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass 12pm – Confession 4pm – Stations of the Cross	Henry Dellar RIP Wellbeing (private)
Monday 2nd	St. Margaret's	7pm – Holy Mass	Desmond Hughes RIP, Femi Hughes (wellbeing)
Tuesday 3rd	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass followed by Stations of the Cross 10am – Holy Mass 7pm – Livestreamed Rosary	Albert Gatt RIP Mary Doherty RIP
Wednesday 4th	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass followed by Stations of the Cross 10am – Holy Mass	Tony Cascarino RIP Cross Family
Thursday 5th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 7pm – Stations of the Cross	Tony Cascarino RIP
Friday 6th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 6.30–7pm – Confession 7pm – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.30pm – Confession	Elaine Miller John Dunkerley RIP
Saturday 7th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confession 5pm – Confession 5.30pm – Holy Mass	Margaret Grant RIP Hugh Corr RIP

Mass Intentions

If you would like a mass to be offered, complete a Mass Intention envelope (for SM in the card stand and at the back of the church; 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.**



Obituary - Please remember in your prayers:

Thomas McGuinness - His funeral will take place on Wednesday 18th March with requiem mass at 11.30am in Holy Name and then interment at Culross Cemetery.

Thomas Smith - Funeral service will take place on Wednesday 11th March, 12.30pm in Holy Name. Followed by Committal at Culross Cemetery at 1.30pm.

Our thoughts & prayers go to the bereaved families and friends. May their souls rest in peace.

Congratulations!

We're holding in our prayers the children who made their first confession last week, in preparation for their First Holy Communion this Easter and next year. Well done to you all.

RCIA attend Rite of Initiation

Congratulations to our 4 RCIA candidates who were among 150 catechumens/candidates who attended the Rite of Initiation at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh on Sunday 22 Feb, which was led by Archbishop Leo Cushley.



St Margaret's Parish RCIA catechumens, their sponsors & RCIA leaders with the Archbishop Leo Cushley

Christian Institute Special Meeting in Dunfermline, Tues 3 March

The Christian Institute is holding a special meeting 'Guarding Lives' at Gillespie Memorial Church to discuss with constituents who oppose the assisted suicide Bill and would like to take action to persuade the 6 MSPs needed to change their Stage 3 vote on 17 March. Join the meeting 7.30-9pm on Tuesday 3 March.

World Day of Prayer, 6th March

- **St Margaret's** parishioners are invited to join St Columba's Church (Robertson Road, Dunfermline) for World Day of Prayer at 2pm on Friday 6 March. The prayers are written by Christian Women of Nigeria, honouring this year's theme 'I will give you rest - come'.
- The World Day of Prayer for **Holy Name** parishioners will be held in the Church Hall Saline (on the corner of Main Street and Oakley Road) on Friday 6 March at 2pm. There will be a buffet afterwards. Everybody welcome!

Sick in the Parish - We would like to ask your prayers for: **Maureen Hunter, Yvonne McRoberts, Margaret Woodland, Mike Pendlowski, Therese Walsh, Pauline Gatt, Kathleen Penman, John Cassells, Helen Ssim, 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

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

What's Happening at Mass

This Lent, deepen your union with God by exploring what God is doing with us at Mass. Speakers include Archbishop Cushley, Fr Jamie McMorrin, Grace Robertson, Fr Kevin Douglas, and Fr Andrew Garden. The day also includes Mass and a light lunch. The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, Date: Saturday 14 March 9.30am. Register: bit.ly/archmass

Stations of the Cross

The Archdiocese hosts online Stations of the Cross each Monday in Lent at 7.45pm. Concludes with a reflection from guest speaker. The annual event is to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/stations26

Calix Society

The Calix Society is an association of Catholic Alcoholics, promoting the virtue of daily abstinence and the spiritual development of its members. It meets on the first Saturday of the month at 1.30pm, following the 12.30pm Mass at St Patrick's Church in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. It hosts a talk on Venerable Matt Talbot on Saturday 7 March at 1.30pm. No registration required.

SPOTLIGHT: LET NO ONE PREVENT CHILDREN FROM COMING TO ME



Let the Little Children Come to Me

Last Thursday, 45 children from St Margaret's Primary school made their First Confessions, and some of them will be receiving First Holy Communion this year - a profound moment of Grace in their journey to Jesus! Congratulations to all of them!

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them" (Mk 10:14). Who hinders them today? Often, our busy lives lead us to assume that a Catholic school alone suffices for faith formation.

Parents, you hold the primary role as first educators, and your home is the 'Domestic Church'—the cradle of faith proclamation, virtues, and charity. This irreplaceable duty, rooted in love, cannot be fully delegated; it animates all formation. Schools partner essentially with you, offering intellectual and spiritual nourishment alongside material food at home—but your active involvement ensures wholeness.

First Confession and Communion are not one-off events; they ignite lifelong encounters with Christ through family prayer, school catechesis, and liturgical life in the parish, like children's liturgy, where your children engage with God's transforming Word. Schools facilitate preparation; parishes administer the grace through the Sacraments, but parents are the guardians of their faith journey by ensuring them all the opportunities to build up a strong bond between home, school, and Church.

During this Lent, let it be the primary target of all the parents, especially of the children who have made their first confession recently, to become active members of the parish community, rather than being happy with just the minimum.

Let us heed Pope Leo XIV's call for families to become 'fishers of faith', casting nets amid the busyness of life to nurture Gospel seeds in our children's hearts. This will be the most demanding sacrifice that you make for your children!

May God bless you through your children!

**With Prayers,
Fr Syriac**

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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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

SCIAF & Episcopal
15 March

Ecclesiastical
Students
26 April

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
7/8 & 14/15: £1658.59
21/22 Feb: £930.25
SO/DD £1020.00

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:
14 Jan to 11 Feb: £1092.17
SO/DD £1005

N/A

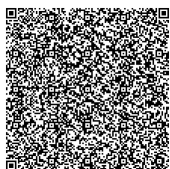
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

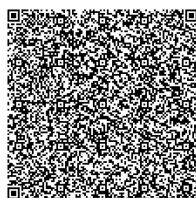
CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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

Archdiocese of St
Andrews & St Margaret
83-06-08 21522638



The Holy Name Parish
83-33-00 ~ 00176355



St. Margaret's
One World Group
83-33-00
10191867

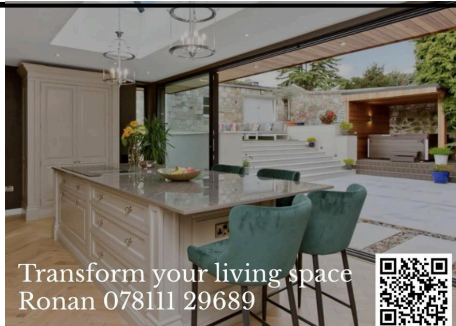
SM
SSVP AE02044
80-06-55
00768139

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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SCRIPTUREREADINGS

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR (A)



FIRST READING Genesis 12:1–4a

In those days: The Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1:8b–10

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Matthew 17:1–9

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.’ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and have no fear.’ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, ‘Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.’

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

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 33(32):4–5. 18–19. 20, 22. R5b
May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.
From a bright cloud, the Father’s voice was heard:
‘This is my beloved Son, listen to him’.
Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

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.

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.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

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.

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.

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.

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.



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Scotland stands at a moment of profound moral consequence. In the coming weeks, the Scottish Parliament will cast its final vote on the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill; legislation that would, for the first time in our nation's history, permit physician-assisted suicide. As your shepherds, entrusted with the care of souls and the protection of human dignity, we write to you with deep concern.

True compassion is not found in hastening death but in walking with those who suffer, ensuring they receive the medical, emotional, and spiritual care that affirms their inherent worth. Every person—regardless of age, illness, disability, or circumstance—is a gift from God. There is no such thing as a life without value. Our task as a society is not to eliminate suffering by eliminating the sufferer, but to surround every individual with love, support, and dignity until their natural end.

Over recent months, several Members of the Scottish Parliament who once supported the proposal have now either withdrawn, or are seriously considering withdrawing, their backing, recognising that the risks embedded within it are too grave to ignore. Their change of heart reflects a dawning awareness that coercion, especially the subtle, hidden coercion experienced by the most vulnerable, including the elderly, the sick, the disabled and those living with domestic abuse, cannot be reliably detected, let alone prevented.

Key protections that should form the very foundation of such legislation, however flawed the principle may be, have been removed or rejected. Proposals for mandatory training for doctors to recognise coercive control were voted down by the Parliament Health and Social Care Committee. Measures ensuring that patients are offered proper palliative and social care before considering assisted suicide were dismissed. An opt-out for hospices and care homes who object to assisted suicide was also rejected. Even the conscience rights of healthcare workers remain uncertain. As a result, MSPs are being asked to vote on a Bill that is incomplete and reliant on future intervention from Westminster—an arrangement that several parliamentarians have already described as unworkable and irresponsible.

Experience from abroad also offers a sober warning. In countries where assisted suicide has been introduced, narrow criteria have widened over time, placing ever more people at risk—not because of unbearable physical suffering, but because they feel abandoned, isolated, or burdensome. We must not allow such a trajectory to take root here in Scotland.

We therefore urge you, the Catholic faithful of Scotland, to act. Please contact your MSPs and respectfully ask them to oppose this legislation. Make your voice heard in defence of those who may not be able to speak for themselves. Resources to assist you—including Care Not Killing's online email tool—are available and we invite you to use them prayerfully and thoughtfully.

Let us also hold in prayer all those approaching the end of life, all who care for them, and all charged with shaping the laws of our land. May the Holy Spirit grant our nation the wisdom to choose the path of life, compassion, and genuine human solidarity.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ John Keenan, President, Bishop of Paisley
+ Brian McGee, Vice-President, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles
+ Andrew McKenzie, Episcopal Secretary, Bishop of Dunkeld
+ Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh
+ William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow
+ Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell
+ Hugh Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen
+ Francis Dougan, Bishop of Galloway