



# ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

## HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC



**3RD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR (A)**  
**8th 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 7th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>10am – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>10.30am – Confession</b>  <b>5pm – Confession</b> <b>5.30pm – Holy Mass</b>	Margaret Grant RIP  Hugh Corr RIP
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>St Margaret's</b> <b>Holy Name</b>  <b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>9.30am – Holy Mass</b>  <b>11am – Holy Mass</b> <b>12pm – Confession</b>  <b>4pm – Stations of the Cross</b>	Leonara McGhee RIP Jason Delaney (wellbeing)
Monday 9th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>7pm – Holy Mass</b>	Fr Chris
<b>Tuesday 10th</b> <i>St Ogilvie – Feast</i>	<b>Holy Name</b>  <b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>9am – Holy Mass followed by Stations of the Cross</b>  <b>10am – Holy Mass &amp; Novena of St. Margaret</b> <b>7pm – Livestreamed Rosary</b>	Albert Gatt RIP Clare McAuley RIP
Wednesday 11th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>  <b>Holy Name</b>	<b>10am – Holy Mass &amp; Novena of St. Margaret</b>  <b>12.30pm – Funeral Service for Thomas Smith</b>	Brian Quail RIP
Thursday 12th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>10am – Holy Mass &amp; Novena of St. Margaret</b>  <b>7pm – Stations of the Cross</b>	Tony Flynn RIP
Friday 13th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>10am – Holy Mass &amp; Novena of St. Margaret</b>  <b>6.30–7pm – Confession</b> <b>7pm – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>7.30pm – Confession</b>	David & Mary McPherson RIP  Wellbeing (private)
Saturday 14th	<b>St. Margaret's</b>	<b>10am – Holy Mass followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>10.30am – Confession</b>  <b>2.15pm – Baptism of baby Dylan Harrison</b>  <b>5pm – Confession</b> <b>5.30pm – Holy Mass</b>	Alexander Boyle RIP  Mary Collingbourne 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 Smith** - Funeral service will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 12.30pm in Holy Name. Followed by Committal at Culross Cemetery at 1.30pm.

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

**Gordon Kirkland** - Funeral details to follow.

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

## Join us for the Day with the Lord, Sunday 22 March

Sign up for a day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There are half hour slots throughout the day - please add your name on the sign up sheet at the back of the church.

## New Parish Office phone system

We've upgraded the phone service in the Presbytery! The phone number remains 01383 625611. You can now select an option to hear the Mass Times, speak to someone in the office, or leave a voicemail. Exciting times!

## St Margaret's Church Stall restocked!

We have a great selection of new items in for: St Patrick's Day; Mother's Day; Easter; First Communion & Confirmation. As well as greetings cards or other occasions, prayer cards, Rosary, votive candles & medals.

## One World Group Breakfast, 22 March

The next OWG breakfast will be on Sunday 22 March in the Crypt at St Margaret's. This will be sponsored by Paddy & Liz Mallan in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

## McArthur Bill - February 2026

The final vote on Liam McArthur's Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill is expected around the 17 March. If it is passed, vulnerable people across Scotland will be at risk from this dangerous assisted suicide Bill. Please go and see your MSPs or write to them, asking them to vote against this bill. You can find help to do this by going to <https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/scotlandoppose-the-assisted-suicide-bill/>

## Dunfermline Choral Union Spring Concert

Join the DCU for their annual Spring Concert, a sparkling evening of much-loved baroque masterpieces! Our 115-strong choir, conducted by Mandy Miller, will be joined by a full orchestra. The concert is 7.30pm, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March at The Vine.

## Christian Heritage Centre Retreat 'Called to Love' 2- May 2026

A retreat for singles, dating and engaged young adults who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. A relaxed weekend with input, prayer, discussion and social, as well as the opportunity to meet like-minded others! This year's retreat will have as its theme masculinity and femininity. Runs from Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, with the option of staying Friday night. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/>

**Sick in the Parish** - We would like to ask your prayers for: **Tommy McGowan, Ann Shaw, 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, Mrs Lamont, 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](http://www.archedinburgh.org/news-events)

**Special Collection** - On Sunday 15 March there will be a special collection for Papal & Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF). 75% of the collection goes to SCIAF and 25% to the Archdiocesan Care Fund, which supports various good causes. Last year £32,067 was raised from this collection in the Archdiocese. Thank you for your support.

**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](http://bit.ly/stations26)

**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 McMorris, 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](http://bit.ly/archmass)

**Catechists for Special Needs** - SPRED (Special Religious Development) groups need more catechists. Your role will be to share the Lord with adults with special needs at fortnightly term-time meetings. Catechists are trained by the Archdiocese and meet fortnightly for preparatory sessions. Interested? Contact Sr Mary Benedicta Maier RSM, SPRED Coordinator, at [srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk](mailto:srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk)

**NEW DATE: Legion of Mary of the Edinburgh Curia Annual Acies Feast** - The date for the Legion of Mary of the Edinburgh Curia annual Acies Feast is now Sunday, 22 March, at 3pm in St Andrew's Church, Ravelston, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS. The Legionaries will renew their fidelity to Our Lady. Monsignor Jeremy Milne, Vicar General of the Archdiocese, will address the Legionaries.

# The Stations of the Cross: A Lenten Path of Faith

Walking with Jesus on the road to Calvary is one of the most moving devotions in the Catholic faith. Over the centuries the number and format of this devotion has changed a good deal, but it has had its present form since the 15th Century. The Stations of the Cross invite us to enter into the Passion of Christ—not just as observers, but as companions. Comprising fourteen stations depicting key moments of Christ's Passion, it fosters meditation on His suffering, death, and redemptive love—especially during Lent, when the Church calls us to unite our sacrifices with His.

The Stations of the Cross aren't just about looking at what Jesus endured—they're about walking beside Him, letting His sacrifice transform us, and learning to love like He loves.

## Significance in the Lenten Season

In Lent, the Stations harmonize perfectly with the liturgy, preparing us for Easter by meditating on Christ's Passion. As a form of popular piety, it embodies the Church's call to "take up [our] cross and follow Him," offering spiritual graces and indulgences when done in a state of grace, uninterrupted, with prayers at each station. Gathering as a parish to pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent unites us in meditating on Christ's Passion, fostering a shared liturgical spirit as we prepare for Easter.

While the Stations are especially popular during Lent, saints and spiritual writers recommend praying them year-round. Because the Passion isn't just a seasonal theme—it's the centre of our salvation.

## Key Benefits



**Deepens Communal Faith:** It strengthens parish bonds, allowing us to gain plenary indulgences (in a state of grace, uninterrupted) even if stationary, turning our church into a holy path.



**Fosters Lenten Conversion:** It harmonizes with penance prayer and meditation, liberating us from earthly distractions to focus on heavenly life and personal conversion, as encouraged for the "Forty Days."



**Enriches Meditation on Redemption:** By reflecting on each of the 14 (15) stations—from condemnation to entombment (or resurrection)—we adore Christ's pierced Heart and trace His steps from Praetorium to tomb and beyond, gaining spiritual graces.



**Unites us to the Suffering Church:** When we pray the Stations, we are praying with the universal Church—past and present. We are standing in solidarity with all who suffer and offering our prayer for the needs of the world..



**Deepens our Love for the Cross:** Jesus calls us to "take up our cross daily" (Lk 9:23). Praying the Stations helps us see our own suffering in light of His, giving it meaning and purpose.



**Shapes our Heart for Mission:** The more you walk with Christ to Calvary, the more your heart is conformed to His—ready to pour itself out for others in everyday life.

***Come, take a step. He's already walked the road for us—now He invites us to walk it with Him.***

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN OUR CHURCHES DURING LENT

ST MARGARET'S DUNFERMLINE : THURSDAYS 7PM, SUNDAYS 4PM

HOLY NAME OAKLEY : TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS AFTER 9AM MASS

# 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  
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**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**  
28 Feb/1 Mar: £848.09  
SO/DD £1020.00

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

**Building Fund SM**  
1 Mar: £590.68

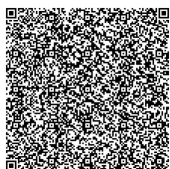
## PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

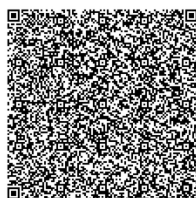
## CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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 SSVF AE02044**  
80-06-55  
00768139

**HN SSVF 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, A CHARITY REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND SC0008540



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# SCRIPTUREREADINGS

## 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR (A)



### FIRST READING

**Exodus 17:3-7**

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the Lord said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

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

### SECOND READING

**Romans 5:1-2, 5-8**

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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

### GOSPEL

**John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42**

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming – he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.'

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'

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

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a**  
**O that today you would listen to his voice!**  
**'Harden not your hearts.'**

**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Cf. John 4:42, 15**  
**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**  
**Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;**  
**give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.**  
**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

### 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.

# LENT CALENDAR 2026

Lent 2026 offers our parish a profound opportunity to enter the desert with Christ, confronting temptation through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, as modelled in the Lord's forty days. This action plan integrates liturgical observances, penitential practices, spiritual formation, and charitable outreach, fostering renewal in our Parish community while drawing inspiration from Scripture and Tradition. It emphasises participation in the sacraments, communal witness, and concrete steps to live the paschal mystery.

## Recurring Lenten Week schedule

Each week throughout Lent, until after Easter weekend, we will be holding additional masses and services to prayerfully observe Lent. See the following week schedule to see the typical schedule.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>St Margaret's</b> <b>Holy Name</b>	9.30am - Holy Mass 4pm - Stations of the Cross 11am - Holy Mass 12pm - Confession
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St Margaret's</b>	7pm - Holy Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Holy Name</b> <b>St Margaret's</b>	9am - Holy Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross 10am - Holy Mass 7pm - Livestreamed Rosary
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Holy Name</b> <b>St Margaret's</b>	9am - Holy Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross 10am - Holy Mass 3pm - Contemplative Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St Margaret's</b>	10am - Holy Mass 7pm - Stations of the Cross
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St Margaret's</b>	10am - Holy Mass 6.30-7pm - Confession 7pm - Holy Mass, followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.30pm - Confession
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St Margaret's</b>	10am - Holy Mass, followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am - Confession 5pm - Confession 5.30pm - Holy Mass

## Additional one-off events

We also have one-off sessions planned throughout Lent. These will appear in the weekly newsletter Mass Schedule on Page 1 so please check there regularly.

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> & Sun 15<sup>th</sup> March** - SCIAF (Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund) Lenten talk at Vigil & Sunday Mass (Coincides with SCIAF Sunday)

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March** - Lenten Reflection evening followed by Penitential Service - 7pm

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Parish Day of Fasting

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - 'Day with the Lord' - A day long Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, starts with 9.30am Mass and ends with a Mass at 5pm.

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - Foodbank Collection

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March** - St Margaret's Primary School P7 children's 'Passion Play', performing the Stations of the Cross at St Margaret's church. Details to follow.