



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR (A)
20th September 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 19th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confessions 5.30pm – Vigil Mass	Ivana Dunkerley RIP Sr. Theresa of the Child Jesus RIP
Sunday 20th <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	St Margaret's Holy Name St Margaret's	9.30am – Holy Mass 11am – Holy Mass 2pm – Mass for the African Community	People of the Parish Adrian O'Grady RIP
Monday 21st		NO MASS	
Tuesday 22nd	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	Jean Glancy (wellbeing) Bridie Freeland RIP
Wednesday 23rd	Holy Name St. Margaret's	9am – Holy Mass 10am – Holy Mass	Albert Gatt RIP, Joe Walker RIP Peter Thomson RIP
Thursday 24th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass	Ingrid & Family
Friday 25th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass	Charles Wickham RIP
Saturday 26th	St. Margaret's	10am – Holy Mass 10.30am – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confessions 5.30pm – Vigil Mass	Agnes McGiffen RIP Bridget & James RIP
Sunday 27th	Old Inzievar House, Oakley, KY12 8HA	11am – Garden Mass at Old Inzievar House	Thanksgiving for Creation

Mass for the African Community

Celebrate Mass for the African community in Fife at 2pm on Sunday 20th September at St Margaret's. Light refreshments will follow in the Crypt after Mass. All are welcome.

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 that Mass intention slots are often filled well 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

Please feel free to take a copy of the newsletter for a family member, a neighbour or anyone unable to come to church. Sign up on the Parish Register to receive a digital copy of the newsletter by email each week. Instructions to register are on page 4. Please add the email address to your Safe Senders list to ensure the email is received.

PARISH NEWS

To receive our weekly newsletter by email, please register at:
<https://stmargaretsrccchurch.churchsuite.com/-/forms/8e2u8r3e>



RCIA – still time to join!

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) commenced on Monday 14th September at 7pm in the crypt. We meet weekly on Mondays to learn more about what it means to be Catholic and how the message of Jesus lives on today and the part we all play in ensuring this is passed on. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining us on the journey, please let them know when we start or contact the parish office for more information.

New Comms email address!

We are retiring the Parish Newsletter & Comms gmail address at the end of the month and we have launched our new comms.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk email address. Please use this for any comms questions and to submit your article or update for the Parish Newsletter. Thank you!

St Margaret's and Holy Name Children's Choir!

We are delighted to announce the St Margaret's and Holy Name Children's Choir – a wonderful opportunity for children to share their love of singing, grow in faith and take part in our parish celebrations. The choir will sing at selected Masses each month, alternating between St Margaret's & Holy Name. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 5pm–6:30pm at St Margaret's Church. No previous experience is needed – just enthusiasm and energy!

Children do not need to attend either parish school to join.

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up! There is still time to join, and we would love to welcome more young singers. *There's nothing more special than children's voices filling our churches!*

To find out more or sign up, email Briony Wilson on parishchoir2026@outlook.com



Used Stamps

For the past 20 years Maureen McIntosh has kindly looked after the used stamps collection at the back of the church, donated by parishioners. Maureen is now stepping down and we are now looking for someone who would be willing to take over this simple but worthwhile task. If you would be interested in taking this over, please contact the Parish office.

The proceeds from the sale of the stamps help support missionary work in Africa, Brazil and the West Indies, with the money going towards the Society's Catechist Fund, supporting catechists and their families. St. Patrick's Missionary Society says: "The catechist is a vital support and companion to our missionary work and pastoral outreach and from my own experience their help and support in matters pastoral is invaluable."

Contemplative Prayer 'Taster Sessions'

'Taster Sessions' using the Centering Prayer method will take place this month and in October. The first is on Wednesday 30th September. If you cannot manage a Wednesday then come on Tuesday 6th October or on Thursday 8th October. Each session will take place in the Lady Chapel at 7pm and will finish at 8pm sharp. No need to book.

Sick in the Parish

We would like to ask your prayers for: **Ileana Macmillan, Sheila Emmerson, Jean Connor, Billy McGuigan, Barbara Fotheringham Larkin, Tommy McGowan, Ann Shaw, Yvonne McRoberts, Mike Pendlowski, Pauline Gatt, John Cassells, Helen Ssim, Peter McCourt, James Payne, Andrew Kelly, Teresa Lynch, Gail Pearce, Margaret Fotheringham, Elaine Cormack, Denise Reilly, Maureen Black, Margaret McPherson, Nan Lomas, Janet McIlwaine, Esther Wren, Anne McPherson & 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, or email details to the Parish Office office.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

For a full list of upcoming events in the Diocese
visit:

www.archedinburgh.org/news

This Sunday – Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage

The annual pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 20 September at St Patrick's Church in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. Schedule: 12:30pm – Sale of candles & goods, refreshments; 1:30pm – Holy Hour (exposition and benediction); 3:00pm – Reflection from Canon Jock Dalrymple; 4:30pm – Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley (Homilist: Fr Michael John Galbraith).

Season of Creation Thanksgiving Mass

A thanksgiving open-air Mass will take place at Old Inzievar House in Oakley, Fife, KY12 8HA, on Sunday 27 September at 11:00am. Families especially welcome. Bring a picnic. Refreshments and home baking available. Event organised by St Margaret's & Holy Name Parish. Register by emailing: office.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk

£15 leadership event offer for young adults

Young people aged 17–35 are invited to attend two events for Christians – The Revival and The Calling – in Glasgow on 1–2 October. A limited number of tickets for both events, normally costing a total of around £125, are available for just £15. The events offer an opportunity for Christian worship, socialising, prayer and leadership development. To request a ticket, email gensec@bcos.org.uk by Friday 4 September. Places are first come, first served. More information about the events at thecalling.scot and therevival.scot.

P1 Admissions (for Edinburgh parishes, see attachment 'Primary School Open Day')

The annual open day for primaries across the City of Edinburgh is on Wednesday 4 November. This is an opportunity to visit the school you would like your child to attend. If you would like your child to attend a Catholic primary school, you should ensure they have been Baptised prior to enrolment as a Baptismal certificate may be required.

Season of Creation Celebration of Garden Mass



**HOLY NAME & ST MARGARET'S
PARISH**



ALL ARE
Welcome

Join us for this special celebration:
full of faith, fellowship, and
gratitude



Sunday 27th September



10am onwards arrival

11am-12pm Holy Mass

12pm-3pm Picnic lunch & activities



**Old Inzievar House, Oakley,
KY12 8HA**

Directions: A985 heading west for Kincardine Bridge
turn right at sign to Oakley two miles after Cairneyhill
roundabout. After half a mile take a turn to Rowan Sands
Pet Hotel. Bus to Oakley. Follow SGS signs. *Location on
WhatThreeWords: ///sang.wished.overpower*

**Come together to praise God's
creation, celebrate community,
share faith, and strengthen
spiritual bonds**

Event Highlights

- Garden Mass & Blessing of Pets
- Praise & Worship Music featuring Glee Choir
- Kids' Crafts & activities
- Mindful Walk with Creation
- Bring your own Picnic Lunch
- Teas, Coffees, soft drinks & home baking provided



Please RSVP

by Monday 21 Sept

Sign up on Church noticeboard for you &
your family, or email
office.stmargaretdunfermline.org.uk with:
contact email; number of adults and
children, if you require a lift/car share, and
if you're a First Aider.

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

frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk
Phone: 01383 625611

Carmel Matheson & Colleen Gilchrist
Parish Office Admin Asst & Crypt Bookings
office.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk
Phone: 01383 625611

Sonia Mallan, Parish Comms
comms.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk
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

Missio
18 Oct

Day for the Poor
8 Nov

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

SM - OFFERTORY
12/13 Sept: £984.89
SO/DD £1707.75

HN - MONTHLY OFFERTORY:
11 Jul-11 Aug: £1210.24
SO/DD £1029.38

Building Fund Sept
SM: £483.13
HN: £132.75

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

HN: Ian McDonald
E: Ian.McDonald@staned.org.uk
SM: Rosemary Thompson
E: Rosemary.Thompson@staned.org.uk

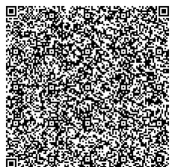
PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME, SORT CODE & ACCOUNT NO

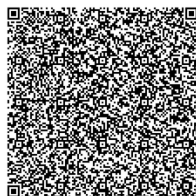
CHARITY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

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 stmssvp16@gmail.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

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR (A)



FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6–9

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he
may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly
pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,
declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than
the earth,
so are my ways higher than your
ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Philippians 1:20c–24, 27a

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be
honoured in my body, whether by life or
by death. For to me to live is Christ, and
to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh,
that means fruitful labour for me. Yet
which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am
hard pressed between the two. My
desire is to depart and be with Christ,
for that is far better. But to remain in the
flesh is more necessary on your
account. Let your manner of life be
worthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1–16

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this
parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a
master of a house who went out early in
the morning to hire labourers for his
vineyard. After agreeing with the
labourers for a denarius a day, he sent
them into his vineyard. And going out
about the third hour he saw others
standing idle in the market-place, and to
them he said, "You go into the vineyard
too, and whatever is right I will give you."
So they went. Going out again about the
sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the
same. And about the eleventh hour he
went out and found others standing. And
he said to them, "Why do you stand here
idle all day?" They said to him, "Because
no one has hired us." He said to them,
"You go into the vineyard too."

'And when evening came, the owner of
the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the
labourers and pay them their wages,
beginning with the last, up to the first."
And when those hired about the eleventh
hour came, each of them received a
denarius. Now when those hired first
came, they thought they would receive
more, but each of them also received a
denarius. And on receiving it they
grumbled at the master of the house,
saying, "These last worked only one hour,
and you have made them equal to us
who have borne the burden of the day
and the scorching heat." But he replied to
one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no
wrong. Did you not agree with me for a
denarius? Take what belongs to you and
go. I choose to give to this last worker as I
give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I
choose with what belongs to me? Or do
you begrudge my generosity?" So the last
will be first, and the first last.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145(144):2–3. 8–9. 17–18. R18a

The LORD is close to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Open our hearts, O Lord,
that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.
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.

SPOTLIGHT: BLESSING AND REDEDICATION OF THE CROSS GARDEN AT HOLY NAME



The Cross Garden at Holy Name is a treasured symbol of faith, unity and love within our parish community.

The roundel Maltese Cross was completed in 1958 by the contractors Tomlinson and Lawrie, together with the surrounding groundwork, following the construction of the church. The design was created by the late George Kennedy, a native of the village who, at that time, was a teacher at Holy Name Primary School, Oakley.

Originally, the four sections of the garden were planted with shrubs. As the years passed, these became overgrown and were eventually removed by Tommy McGowen, who replanted the garden with roses. Since its creation in the late 1950s, the Cross Garden has been lovingly cared for by generations of volunteer gardeners.

Among those who particularly cherished this beautiful garden was the late Cardinal Gordon Joseph Gray. He loved visiting Father John William McNay, then parish priest of Holy Name, and spending quiet moments in the garden away from the demands of his busy ministry in Edinburgh.

Maintaining the garden has always required patience and hard work.

Weeding, in particular, was a demanding and time-consuming task—until Berny Fern (who recently celebrated his 90th birthday), generously volunteered to care for it. For two years, Berny undertook what truly became a Herculean task. Through his perseverance, he not only cleared and renewed the garden but also removed the concrete between the stones and repointed the entire structure. He replanted the four sections and dedicated them to the four Evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

During this Season of Creation, we give thanks for the beauty of God's world and for all those who care for it. This garden reminds us that creation is entrusted to our hands—not to be neglected, but patiently cultivated, protected and shared. As we bless and rededicate this Cross Garden, we gratefully remember all who have helped to create, maintain and renew it over the years. We remember especially those who have gone before us, and we give thanks for the volunteers whose quiet service has preserved this sacred place.

The Cross at the heart of this garden reminds us of Christ's love and of the unity to which we are called. May this place continue to be a sign of hope, welcome and prayer for generations to come.

With heartfelt gratitude, we offer a very special thankyou to Berny Fern for his extraordinary dedication, endurance and care. May God bless him abundantly for all that he is doing!

Content courtesy of Tom Canning



**90 year old Berny Fern,
who restored this cross**