

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 24th March <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Danny Lennon (RIP)
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Edward Small (Anniv.)
	4 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Stations of the Cross	
Monday 25th March	NO	MASS	CELEBRATED	TODAY
Tuesday 26th March	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Harry Dunion (Anniv.)
	7 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Ecumenical Service	
Wednesday 27th March	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Louie Delaney (Anniv.)
	7 p.m.	Cathedral	Chrism Mass	Danny Lennon (RIP)
Thursday 28th March <i>Holy Thursday</i>	7 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Vocations to the Priesthood
	9 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Night Prayer	
Friday 29th March <i>Good Friday</i> <i>Day of Fast & Abstinence</i> <i>Collection for Holy Places</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Morning Prayer	
	3 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	
	6.30 p.m.	St. Serf's	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 30th March <i>Holy Saturday</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Morning Prayer	
	12 noon	St. Mungo's	Polish Blessing of Food Baskets	
	8 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Easter Vigil	People of the Parish
Sunday 31st March <i>Easter Sunday (B)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Eddie Burke (RIP)
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Lewis McArthur (Sick)

Confession times this week

Sunday in St. Serf's after Mass
Tuesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's
Wednesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's
NO CONFESSIONS IN ST. MUNGO'S
NEXT SATURDAY EVENING

St. Mungo's Prayer Group
 Tuesday 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Hall

Teas/coffees
No midweek teas for the next 2 weeks in either parish.
Next Sunday after 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Hall

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parish SVDP

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St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield are parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld, a charity registered in Scotland, Number SC001810

*Welcome to the Parishes of
 St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield
 Sunday 24th March 2024 -
 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - (Year B)*

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum—three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted "Hosanna!" This event is reported in each of the four Gospels. At the Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle B, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Mark. We will hear these events proclaimed again when we celebrate the Triduum later in the week. On Good Friday, we will read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.



In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus that had been building throughout his public ministry. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for his death. When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark's Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are rarely models of faith and do little to invoke confidence in their capacity to continue his ministry after his death. They fare no better in Mark's narrative of Jesus' passion and death. At the Last Supper, the disciples insisted that none among them would betray Jesus. When Jesus predicted that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protested vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returned three times to find them sleeping. Jesus prayed in agony over his impending fate while his disciples slumbered through the night. Just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were absent during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance.

Throughout this Gospel, Mark challenges the reader to consider the claim with which the Gospel begins: Jesus is the Son of God. When we read Mark's account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus' death. In Mark's telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood his death to have been preordained, and he accepted this death in obedience to God's will. Jewish Scripture is quoted only once, but there are several references to the fulfilment of the Scriptures. Jesus understood his anointing in Bethany as an anticipation of his burial, and he announced that this story would be told together with the Gospel throughout the world. Jesus predicted his betrayal by Judas as well as Peter's denial. At his arrest, Jesus acknowledged that the preordained time had arrived. Jesus was both confident and silent before his accusers. After he was sentenced to death, Jesus did not speak again until his final cry from the cross. The bystanders misunderstood and believed that he was calling for Elijah. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son.

IN YOUR PRAYERS....

We pray for all who are ill/housebound: in particular we remember:

Hannah McNally, Jane Fentiman, Fay Miller, Veronica McCluskey, Ann Gray, Joe Crumley, Jacqui Cadwallender, Richard Donald, Mgr Neil Gallagher, Marjory Robson (*mother of Bishop Stephen*), Bishop Stephen Robson, Brian Bell, Margaret Renton, Lewis McArthur, Eden Smyth, Angie Mortimer-Farthing.
Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!

We pray for those who have died recently:

Canon Roddy Johnston (Argyll & The Isles), Paul Reynolds, Eddie Burke

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Bishop Robert Fraser, Mgr. Hugh McNally, Canon John Malloy, Canon Peter McKearney, Canon John O'Farrell, Father Edward Dempsey, Edward (Eddie) Small, Louie Delaney, Harry Dunion, Daniel Gallagher
Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS

St. Mungo's: Offertory £786.76 Lent Project £221.75
St. Serf's: Offertory £264.33 Lent Project £70.50

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

New sets of Offertory Envelopes will be available from this weekend.

If you would like to give your weekly offering by Standing Order, forms will also be available this weekend too. Similarly, if you haven't already signed up for Gift Aid, please think about doing so. If you pay income tax, then you are eligible to take part. For every £1 we can reclaim 25p. If you have previously signed up for Gift Aid, and no longer pay income tax, please let us know so we can remove your name from the system.

PRO-LIFE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join people from across Scotland each Monday throughout Lent for Stations of the Cross. It takes place on Zoom at 7.45 p.m. and lasts around 30 minutes. Each week after the Stations various priests from across Scotland. We will be praying for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/lentstations

EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF OUR NEW BISHOP

The episcopal ordination of Bishop-Elect Martin will take place on **Saturday 27th April at 11 a.m. in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee.** Entry to the Mass will be by ticket only due to the limited space in the cathedral. Each parish will be allocated a number of tickets shortly (as yet we don't know how many), and we will draw names out of a hat. If you would like to attend please add your name to the list in the church.

ST. MUNGO'S SOCIAL GROUP

We are going to be hosting an Easter egg hunt in the church hall on Easter Sunday (31st March) after Mass, everyone is welcome and we would really love if people could join for a fun Easter celebration. There will also be tea and toast available the same day as it is the last Sunday of the month.

ST. MUNGO'S PROPERTY UPDATE

The work on the flat roofs at St. Mungo's continues. Work on the various areas of damp in the church will begin on Monday 8th April, and will take roughly two weeks to complete. This will probably mean that for the duration of the work, Mass will be held in the church hall.

Dear Parishioners,

On Ash Wednesday, we began our Lenten journey when we were signed with ashes on our foreheads. Hopefully these last six weeks have been a time of spiritual renewal and preparation for you. Our Lenten journey reaches its conclusion as we begin our Holy Week liturgies.

We will follow Our Lord during His final days and we begin by commemorating His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Our focus then moves to the Sacred Triduum, which begins on Holy Thursday evening, when we remember His Last Supper with the disciples and the Institution of the Holy Eucharist and the ministerial priesthood. We also remember his great commandment - Love one another

On Good Friday we commemorate His Passion, when He made the ultimate sacrifice through His death on the Cross.

The Great Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening is the culmination of our Triduum and liturgical year, when we gather by the light of the Paschal candle to hear our story of salvation from sacred scripture.

Please try to attend all of our Sacred Triduum liturgies, and think about maybe inviting someone who might have been away from the practice of the faith, to join us in our Easter celebrations.

PALM SUNDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY PASSION READING

If you are too infirm to stand throughout the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday and Good Friday please be sensible and remain seated - the Good Lord is not asking us to make ourselves ill or collapse.

CHRISM MASS - Wednesday 27th April @ 7 p.m.

All parishioners are encouraged to attend the Chrism Mass in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee. During this Mass, the sacred oils used throughout the year are consecrated, and the priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises. The Mass begins at 7.00 p.m. and will be presided over by Bishop Emeritus Stephen Robson.

GOOD FRIDAY - 29th April @ 3 p.m.

A reminder that Good Friday is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence, for those to which this applies. There will also be a retiring collection for the Holy Places in Jerusalem.

EASTER VIGIL - 30th April @ 8 p.m.

This year, weather permitting, we will gather in the space in front of the church for the blessing of the Easter Fire and Candle. We will then process into the church for the remainder of the Vigil.

