

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 28th April <i>5th Sunday of Easter (B)</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Canon Milton (Anniv.)
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Ian & Frances Granger 50th Wedding Anniversary
Monday 29th April <i>St. Catherine of Siena</i>	NO	MASS	CELEBRATED	TODAY
Tuesday 30th April	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Fr Des Broderick (RIP)
Wednesday 1st May <i>St. Joseph the Worker</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	
	6.30 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
Thursday 2nd May <i>St. Athanasius</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	
Friday 3rd May <i>Ss. Philip & James Apostles</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
Saturday 4th May	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's		
Sunday 5th May <i>6th Sunday of Easter (B)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	People of the Parish
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	

Rosary

Wednesdays in St. Serf's at 9.30 a.m.
Fridays in St. Mungo's at 9.30 a.m.

Sacrament of Confession

Wednesday in St. Mungo's from 6 p.m. to 6.25 p.m.
Thursday in St. Serf's from 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m.
Saturday in St. Mungo's from 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday in St. Mungo's from 6 p.m. to 6.25 p.m.
Thursday in St. Serf's from 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m.

St. Mungo's Prayer Group

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

Teas/coffees

Tuesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Hall
Wednesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's Hall
Last Sunday of the month after 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Hall

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Postal Address: St. Mungo's Chapel House, 25 Mar Street, Alloa FK10 1HR
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St. Mungo's Hall Bookings: Cathie Ramage
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Parish Safeguarding co-ordinators: Margaret Fern and Jean Gilbert
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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 28th April 2024 - Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)*

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.



"I am the Vine, you are the branches"

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name. © 2024 Loyola Press.

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, Maureen Malkiewicz,

Marjory Robson (*mother of Bishop Stephen*), Bishop Stephen Robson, Brian Bell, Margaret Renton, Lewis McArthur, Eden Smyth, Angie Mortimer-Farthing, John Ferguson, *Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!*

We pray for those who have died recently:

Father Des Broderick and Father John Chalmers (both Archdiocese of Glasgow)

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon Michael Milton, Canon John Kilcullen, Terence McElroy, Mary McMillan, Margaret Gallagher, Juan Francisco Bustos, Isabel Skelton
Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS

St. Mungo's: Offertory £1003.99 SMA Fathers Mission Appeal £905.24
St. Serf's: Offertory £245.42 SMA Fathers Mission Appeal £375.80

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

Thanks also for your generosity to Father Willie's Mission Appeal last weekend.

THINK VOCATIONS...

"Our love is not to be just words, but something real and active." (First Reading) How will you let your love for God and others become more real and active? Perhaps by answering the call God is making to you to priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life? Speak to Fr. Michael or our Vocations Director, Fr Jim Walls or contact Priests for Scotland.

Have you every thought about a life of loving service to others in God's name? If so, 'Come and See' at the National Enquirer's Event for anyone considering the Priesthood on Saturday 25th May in Turnbull Hall, Glasgow. Please be in touch with Father Jim Walls stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk or 01382 611282 before 14th May if interested.

BISHOP-ELECT MARTIN CHAMBERS RIP

A Month's Mind Mass for the late Bishop-Elect Martin will take place on **Friday 10th May at 7.30 p.m. in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee.** The main celebrant will be Archbishop Leo Cushley, our Metropolitan Archbishop, and Bishop Frank Dougan of Galloway will be the preacher.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

During the Masses over the weekend of 11th/12th May in St. Mungo's, there will be a pulpit address from John Glass of the Knights of St. Columba. The Knights are hoping to recruit some new members for their Council which meets on the first Thursday of each month in St. Mungo's.

ASSISTED SUICIDE – CALLED TO CARE, NOT TO KILL

Please contact your MSPs today to stop assisted suicide becoming legal in Scotland. Use the QR code to access an online resource created by the Catholic Parliamentary Office, including guidance on contacting your MSPs. You can also visit rcpolitics.org/assistedsuicide or email us at office@rcpolitics.org for more information.



SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Is on Thursday 9th May, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses in our parishes will be: in St. Mungo's: Vigil Mass on Wednesday 8th May at 7 p.m. and Mass on the Thursday at 10 a.m. when St. Mungo's primary will lead us in our celebration. In St. Serf's, Mass will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday 9th May.

ST. MUNGO'S PERMANENT RELOCATION TO ALLOA ACADEMY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The consultation on the permanent relocation of our parish primary school - St. Mungo's to within Alloa Academy, is now open. It will run until 30th May. Please take the time to read the document and complete the online form, which can be found here:

<https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com/education/st-mungos-rc-ps-relocation/>

The parish, parent council, diocese and other church agencies are working together to present a united front to the council, to let them know in no uncertain terms that this proposal is not acceptable. Hopefully by next weekend there will be a letter from Canon Kevin Golden, Diocesan Administrator and information from the Parent Council for you to read and help respond to the consultation. A public meeting will also take place on Wednesday 15th May at 6.30 p.m. in the Bowmar Centre, Scott Crescent. If you are able to attend this, please come along.

MAY—MONTH OF OUR LADY

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. During this month there will be Marian Devotions in both churches - in St. Serf's we will say the rosary on Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. and in St. Mungo's we will have the rosary on Fridays at 9.30 a.m.

The annual Marian Procession will take place in St. Mungo's on Sunday 12th May at 3 p.m.

Dates for your diaries

Thursday 9th May	Solemnity of the Ascension
Sunday 12th May at 3 p.m.	Marian Procession in St. Mungo's
Wednesday 15th May 6.30 p.m.	Public Meeting about St. Mungo's Primary
Sunday 19th May at 9.30 a.m.	First Holy Communions at St. Mungo's
Sunday 9th June at 9.30 a.m.	Confirmations at St. Mungo's
Monday 10th June at 7 p.m.	Mass in St. Mungo's to mark Fr Michael's 10th anniversary of Priestly Ordination

A little thought for those who enter this church:

be thoughtful - be silent - be reverent

Before Mass: speak to God

During Mass: let God speak to YOU

After Mass: speak to others

TEA AND TOAST AFTER MASS THIS SUNDAY

IN ST. MUNGO'S HALL