

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 18th August <i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Ian Small (Anniv.)
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	People of the Parish
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Catherine Trias (Sick)
Monday 19th August	NO MASS CELEBRATED TODAY			
Tuesday 20th August <i>St. Bernard, Abbot</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Eileen McMahon (RIP)
Wednesday 21st August <i>St. Pius X, Pope</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Fay Miller (RIP)
	No evening Mass in St. Mungo's today			
Thursday 22nd August <i>Queenship of BVM</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's		Arline Lamb (RIP)
Friday 23rd August	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Eileen McMahon RIP)
Saturday 24th August <i>St. Bartholomew, Apostle</i>	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Kristopher King (RIP)
Sunday 30th June <i>Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	People of the Parish
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Fay Miller (RIP)

<p>Sacrament of Confession this week Thursday in St. Serf's after 10 a.m. Mass Friday in St. Mungo's after 10 a.m. Mass Saturday in St. Mungo's 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.</p> <p>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Will restart in September</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Mungo's Prayer Group Tuesday 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Teas/coffees Tuesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Hall Teas in St. Serf's restart next week. Last Sunday of the month after 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Hall</p>
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PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 18th August 2024 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**



On this Sunday, we continue to read from the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel elaborates further on the teaching that Jesus began in our liturgy last week. In that reading, the crowds wondered about how Jesus could say that he had come down from heaven because they knew Jesus to be the son of Joseph. In this Gospel, some have difficulty with Jesus' teaching that he is the living bread sent from God. Recall that

Jesus had told them that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. We hear the concluding verse of last week's Gospel repeated in today's reading: Jesus himself is the bread sent by God; Jesus' flesh is the bread that is given for the life of the world.

Among the stumbling blocks for those who heard but did not understand Jesus is the teaching that the bread that Jesus will give is his own flesh. In response to the people who quarrelled over his words, Jesus teaches with even greater emphasis that salvation comes to those who eat his Body and Blood. Jesus doesn't seem to answer the question posed about how salvation will come about, perhaps because this reality can only be understood after his death and Resurrection. Instead, Jesus teaches about the life that he will give to the world.

To many ears, Jesus' words are jarring and difficult to hear. Many who heard Jesus could not accept what he said. Many today continue to struggle to accept these words. But they are important words because they reveal our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are made truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's body for the life of the world. © *Loyola Press*

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

IN YOUR PRAYERS....

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

Jane Fentiman, Veronica McCluskey, Ann Gray, Jacqui Cadwallender, Richard Donald, Mgr Neil Gallagher, Maureen Malkiewicz, Catherine Strathearn, Matthew Kelly, Brian Bell, Marjory Robson (*mother of Bishop Stephen*), Bishop Stephen Robson, Lewis McArthur, Eden Smyth, John Ferguson. Angie Mortimer-Farthing, Susan Dyball
Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!

We pray for those who have died recently:

Thomas McPake, Rose McNally, Martin Heary

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon Gerard Keegan, Canon Patrick O'Donohoe, Canon Charles Adamson, Fr. Hugh Campbell, Fr. James Wallace.

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£591.08	Offertory	£289.45
Standing Orders	£315.50		
Building Fund	£340		
TOTAL	£1246.58	TOTAL	£289.45

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Last week the St. Mungo's pupils returned to the classroom and this Wednesday St. Serf's go back to school. I hope that the staff and pupils have had an enjoyable & restful time and are ready for the new academic year. Best wishes to all those starting school and to those moving on to high school. We also welcome back to St. Mungo's, Mrs Rowe, as she takes up the temporary post of Acting HT.

ST. MUNGO'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy resumes this Sunday morning in St. Mungo's. It is open for children from Primary One to Primary Four.

SPUC ANNUAL PETITION WEEKEND - 17TH/18TH AUGUST

"End the British Government's cruel two-child benefit cap"

Sadly, one of the biggest drivers of abortion in the UK is poverty and this particular policy which penalises families and contributes to poverty is the current government policy on Universal Benefits. The 2-child benefit cap targets the poor and vulnerable. Please help mothers to choose life and overturn this two child benefit cap by signing the petition cards next weekend. Thank you for your support.

ST. MUNGO'S PARISH PICNIC

St. Mungo's Social Group have organised a Parish Picnic which will take place on **Saturday 24th August from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** Food will be provided, but to give an idea of how many to cater for, please sign up on the sheet in the church

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN

While there was a strong tradition of pilgrimage to the burial place of St Ninian in Whithorn before the Reformation, only in 1924 was the pilgrimage resumed in its modern form. 2024, therefore, marks the centenary of the re-establishment of the modern pilgrimage after the Reformation. The Bishops of Scotland have chosen to mark this anniversary by making the 2024 pilgrimage a national event and people from all parts of Scotland are invited to take part. On **Sunday 25th August**, Mass will be celebrated close to St Ninian's Cave at 4 p.m. with Bishop Frank Dougan of Galloway Diocese as principal celebrant. For those unable to walk to the shore Mass will be celebrated in St Martin and St Ninian's Church, Whithorn at 4.45 p.m. by Bishop Joseph Toal of Motherwell.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN

The annual National Pilgrimage to Carfin will take place on **Sunday 1st September**. The Mass will be celebrated at the Grotto at 3 p.m. with Archbishop Maury Buendía, Papal Nuncio, as principal celebrant and Bishop Frank Dougan of Galloway as the homilist. Mass will be followed by a Rosary Procession.

PRAYER CARDS

There are a limited number of prayer cards to mark the episcopal ordination of Bishop Andrew available in both churches. We continue to pray for Bishop Andrew, as he begins his ministry in the diocese. Hopefully he will be able to visit our two parishes in the near future.

NEW PEOPLE'S SUNDAY MISSAL

For those who would like to order a new Sunday Missal which will come into use from Advent 2024, please add your details to the lists in each church. The price is £19.95, and you can either pay in advance or pay when they arrive in October. If you are paying in advance, please place your payment in an envelope marked "Sunday Missal" with your name on it too. This can be put through the letterbox of the chapel house or handed to Fr Michael.

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 4th - 6th October 2024 at the Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact Louise on 07926 571004 or email louisep398@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A LATE CATHOLIC GAP YEAR?

Do you know anybody who is Catholic, aged around 18 to 22 and still not got anything lined up for the year ahead? Castlerigg Manor (the Diocese of Lancaster retreat centre, located in the Lake District) are still looking for young people to join their youth ministry internship scheme. The scheme provides comprehensive training and experience as well as accommodation and food for the year, and a stipend each week.

Anyone who is interested can check out www.castleriggmanor.com/join-the-team, or Email Jack Regan – director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

"How many of you say: I should like to see His face, His garments, His shoes. You do see Him, you touch Him, you eat Him. He gives Himself to you, not only that you may see Him, but also to be your food and nourishment." - St. John Chrysostom