

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 15th September <i>Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i> <i>(Preface VII; Euch. Prayer III)</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Canon John Connolly (Anv)
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	People of the Parish
Monday 16th September <i>St. Ninian, Bishop</i>	NO MASS CELEBRATED TODAY			
Tuesday 17th September <i>St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
Wednesday 18th September	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	
	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Reception of Remains Tommy McElroy	
Thursday 19th September	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Funeral Mass for Tommy McElroy	
	NO EVENING MASS IN ST. MUNGO'S			
Friday 20th September <i>Ss. Andrew Kin Tae-Gon and Companions, Martyrs</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Margaret Brotherton <i>(Birthday Remembrance)</i>
Saturday 21st September	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Jessie Scullion (Anniv.)
Sunday 22nd September <i>Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	People of the Parish

<p>Sacrament of Confession this week Wednesday in St. Serf's 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m. 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 Wednesday in St. Serf's 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m. Friday in St. Mungo's after 10 a.m. Mass until 11 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Mungo's Prayer Group Tuesday 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Hall</p> <p>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</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 15th September 2024 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**



Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word Christ is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.

We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel. © 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:

Tommy McElroy (*Funeral Mass in St. Mungo's on 19th September at 10am*)
Malcolm (Callum) Skaraas (*Funeral Service in St. Mungo's on 25th September at 12noon.*)

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon Ian Mullen, Canon Michael Phelan, Connie and Andy Graham, Michael McBride, Robert Hutchison, Jean Tierney, Paul Tierney, John Arthur, Jessie Scullion, Annie Willis, Janet Walsh

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£567.25	Offertory	£207.40
Standing Orders	£315.50	Sick & Retired Priests	£76.05
Sick & Retired Priests	£307.67		
Building Fund	£60		
Hall Donation	£81		
TOTAL	£1331.42	TOTAL	£283.45

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

ANNUAL MARGARET SINCLAIR PILGRIMAGE

The Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage takes place on **Sunday 22nd September**. 12.30–1.30pm Goods and Candles for Sale, Tea & Coffee; 1.30–2.30pm Holy Hour (Exposition, Rosary, Benediction, Confessions); 2.45–3.15pm Individual Priestly Blessings at the Shrine of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair; 3.30–4.15pm Reflection on the Venerable Margaret Sinclair, Novena Prayers, Presentation from Pupils of Sinclair Academy; 4.30pm Holy Mass. The event takes place at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NA.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN

If there are any families in the parishes who have children at non-Catholic schools and they would like them to be prepared for First Confession and First Holy Communion (P4) or Confirmation (P7) during the coming year, please email me to let me know.

PRIMARY ONE WELCOME MASS—ST. MUNGO'S

On **Sunday 29th September**, we will welcome to the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's the new Primary 1 children, their families and teachers from St. Mungo's Primary. Tea and toast will be served in the hall after Mass.

COUNTRY MUSIC PICNIC EVENING

It's time to get your cowboy hats, boots and checked shirts looked out for the WDR and Dolly Mixtures Country Music Picnic Evening in St. Mungo's Church Hall! Save the date on **Friday 27th September**, doors open 7pm and tickets are £5 each on sale at the back of the church after Mass. Same format as last year, which was a sell-out, so bring your own snacks and drinks and relax and enjoy some good old country music. All proceeds raised will be donated to church funds. See y'all there!

ST. MUNGO'S BINGO TEA

St Mungo's Social Group are holding a Bingo Tea in aid of Church Funds on **Friday 20th September** in St. Mungo's Church Hall. Doors open 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm Tickets £1 will be on sale after Masses. Donations for prizes or raffles would also be appreciated.

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK -

Sunday 8th—Sunday 15th September

Every year, the Church in Scotland sets aside a week in which we are invited to reflect on our Christian vocation, which flows from our the call made to us in Baptism to grow in holiness and in service of others. We are also invited to pray for those who might be considering a call to follow a particular path of service within the Christian family, in the priesthood, as a deacon or in religious life. Lastly, this week invites some to consider whether God might be calling them to follow one of these particular paths. So, we might:

- ◇ pray for a renewed and strengthened sense of vocation among all God's People;
- ◇ consider what my own vocation is in life and how I might be responding to the call that God has made to me;
- ◇ pray for a generous response in the hearts of those called to serve the Church in priesthood, consecrated life and diaconate;
- ◇ consider – as appropriate to my own stage and situation in life – whether I might not actually be one of those called to be a priest/religious or to encourage someone, whom I think might be showing the signs that they have such a vocation, to consider discerning or pursuing such a call;
- ◇ pray for and offer support and encouragement to our priests, the religious women and men who serve in our communities, and seminarians and others in formation or discernment of their vocation in the Church.

For more information please contact our Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Jim Walls on 01382 611282 or email stmaryslochee@dunkelddiocese.org.uk



HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND

I would like to set up a group of parishioners who would be commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to enable them to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound of our parishes. Training would be given, and you would also need to have appropriate Safeguarding checks carried out too. If this is something that you would like to volunteer for, please speak to me after Mass.