

| DATE | TIME | CHURCH | LITURGY | INTENTION |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday 29th September <i>Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i> <i>(Preface I; Euch. Prayer III)</i> | 6 p.m. (Sat) | St. Mungo's | Vigil Mass | Thomas McElroy (RIP) |
| | 9.30 a.m. | St. Mungo's | Mass | Paula Argo (Anniv.) |
| | 11.30 a.m. | St. Serf's | Mass | People of the Parish |
| Monday 30th September <i>St. Jerome, Priest</i> | NO MASS CELEBRATED TODAY | | | |
| Tuesday 1st October <i>St. Therese of the Child Jesus</i> | 10 a.m. | St. Mungo's | Mass | Donor's Intention of Thanksgiving |
| Wednesday 2nd October <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i> | 10 a.m. | St. Serf's | Mass with St. Serf's Primary | Thomas McElroy RIP |
| Thursday 3rd October | 6.30 p.m. | St. Mungo's | Mass | Jean & Paul Tierney (Anniv) |
| Friday 4th October <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i> <i>Missionary Children's Day</i> | 10 a.m. | St. Mungo's | Mass with St. Mungo's Primary | Marie Allen (Anniv.) |
| Saturday 5th October | 6 p.m. | St. Mungo's | Vigil Mass | Thomas McElroy RIP |
| Sunday 6th October <i>Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i> | 9.30 a.m. | St. Mungo's | Mass | People of the Parish |
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| <p>Sacrament of Confession this week Wednesday in St. Serf's after Mass this week Thursday in St. Mungo's - 6 p.m. to 6.25 p.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 No adoration in St. Serf's this week Friday in St. Mungo's 9.15 a.m. to 9.50 a.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">St. Mungo's Prayer Group Resumes on Tuesday 15th October</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 29th September 2024 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. The Greek word used here for sin also connotes "stumbling" or "causing scandal." In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith. © *Loyola Press*

WELCOME TO OUR PRIMARY ONE CHILDREN

This Sunday we welcome to the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's the new Primary One children, their families and teachers from St. Mungo's Primary. At the end of the Mass, the children will receive a special blessing and a small gift from the parish. The link between school, parish and home is an important one that we should always try to support. Monday of this week marks the anniversary of the opening of the original St. Mungo's Primary on Clackmannan Road in 1878 by Fr. Donlevy, the then Parish Priest. As we look forward to marking the 150th anniversary of our parish primary school in 2028, let us continue to support our children, families and teaching staff with our prayers.

Following Mass this morning, there will be tea and toast will be served in the hall, please come and join us !

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:

Mgr Henry Docherty (Motherwell); Fr Chris Brannan (Aberdeen)

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon John Page (PP of St. Serf's 1949-1952), Mary Alexander, Jannette Dobbin, Peter Dowd, Beatrice Carrie, Elizabeth Knox, Peter Lamb.
Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

| St. Mungo's | | St. Serf's | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Offertory | £579.30 | Offertory | £275.10 |
| Standing Orders | £315.50 | | |
| Building Fund | £30 | | |
| TOTAL | £924.80 | TOTAL | £275.10 |

*I acknowledge with thanks the anonymous donation received this week of £1500 for St. Mungo's
Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.*

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND

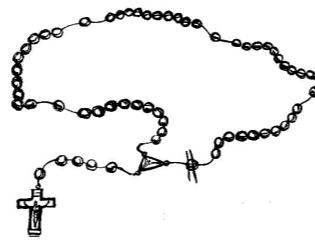
I would like to set up a group of parishioners who would be commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to enable them to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound of our parishes. Training would be given, and you would also need to have appropriate Safeguarding checks carried out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

ALTAR SERVERS

In St. Mungo's we have an enthusiastic pool of Altar Servers helping out at each weekend Mass. If any other children who have made their First Communion would like to participate in this special way at Mass please speak with Anthony Cassidy or Fr Michael.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October is especially dedicated to the Holy Rosary. This tradition originates from Pope St Pius V who wanted to dedicate a feast to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary following the victory at the Battle of Lepanto against the Turkish fleet on the 7th October 1571. **During this month we will have recitation of the rosary in both parishes - In St. Mungo's there will be Rosary and Benediction on Sundays at 4 p.m. beginning next Sunday. In St. Serf's there will be Rosary on Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. (beginning on Wednesday 9th October)**



The RCIA: A Journey of Faith

Since Jesus invited His first followers to, "Come, follow me", the image of journey has been used to describe Christian discipleship. For each of us faith is a journey marked with moments of conversion along the way...we move from unbelief to initial faith, from sin to repentance, from painful isolation to the joyful experience of a loving community, from fear to love.

Faith, conversion, repentance, celebration and community – five basic elements that are present in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The RCIA provides a setting where the journey of faith and moments of conversion can be celebrated within the local Church community. The purpose of the RCIA is literally "the making of Christians", for as Tertullian in the 4th century wrote "Christians are made, not born."

Join us on the journey, beginning Tuesday 15th October at 6.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Church Hall. This invitation is open to those interested in being received into the Catholic church, and for those parishioners who might wish to "refresh" their faith!

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA PRO-LIFE MASS

The Knights invite you to join them to pray for an end to abortion and prevent the introduction of euthanasia. There will be a Mass for Life on **Saturday 12th October at 12 noon in St. Margaret's Memorial Church, East Port, Dunfermline.**

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING - GOD'S WAY - NATURE'S WAY

The Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation is a successful family planning method for couples having difficulty conceiving or simply wanting to plan a family safely and naturally. It is proven to be 99% effective in avoiding pregnancy without side effects. It also strengthens marriages and focuses on couples planning together in equal partnership. Interested in sharing this knowledge with others? Apply for our flexible, online Teacher Training Course to become an accredited teacher. For further information please contact Fertility Care Scotland Ltd at info@fertilitycare.org.uk

OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE MISSIONS

As well as being the month of the Holy Rosary, the month of October is also associated with the Missions, as World Mission Sunday occurs during this month. This year the Scottish Bishops have asked that the first Friday in October be *Missionary Children's Day*. The children and staff from St. Mungo's primary will join us and lead us in our celebration of Mass on Friday morning reflecting on the work of the missions.

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