

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 3rd November <i>Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i> <i>(Preface V; Euch. Prayer III)</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Donor's Intention
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	David Lees (Anniv.)
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	People of the Parish
Monday 4th November <i>St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop</i>	NO MASS CELEBRATED TODAY			
Tuesday 5th November	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Donor's Intention
Wednesday 6th November	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Donor's Intention
Thursday 7th November	6.30 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Veronica Reid (RIP)
Friday 8th November <i>Blessed John Duns Scotus</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	Gerard Morgan (Anniv.)
Saturday 9th November <i>Dedication of Lateran Basilica</i>	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	Margaret McTaggart (RIP)
Sunday 10th November <i>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</i> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	People of the Parish
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	Veronica Reid (RIP)

<p>Sacrament of Confession this week Wednesday in St. Serf's 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m. 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 Wednesday in St. Serf's 9.30 a.m. to 9.55 a.m. Friday in St. Mungo's 9.15 a.m. to 9.45 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 3rd November 2024 - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

THE ALTAR

In 1950, C.S. Lewis's book *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* was published. While it was originally released to mixed reception, the book ranks very highly among all-time classics. Coincidentally, it is also one of the most popular allegories for sin, Christ's redemption of man, and the triumph of God.

One of the most memorable scenes from the book and subsequent film is the death and resurrection of Aslan, the Christ figure portrayed by a lion. In order to save the life of Edmund who committed the sin of treason, Aslan voluntarily gives himself up to the enemy and suffers death on the stone table, a metaphor for the altar on which we celebrate Christ's unbloody sacrifice at every Mass. It is the table at which Jesus celebrated the Last Supper and instituted the Eucharist. When we see the consecration at the altar, it is not a representation of Christ's sacrifice, but a re-presentation. We are traveling back in time and bearing witness to His offering.



In the years following Christ's death, the Christians suffered a lot of persecution, so their ceremonies and celebrations were often done in secret. Part of the reason every Catholic altar is required to have a relic inside or underneath it is that that was the original way Christians would celebrate Mass. After their loved ones had passed, they would bury them in the Catacombs and celebrate Mass atop their tomb. It was a reflection of the belief that the saints and their deceased loved ones would intercede and pray for them. It also honoured the sacrifice of Jesus and the Christians who had died in the name of God.

The proper reverence toward the altar and the tabernacle before we go into our pew is a genuflection, going down on our right knee. The kiss that the priest and/or deacon deliver to the altar after processing in and before processing out is out of piety for this sacred object which is a "representative of Christ's presence" and His sacrifice.

Each altar must be consecrated before it is allowed to be used for the celebration of Mass, just as a person must be baptized before they may receive the Eucharist. The first step in consecration is the blessing with holy water and then with fire. After that, the altar is blessed with chrism oil which represents new life. Then, they drape the altar in a white cloth and surround the altar with candles. Due to the altar being consecrated and central to our celebration of the Eucharist, we do not place anything but sacred objects on or around it.

There is so much meaning in the sacred objects and components in our churches, it is easy to take them for granted. The next time we walk into a chapel or church, let us consciously take note of the meaning and significance of them so that we may encounter Our Lord in a deeper way.

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, Maureen Malkiewicz, Catherine Strathearn, Matthew Kelly, Brian Bell, Susan Dyball, Marjory Robson (*mother of Bishop Stephen*), Lewis McArthur, Eden Smyth, John Ferguson, Angie Mortimer-Farthing, Jean Rennie, John Mooney, Fr Martin Smith, Roy Drysdale
Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!

We pray for those who have died recently:

Margaret Grey

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Alice Arnott, Edgar MacDonald, Emma Broadley, Peter Kiernan, Edward Dowd, Gerard Morgan, Fr Patrick Donagher, Canon Peter Kaye, Frank Hertwig, Moira Gibson, Keith Price

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£581.77	Offertory	£295.20
Standing Orders	£315.50	Funeral Income	£100
Building Fund	£70		
Funeral Income	£100		
TOTAL	£1067.27	TOTAL	£395.20

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

Family Quiz night - for all ages

Friday 8th November @ 7pm in St. Mungo's Church Hall, a prize quiz for everyone! Bring a team or we'll form these on the night. Sign up using the sheets at the back of the church so we have a view of numbers please. Cost will be £2 per adult, kids free. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tea will be provided at half-time.

Annual Mass for Deceased Bishops, Priests and Deacons

Bishop Andrew will celebrate the annual Requiem Mass for Deceased Bishops, Priests and Deacons on **Thursday 14th November at 12 noon** in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee. All are welcome to attend.

New Lectionaries

As mentioned previously, from Advent this year, we will begin using new lectionaries for the Scripture readings during Mass. These lectionaries will use a different translation of the bible to the one currently used. Fr. Paul Denney, a priest from the Diocese of Motherwell, who was involved in the editing/compilation of the new lectionary, has kindly agreed to come and give a short presentation on **Saturday 23rd November at 11 a.m.** in St. Mungo's Church Hall. **It is open to everyone, but I would ask that those who read at Mass in our parishes make a special effort to attend this meeting.**

November - Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

November is the month of the Holy Souls. Lists/envelopes are available at the back of the churches. Please return the list with your offering as soon as you can. The names of these departed Souls will be remembered at all Masses during November. Since the dead can no longer pray for themselves, it is important that we, their relatives, friends and benefactors, assist their passage through Purgatory by prayer, offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and Mass Intentions, for them. We will value the same acts of spiritual charity when our own time comes.

A Plenary Indulgence only for the souls in Purgatory is granted to any of the faithful who on one of the days from 1st to 8th November visit devoutly a cemetery or on All Souls Day visit a church with devotion and there recite the Our Father and the Creed. An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain defined conditions through the Church's help. A plenary (meaning "full") indulgence is a special type of indulgence that, if all the requirements are met, removes all temporal punishment due to one's sin. The church uses the power of the keys given to St. Peter by Jesus in Scripture (Matthew 16:18) to remove temporal consequences that still remain from sins committed. Even if we have been forgiven of a particular sin, we still experience the consequences of that sin in our lives. To obtain an indulgence, Catholics in the state of grace must: Go to confession; Receive Holy Communion; Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

Social Group

"Many hands make light work!" We are looking to increase our pool of helpers, please join our merry band and support our parish community. We'll let you know when our next meeting is.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Friday 8th November - Blessed John Duns Scotus - was born in Duns, Berwickshire and joined the Franciscan Friars Minor. He was sent to study at the University of Oxford and to teach at the University of Paris. He had considerable influence on the philosophy and theology of his time, being known as *Doctor Subtilis*. In particular, he taught the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (she was conceived without original sin), using the argument *potuit, deuit, ergo fecit* (it was possible, it was fitting, therefore it was accomplished.) He died in Cologne on 8th November 1308 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 20th March 1993.



Saturday 9th November - Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Today's feast is celebrated by the entire Church. It marks the dedication of the cathedral church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in 324. This church is the cathedra (or chair) of the bishop of Rome, who is the Pope. A Latin inscription in the Church reads: *"omnium ecclesiarum Urbis et Orbis mater et caput."* Translated, this means, "The mother and head of all churches of the city and of the world." The basilica was originally named the Archbasilica of the Most Holy Saviour. However, it is called St. John Lateran because it was built on property donated to the Church by the Laterani family, and because the monks from the monastery of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Divine served it.