

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 12th January <i>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (C)</i> <i>Preface of Feast; EPIII</i> <i>Sunday Missal Page 74</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Rose McNally (Anniversary)</i>
Monday 13th January <i>St. Mungo, Bishop</i>	10.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood</i>
Tuesday 14th January <i>1st Week in Ordinary Time</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Pat McTaggart Snr (RIP)</i> <i>Margaret McTaggart</i> <i>(Birthday Remembrance)</i>
Wednesday 15th January <i>Feria</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Patricia Donald (Anniversary)</i>
Thursday 16th January <i>Feria</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Bishop Vincent Logan (Anniversary)</i>
Friday 17th January <i>St. Anthony of Egypt</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Peter and Dina Togneri (Anniversaries)</i>
Saturday 19th January	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Mgr Harty (Anniversary)</i>
Sunday 19th January <i>2nd Sunday in OT (C)</i> <i>Sunday Missal Page 783</i>	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Janet Hutton (RIP)</i>

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Will recommence next month in both parishes.

Teas/coffees

Tuesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's
Wednesday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's

St. Mungo's Prayer Group

Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Father Michael Carrie (email: stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

Postal Address: St. Mungo's Chapel House, 25 Mar Street, Alloa FK10 1HR

Telephone: 01259 212486 **Parish Website:** www.catholicalloa.com

St. Mungo's Hall Bookings: Cathie Ramage

Telephone: 07596 955869 **Email:** ramagethrn@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding co-ordinators: Margaret Fern and Jean Gilbert

Email: stmungopsc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Parish SVDP

Telephone: 07866 538557 **Email:** SVDP.StMungos@gmail.com

Marriages & Baptisms

Arrangements for weddings, for which six months notice is required, as well as Baptisms should be made by appointment with the Parish Priest.

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 5th January 2025 - Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (C)

Next Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.



The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another “epiphany.” On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism. © Loyola Press



SOLEMNITY OF ST. MUNGO - Monday 13th January

This Monday we celebrate the patronal feast of St. Mungo.

Bishop Andrew has kindly agreed to come and celebrate Mass to mark this occasion. This will be his first official visit to Alloa, so it would be nice if there was a good number of parishioners to welcome him. **Mass will be at 10.30 a.m. on Monday** in the church. St. Mungo's Primary will join us as we celebrate one of our parish/school patrons.

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, Matthew Kelly, Brian Bell, Susan Dyball, Lewis McArthur, Eden Smyth, John Ferguson, Angie Mortimer-Farthing, Jean Rennie, Fr Martin Smith, Roy Drysdale, Ivan Wilkin, Chloe Walmsley, Susan Malcolm

Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!

We pray for those who have died recently:

Frank Lennon (*Funeral Mass in St. Mungo's, 21st January at 11 a.m.*), Pat McTaggart Snr

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Cardinal George Pell, Bishop Vincent Logan, Bishop George Rigg, Mgr. John Harty, Canon Rupert Loughlin, Susan Cassidy, Betty Strachan, Pat Quinn, Dina Togneri, Peter Togneri, Patricia Donald, Margaret McTaggart (*Birthdays Remembrance*).

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

PARISH INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£560.83	Offertory	£260.75
Standing Orders	£315.50	Standing Orders	
Justice & Peace	£264.26	Justice & Peace	£110.60
Building Fund	£100	Funeral Income	£50
Votive candles	£198.80		
TOTAL	£1439.39	TOTAL	£421.35

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

Our Advent Project has raised an amazing £3172.11 for HCPT Group 140. On their behalf a huge thank you for your generosity. It is hoped to present a cheque to Lorraine Glancy from Group 140 next Saturday at the Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's.

Woolly Knits

Resumes after their festive break, this Monday at 1.30 p.m. in the meeting room of St. Mungo's hall.

Parish Statistics for 2024

	St. Mungo's	St. Serf's
Baptisms	9	0
First Communions	11	0
Confirmations	10	0
Marriages	2	0
Funerals	16	8
Average Sunday Mass attendance	216	32

Special Collections 2025

Sunday 16th February	Ecclesiastical Students Fund
Sunday 30th March	Papal and Episcopal Charities (inc. SCIAF)
Sunday 1st June	Communications
Sunday 15th June	Day for Life
Sunday 29th June	Peter's Pence
Sunday 13th July	Apostleship of the Sea
Sunday 10th August	Bishop's Mensal Fund
Sunday 21st September	Sick and Retired Priests Fund
Sunday 19th October	Mission Sunday
Sunday 16th November	Catholic Education Service
Sunday 30th November	Poor Mission Fund

SPUC White Flower Appeal

Next weekend there will be an appeal on behalf of Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the Society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. There will be a retiring collection next weekend to help support the continuing work of SPUC.

Diocesan Priesthood

Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2025? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information, please contact Fr Jim Walls - e-mail: james.walls@dunkelddioocese.org.uk

Thank-You

I would like to repeat the thanks expressed previously for your kindness to me over the Christmas period. Thank you for the many cards, gifts and prayers offered. They were all much appreciated.

The Angelus

From this week (Tuesday), I would like to start reciting the Angelus before the weekday Masses in our churches (except when there is a funeral). This is a lovely prayer that can be recited morning, noon and night, and helps us reflect on the Incarnation of Christ at the Annunciation.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary **R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary. . .

V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary. . .

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord.