

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
<b>Sunday 4th May</b> <i>Third Sunday of Easter (C)</i> <i>Preface of Easter II; EPIII</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>Donor's Intention</i>
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Nessie Small RIP</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Monday 5th May</b>	<b>NO MASS CELEBRATED TODAY</b>			
<b>Tuesday 6th May</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>For the election of the Roman Pontiff.</i>
<b>Wednesday 7th May</b>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>For the election of the Roman Pontiff.</i>
<b>Thursday 8th May</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Cathie Anderson (Anniversary)</i>
<b>Friday 9th May</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Teresa Cook RIP</i>
<b>Saturday 10th May</b>	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>Nessie Small RIP</i>
<b>Sunday 11th May</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Holy Souls</i>

**St. Mungo's Prayer Group**

Tuesday 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Hall

**Sacrament of Confession this week**

Wednesday in St. Serf's after 10 a.m. Mass  
Friday after 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's  
Saturday in St. Mungo's 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

**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

**PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Parish Priest:** Father Michael Carrie (email: [stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk))  
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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 4th May 2025 - Third Sunday of Easter (C)*

**PASTORAL LETTER ON ASSISTED SUICIDE FROM THE BISHOPS OF SCOTLAND**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last year we alerted you to a Bill in the Scottish Parliament to introduce assisted suicide for citizens in Scotland aged sixteen and over. We urged you to contact your MSPs, asking them to reject this dangerous proposal which devalues human life in itself and puts our most vulnerable brothers and sisters under terrible pressure to take their lives prematurely. We advised you to encourage your MSPs to champion the improvement of palliative care instead across Scotland. Thankfully, many of you wrote to or met your MSPs to express your concerns and it has influenced a number of them to oppose the bill.

Now we are reaching another critical stage in the process where two bills, one before the Westminster parliament and the other before the Holyrood parliament, are coming up for their next voting stage in the coming weeks. So, the Bishops of Scotland are calling the Catholic community to a Day of Prayer today, Sunday 4th May: to pray for our parliamentarians to cast their vote to care and not to kill; and to pray for Catholics across Scotland to reach out to their MSPs and MPs to urge them to work to improve palliative care and reject assisted suicide.

Assisted suicide, allows the state to provide the means of killing our brothers and sisters. Not only is this wrong in itself but it takes us down a dangerous spiral that inevitably harms the most vulnerable members of our society, by which we mean the elderly, the disabled and those who struggle with mental health; all those, in fact, who cannot stand up for themselves. One of the tests of good law is that it ensures our weakest citizens can feel safe. This law does the opposite and frightens the most vulnerable all around us.

When vulnerable people, including the elderly and disabled, express concerns about being a burden, the appropriate response is not to suggest that they have a duty to die. Rather, it is to commit ourselves to meeting their needs and providing the care and compassion they need to help them live. Until now, we have trusted our doctors without question to be on the side of our life, health and wellbeing. It is wrong to think of them asking our loved ones if they would be better off dead. Introducing killing as medical treatment would, at a stroke, end all confidence in our treasured doctor patient relationship.

At a time when suicide is on the rise in Scotland and we are doing our best to reduce it, what message are we sending when we say that suicide is the right choice provided it is overseen by a doctor? Laws like this normalise suicide and, with it, the false idea that some people's lives are beyond hope

We all feel compassion for those who are terminally ill and dying and are perhaps in fear of a painful death. Our desire for better palliative care is about ensuring those at the final stages of life feel valued, treated with compassion, given the benefit of modern pain relief and helped feel some peace at the end. We owe a common responsibility to each other, especially to those who are weak, ill and dying. Legalising assisted suicide amounts to a rejection of this shared duty. Focussing the energies of both parliaments on improving palliative care, which is underfunded and inaccessible to many, is the right and the better way to go.

We invite you to join us in praying at today's Masses and in your personal and family prayers for the defeat of assisted suicide, the safety of the vulnerable and the dignity of life.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ John Keenan, Bishop of Paisley  
+ Brian McGee, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles  
+ Andrew McKenzie, Bishop of Dunkeld  
+ Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh

+ William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow  
+ Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell  
+ Hugh Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen  
+ Francis Dougan, Bishop of Galloway

### 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, Chloe Walmsley, Susan Malcolm, Winnie Solomon

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

#### **We pray for those who have died recently:**

His Holiness Pope Francis

#### **We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:**

Alistair McNie, Anna Fraser, Margaret Brotherton, Honor McGregor, Richard Clark, Michael Maxwell, Jane McShane

*Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen*

### PARISH INCOME

	St. Mungo's			St. Serf's	
	20 April	27 April		20 April	27 April
<b>Offertory</b>	£1133.18	£858.77	<b>Offertory</b>	£409.57	£252.08
<b>Standing Orders</b>	£315.50	£315.50	<b>Hall Donation</b>		£50
<b>Holy Places</b>	£271.10				
<b>Building Fund</b>	£190	£10			
<b>Hall Donation</b>		£36			
<b>Repository</b>	£250				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2159.78</b>	<b>£1220.27</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£409.57</b>	<b>£302.08</b>

*Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.*

#### **May Devotions**

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. During this month there will be Marian Devotions in both churches - **in St. Serf's we will pray the rosary on Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. and in St. Mungo's we will have the rosary on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9.30 a.m. Our annual Marian Procession will take place at St. Mungo's on Sunday 25th May at 3 p.m.**

#### **Bingo Tea**

The next event organised by our parish social team is a Bingo Tea. This will be held on Saturday 17th May in the church hall. Doors open at 1.30 p.m., Eyes Down at 2 p.m. Tickets £2 will be on sale this weekend.

#### **First Holy Communion**

Next Sunday in St. Mungo's we will celebrate First Holy Communion with some of the children from our parish. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important day in their faith journey.

### **Parish Consultations**

As mentioned several weeks ago, Bishop Andrew is asking parishes to meet during Eastertide to discern a way forward for the Diocese. By Pentecost, he hopes to have the fruits of these discussions so that he might move forward with people and clergy. A Conversation in the Spirit is indeed a transformative experience. It allows the Holy Spirit to enthuse and inspire us to know and do the will of God and set aside our own agenda.

The format of these meetings is fairly simply - it will begin with a short Lectio Divina, meditating on a passage of Sacred Scripture, this will then be followed by a period of reflection and sharing on several questions which relate to how we move forward as a parish and a diocese. **There will be details in next week's newsletter about when these meetings will take place.**

### **Papal Conclave**

The church completes the official nine days of mourning for Pope Francis on Sunday. On the morning of Wednesday 7th May, the cardinals will celebrate a special Mass *PRO ELLI-GENDO ROMANO PONTIFICE* - For the election of the Roman Pontiff. In the afternoon, the cardinals who are eligible to vote in the election of the new pope will then solemnly process into the Sistine Chapel, while chanting the *Veni Creator* and make the solemn oath before the conclave officially begins. They will remain locked away until a candidate receives the necessary number of votes and accepts the nomination of his fellow cardinals.

**On Tuesday the 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's will be the votive Mass for the Election of a Pope. On Tuesday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. in St. Mungo's there will adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with rosary at 6.30 p.m. with the special intention of the Election of a new pope. Mass on Wednesday morning in St. Serf's will also be for the election of a pope. During these coming days we are asked to keep this intention in our prayers, that the Holy Spirit may guide the cardinals wisely in their choice of a new Pontiff.**

### **Assisted Suicide Bill in the Scottish Parliament**

On 13 May, the Scottish Parliament will hold its Stage One vote on Liam McArthur's assisted suicide Bill. I would like to share with you this email tool: [righttolife.org.uk/scotlandvote](http://righttolife.org.uk/scotlandvote) - it's a Right To Life UK tool that makes it easy for constituents to email their MSPs to ask them to vote against Liam McArthur's assisted suicide Bill at the Stage One vote in less than 2 weeks. It only takes 30 seconds for users to contact their MSPs with a couple of clicks.

### **Dunkeld Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage**

The pilgrimage has medical team and a group of helpers who assist those pilgrims who would otherwise be unable to go to Lourdes. We unexpectedly have an opening for such a pilgrim to join us from 7th to 14th of July 2025. If you or someone you know would like to make this pilgrimage and would benefit from our help please contact [dunkeld@pobox.com](mailto:dunkeld@pobox.com) or call Ruth Anne on 07801 227 443.

### **Thank You!**

Thanks to all those parishioners who handed in Easter cards and gifts, they were much appreciated!