

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
Sunday 17th August <i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</i> <i>Preface of Sunday VII EP III</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>Ian Small, Anniversary</i>
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (JR)</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 18th August <i>Memorial of St. Clare, Virgin</i>	NO MASS TODAY			
Tuesday 19th August	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (EK)</i>
Wednesday 20th August <i>Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (MA)</i>
Thursday 21st August <i>Memorial of St. Pius X, Pope</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (CT)</i>
Friday 22nd August <i>Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (BMcN)</i>
Saturday 23rd August	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 24th August <i>Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Jane Fentiman RIP</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 in St. Mungo's after 10 a.m. Mass
Saturday in St. Mungo's 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Teas/coffees
Tuesday after 10am Mass in St. Mungo's
Wednesday after 10am Mass in St. Serf's
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)
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
Telephone: 07746 051444 **Email:** stmungopsc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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

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 17th August 2025—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.



Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: "Master, now you may let your servant go in peace." Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well. © Loyola Press

A little reminder 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:

Veronica McCluskey, Ann Gray, Richard Donald, Eden Smyth, Maureen Malkiewicz, Matthew Kelly, Brian Bell, Susan Dyball, Lewis McArthur, John Ferguson, Angie Mortimer-Farthing, Fr Martin Smith, Chloe Walmsley, Susan Malcolm, Andrea McGregor, Fr Malcolm Hutchison, Maria Benei, Anne McEvoy, Mary Alexander
Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them!

We pray for those who have died recently:

Jane Fentiman (*Funeral Mass in St. Serf's on Wednesday 3rd September at 10am*)

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon Gerard Keegan, Canon Patrick O'Donohoe, Canon Charles Adamson, Fr. Hugh Campbell, Fr. James Wallace, Thomas McPake, Rose McNally, Martin Heary
Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

PARISH INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£564.50	Offertory	£289.45
Standing Orders	£315.50	Bishop's Mensal Fund	£93.77
Bishop's Mensal Fund	£361.89		
Building Fund	£600		
Hall Income	£20		
TOTAL	£1862.89	TOTAL	£343.50

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will resume in St. Mungo's this Sunday and is open to all primary school children in primaries 1 to 4. Before Mass, children are invited to sit in the front pew facing Our Lady's statue. During the Liturgy of the Word, they will take part in a child friendly liturgy of readings, prayers and activities.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN

While there was a strong tradition of pilgrimage to the burial place of St Ninian in Whithorn before the Reformation, only in 1924 was the pilgrimage resumed in its modern form. The National Pilgrimage to Whithorn in honour of St Ninian will take place on **Sunday 31st August**. Mass at St Ninian's Cave will be celebrated at 4 pm by Bishop Frank Dougan and Mass will be celebrated in the parish church of St Martin and St Ninian at 4.45 pm (for those unable to walk to the beach).

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN

The National Pilgrimage at the National Shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes, Carfin, will take place on **Sunday 7th September**. As we are in the midst of the Jubilee Year the theme for this year's Pilgrimage will be Pilgrims of Hope. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine at 3.15 pm, the main Celebrant and Preacher being the Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, who is celebrating his 40th Anniversary as a priest this year.

ST. MUNGO'S PARISH PICNIC

St. Mungo's Social Group have organised a Parish Picnic which will take place on **Saturday 23rd August from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** Food will be provided, but to give an idea of how many to cater for, please sign up on the sheet in the porch from this weekend. If anyone would like to volunteer to help out with the picnic please get in touch with Pauline Gibson on 07429 401414.

Clergy Appointments

Earlier this week, Bishop Andrew informed the priests of the diocese of several clerical appointments that will take place at the end of August:

- Canon Brian McLean, Parish Priest of St. John Vianney, Alva is to retire.
- Fr. Andrew Marshall, to become Administrator of St. John Vianney, Alva;
- Canon Tom Shields, to become Parish Priest of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Arbroath;
- Fr. Tobias Okoro, to become Parish Priest of St. Fillan's, Crieff
- Fr. Gregory Murphy OP, to become Parish Priest of St Pius X and Our Lady of Sorrows, Dundee
- Fr. Michael Ngobili, to become Parish Priest of St. Ninian's and St. Joseph's, Dundee
- The parish of St. Clement's, Dundee is to be linked to the Immaculate Conception, Dundee with Fr. Jim Walls serving as Parish Priest of both.

We pray for all those priests who will be moving parishes, and for Canon McLean as he begins his well earned retirement.

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from **26th - 28th September 2025** at the Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact Maggie on 01389 751677 or Email: beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com Please register before 12th September.

Concert in Memory of St. John Paul II

A concert of classical and religious music dedicated to the memory of St. John Paul II will be taking place in St. Mungo's Church on **Saturday 18th October at 1 p.m.** It will feature several Polish musicians and singers. Tickets will be on sale from next weekend (Adults £15/Children £7)

Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage

The Centenary Pilgrimage to pray for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair will take place on **Sunday 21st September** from 12:30-6:00pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NA. 12.30pm-1.30pm Refreshments & sale of candles/goods; 1:30pm-2:30pm Holy Hour; 3:00-4:00pm Reflection; 4:30pm Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Leo Cushley. Confessions available all afternoon.

MARGO ART PRESENTS
CONCERT
DEDICATED TO
the memory of
SAINT JOHN PAUL II

In the program

- F. CHOPIN Polonez op.40
- F. CHOPIN - Sonata for Cello and Piano op.65
- MAKLAKIEWICZ Offertorium
- C. FRANCK Paris Angelicus
- SCHUBERT Ave Maria

FAVORITE SONGS of SAINT JOHN PAUL II

18.10.2025
St Mungo's RC Church
ALLOA
at 13.00

Tickets **£15 (£7 kids)**

Available at Margo Art: marekhalloa@gmail.com / 07849898871, in Polish shops & before the concert

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