

*Welcome to the Parishes of  
St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield*

*Sunday 31st August 2025—Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*



***'Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'***

Meals played an important role in the society in which Jesus lived. More than a time for sharing nourishment, they were a time to share ideas and to model different aspects of social relationships. In Luke's Gospel, the places that a person ate (at the home of a tax collector, 5:29), the people with whom a person ate (sinners, 5:30), whether a person washed before eating (11:38), and, as is the case here, the place that a person sits while eating are all important. The narrator says Jesus tells a parable, but it is really wise advice to both guests and hosts about finding true happiness at the heavenly banquet.

Jesus warns guests to wait before taking their places at the table lest they be asked to move if someone more important arrives. This is more than just a lesson about dinner etiquette. It is advice on how to find your true place in the Kingdom of God. Jesus advises hosts not to invite people who would be expected to repay them to dinner but to invite those who could not repay: the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. This is where real blessings can be found.

In these sayings, Luke gives us not only advice on how to approach the end times but also on how to live according to Jesus' vision of a good society. Luke's Gospel also advises us how the Church must be part of bringing about this society. It is yet another example in Luke's Gospel of the reversal the kingdom brings about. © 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,  
Jeanette Mournian, Maureen Gianandrea, Rosanna James.

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

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

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

Bill Watson, Helen McKenzie, William Stones, Alan Hardie, Denis Gallagher, Annie and  
James Gorman, Connie and Andy Graham, James Sweeney.

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

### PARISH INCOME

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£556.11	Offertory	£265.75
Standing Orders	£315.50		
Building Fund	£50		
Tuesday Teas	£47.10		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£968.71</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£265.75</b>

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

### Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy takes place in St. Mungo's every 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.

### Sacramental Preparation for Children

If there are any families in the parishes who have children at non-Catholic schools and they would like them to be prepared for First Confession and First Holy Communion (P4) or Confirmation (P7) during the coming year, please email me to let me know.

### 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 this 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.

### St. Mungo's Choir

Rehearsals will restart after the summer break on **Thursday 11th September at 7.15 p.m.** in the church. New and existing members will be made very welcome.

### 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." *If you or you know of anyone who is interested in becoming a Catholic, please let me know on the parish email. This year's RCIA sessions will hopefully begin in a couple of weeks time.*

### St. Mungo's Tea & Toast

This Sunday after the 9.30 a.m. Mass there will be tea and toast in the church hall.

### Social Group Update

Thanks to those who supported the parish picnic last Saturday, a good time was had by all! Thanks also to the social group for organising everything.

The next event organised by the social group will be a **Bingo Tea on Friday 19th September in St. Mungo's Church Hall. More details in next week's newsletter.**

### Welcome Mass

On Sunday 28th September at the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's we will welcome the new Primary One children and their families.

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
<b>Sunday 31st August</b> <i>Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</i> <i>Preface of Sunday I</i> <i>EP III</i>	6 p.m. (Sat)	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (NS)</i>
	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (TH)</i>
<b>Monday 1st September</b>	<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>			
<b>Tuesday 2nd September</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
<b>Wednesday 3rd September</b> <i>Memorial of St. Gregory the Great</i>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	<b>Funeral Mass for Jane Fentiman RIP</b>	
<b>Thursday 4th September</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
<b>Friday 5th September</b> <i>Memorial of St Teresa of Calcutta</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
<b>Saturday 6th September</b>	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	
<b>Sunday 7th September</b> <i>Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</i>	9.30 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Bill Watson (Anniversary)</i>

**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.

**St. Mungo's Prayer Group**

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

**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](mailto:stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk))

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**St. Mungo's Hall Bookings:** Cathie Ramage

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**Parish SVDP**

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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*