

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

*Sunday 14th September 2025—  
Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*



Today's feast embodies a great mystery. Like the people of Israel in the first reading, we are called to a long journey to the Promised Land of heaven. Like them, we can lose patience and fall into sin, sin that can literally kill us (Numbers 21:4-5). Like them, our only hope for salvation is to cling to God's merciful provision.

Pope Benedict XVI summed it up beautifully in a 2008 homily given in Lourdes: *"The Gospel for this feast reminds us of the meaning of this great mystery: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that men might be saved (Jn 3:16).*

*The Son of God became vulnerable, assuming the condition of a slave, obedient even to death, death on a cross (cf. Phil 2:8). By his Cross we are saved. The instrument of torture which, on Good Friday, manifested God's judgment on the world, has become a source of life, pardon, mercy, a sign of reconciliation and peace. "In order to be healed from sin, gaze upon Christ crucified!" said Saint Augustine."*

By raising our eyes towards the Crucified one, we adore him who came to take upon himself the sin of the world and to give us eternal life.

And the Church invites us proudly to lift up this glorious Cross so that the world can see the full extent of the love of the Crucified one for all, for us men. She invites us to give thanks to God because from a tree which brought death, life has burst out anew.

On this wood Jesus reveals to us his sovereign majesty, he reveals to us that he is exalted in glory. Yes, "Come, let us adore him!" In our midst is he who loved us even to giving his life for us, he who invites every human being to draw near to him with trust. © *Scott Hahn*

***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:**

Catherine Trias

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

Canon Ian Mullen, Canon Michael Phelan, Connie and Andy Graham, Michael McBride,  
Robert Hutchison, Jean Tierney, Paul Tierney, John Arthur, Jessie Scullion, Annie Willis,  
Janet Walsh

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

### PARISH INCOME

<b>St. Mungo's</b>		<b>St. Serf's</b>	
<b>Offertory</b>	£574.07	<b>Offertory</b>	£289.90
<b>Standing Orders</b>	£315.50		
<b>Building Fund</b>	£90		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£979.57</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£289.90</b>

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

*Next weekend there will be a special collection for the Sick & Retired Priests Fund*

### 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 sale this weekend (Adults £15/ Children £7)

### Knights of St. Columba Charity Concert

The Knights have organised a charity concert featuring Leona Hens. The concert will take place on **Friday 10th October at 7 p.m. in St. Mungo's Church Hall.** Tickets £5 will be on sale this weekend.

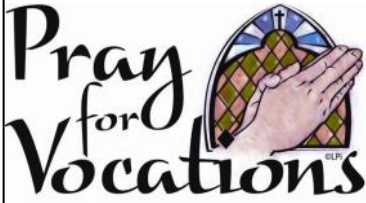
### Primary 1 Welcome Mass—St. Mungo's

On **Sunday 28th September**, we will welcome to the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's the new Primary 1 children, their families and teachers from St. Mungo's Primary. Tea and toast will be served in the hall after Mass.

## 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.

## Diocesan Vocations Mass



After an absence of a couple of years, the annual diocesan Vocations Mass will take place on **Monday 22nd September at 6 p.m. in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee**. Bishop Andrew will be the main celebrant and Fr. Jim Walls will preach. Next Sunday marks the beginning of Vocations Awareness Week, when we are asked to make a special effort to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

## VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK - Sunday 14th—Sunday 21st September

Every year, the Church in Scotland sets aside a week in which we are invited to reflect on our Christian vocation, which flows from our the call made to us in Baptism to grow in holiness and in service of others. We are also invited to pray for those who might be considering a call to follow a particular path of service within the Christian family, in the priesthood, as a deacon or in religious life. Lastly, this week invites some to consider whether God might be calling them to follow one of these particular paths. So, we might:

- ◇ pray for a renewed and strengthened sense of vocation among all God's People;
- ◇ consider what my own vocation is in life and how I might be responding to the call that God has made to me;
- ◇ pray for a generous response in the hearts of those called to serve the Church in priesthood, consecrated life and diaconate;
- ◇ consider – as appropriate to my own stage and situation in life – whether I might not actually be one of those called to be a priest/religious or to encourage someone, whom I think might be showing the signs that they have such a vocation, to consider discerning or pursuing such a call;
- ◇ pray for and offer support and encouragement to our priests, the religious women and men who serve in our communities, and seminarians and others in formation or discernment of their vocation in the Church.

For more information please contact our Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Jim Walls on 01382 611282 or email [stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmaryslochee@dunkelldiocese.org.uk)

## Dunkeld News

There are some copies of the newly relaunched Dunkeld News. It can also be read online via the diocesan website. <https://www.dunkelldiocese.co.uk/dunkeld-news-september-25/>

## Newsletter

Apologies for the small number of printed copies of the newsletter last weekend. The photocopier ran out of toner late on Friday evening. The newsletter is also emailed out every week, if you haven't already signed up for this, please email me to added to the mailing list.

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION
<b>Sunday 14th September</b> <i>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i> <i>Preface of Feast; EPI</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>Lena Bonar (RIP)</i>
	11.30 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Jane Fentiman (RIP)</i>
<b>Monday 15th September</b> <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>			
<b>Tuesday 16th September</b> <i>Feast of St. Ninian, Bishop</i>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>James Sweeney (Anniversary)</i>
<b>Wednesday 17th September</b>	10 a.m.	St. Serf's	Mass	<i>Catherine Trias (RIP)</i>
<b>Thursday 18th September</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (TH)</i>
<b>Friday 19th September</b>	10 a.m.	St. Mungo's	Mass	<i>Margaret Brotherton (Birthday Remembrance)</i>
<b>Saturday 20th September</b>	6 p.m.	St. Mungo's	Vigil Mass	
<b>Sunday 21st September</b> <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (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>Catherine Trias (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@dunkelddioocese.org.uk](mailto:stmungo@dunkelddioocese.org.uk))

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

**Telephone:** 01259 212486

**Parish Website:** [www.catholicalloa.com](http://www.catholicalloa.com)

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

**Telephone:** 07596 955869

**Email:** [ramagethrn@gmail.com](mailto:ramagethrn@gmail.com)

**Parish Safeguarding co-ordinators:** Margaret Fern and Jean Gilbert

**Telephone:** 07746 051444

**Email:** [stmungopsc@dunkelddioocese.org.uk](mailto:stmungopsc@dunkelddioocese.org.uk)

**Parish SVDP**

**Telephone:** 07866 538557

**Email:** [SVDP.StMungos@gmail.com](mailto: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*