

*Welcome to the Parishes of
St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield
Sunday 31st May 2026 - Trinity Sunday (A)
Next Sunday—Solemnity of Corpus Christi (A)*

SERVICES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

Saturday 30th May

5.00 to 5.30 p.m.

Confessions

6:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*Christina McCormack, Anniversary*)

Sunday 31st May

9.30 a.m.

Trinity Sunday

Mass in St. Mungo's (*People of the Parish*)

11.30 a.m.

Mass in St. Serf's (*Donor's Intention TH*)

4 p.m.

Rosary and Benediction in St. Mungo's

Monday 1st June

Memorial of St. Justin, Martyr

No Mass

Tuesday 2nd June

Ninth Week in Ordinary Time Year II

10.00 a.m.

Mass in St. Mungo's (*Hetty & Roy Redwood Wedding Anniversary*)

2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Prayer Group

Wednesday 3rd June

Memorial of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

10.00 a.m.

Mass in St. Serf's (*Donor's Intention JD*) followed by confessions

Thursday 4th June

No Mass

Friday 5th June

Memorial of St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

10.00 a.m.

Funeral Mass for Trisha Mulraney RIP in St. Mungo's

No confessions after Mass, due to funeral Mass.

Saturday 6th June

5.00 to 5.30 p.m.

Confessions

6:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*People of the Parish*)

Sunday 7th June

9.30 a.m.

Solemnity of Corpus Christi

Mass in St. Mungo's (Celebration of First Holy Communions)

11.30 a.m.

Mass in St. Serf's

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
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This week we return to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. This Sunday and next, however, are designated as solemnities—special days that call our attention to central mysteries of our faith. Today on Trinity Sunday we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity, one God in three persons.

Today's Gospel is from the beginning of John's Gospel. The passage we read follows Jesus' conversation with a Pharisee, Nicodemus, about what it means to be born of both water and the spirit. Nicodemus approaches Jesus at night and acknowledges Jesus as a teacher from God. Jesus tells him that only those who are born from above will see the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus misunderstands and questions how a person can be born more than once. Jesus tells Nicodemus that no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. Jesus is essentially explaining Baptism, which we celebrate as a sacrament today. Yet Nicodemus, we are told, still does not understand what Jesus is saying. Jesus continues by testifying to the need to be born from above so that one might have eternal life.

After the dialogue with Nicodemus, the author of the Gospel offers his own explanation of Jesus' words. This is what we read in today's Gospel, John 3:16-18.

In the context of today's focus on the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the reading calls our attention to the action of God, who reveals himself in three persons: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God the Father, out of love for the world, sent his Son into the world in order to save it. Through the death and resurrection of the Son, we have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit. As three persons, God acts always as a God of love; he does not condemn the world but acts to save it. The Gospel also calls attention to the response that is required of us. God's love for us calls us to respond in faith by professing our belief in God's son, Jesus, and the salvation that he has won for us. This profession of faith is a sign of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. © *Loyola Press*

IN YOUR PRAYERS

We pray for all who are ill/housebound: in particular we remember:

Anthony McCluskey, Michael Hutton, Bernadette McNally, Ann Gray, Richard Donald, Eden Smyth, Maureen Malkiewicz, Matthew Kelly, Susan Dyball, Lewis McArthur, John Ferguson, Fr Martin Smith, Susan Malcolm, Andrea McGregor, Anne McEvoy, Mary Alexander, Maureen Gianandrea, Tony Reynolds, Ann Watson, Bill Donald, Eilis Holloway

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

We pray for those who have died recently:

Father Allan Ocdenaria (North Berwick), Trisha Mulraney

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Canon John Roche, Canon Kevin Smyth, Father John Nolan, Father Jim Foley, Father Patrick McNamara, John McMorro, Kathryn Green, Christina McCormick, Hannah McNally.

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

Blessed Sacrament Procession

On Sunday 7th June at 3 p.m., the feast of Corpus Christi, there will be a Blessed Sacrament procession, ending with Benediction in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee. All are invited.

Month of June—Sacred Heart of Jesus

The Month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart. This year the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart is on Friday 12th June. In addition to the liturgical celebration, many devotional exercises are connected with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Of all devotions, devotion to the Sacred Heart was, and remains, one of the most widespread and popular in the Church. Understood in the light of the Scriptures, the term "Sacred Heart of Jesus" denotes the entire mystery of Christ, the totality of his being, and his person considered in its most intimate essential: Son of God, uncreated wisdom; infinite charity, principal of the salvation and sanctification of mankind. The "Sacred Heart" is Christ, the Word Incarnate, Saviour, intrinsically containing, in the Spirit, an infinite divine-human love for the Father and for his brothers.



Parish Pastoral Council

Bishop Andrew has indicated that he is keen for each parish in the diocese to establish a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). This is not the same as a Parish Council, in that a PPC is geared more towards developing the mission of the parish and utilising the talents of members of the parish to this end. To help us begin this process, I have invited Mr. Paul Allaker, the diocesan evangelisation and communications director to come and give a presentation on what PPC's are and how we go about establishing one. This meeting will take place on **Tuesday 9th June at 6.30 p.m. in St. Mungo's Hall.**

Deanery restructuring

Within our diocese there are groupings of parishes known as deaneries. There are four groups of parishes within a geographical location: City of Dundee; Angus and Fife; Perthshire; Clackmannanshire and Stirlingshire. Our deanery includes Alloa, High Valleyfield, Alva, Tullibody, Callander and Dunblane. Each deanery is presided over by the dean, who is elected by the priests of the deanery. Bishop Andrew has asked that priests of each deanery come together and elect a new dean. Following this the parishes of the deanery will come together in the autumn for a Mass during which the new dean will be formally installed by the bishop. At a later date a deanery gathering will be held to focus through Conversations in the Spirit on an examination of parish structures within the Diocese. The priests of our deanery will meet on 1st June to elect a new dean, please pray for us as we do this.

Annual Pilgrimage in honour of St. Margaret of Scotland

Archbishop Cushley will lead the annual pilgrimage in honour of St. Margaret on Sunday 14th June. The day will begin with the Angelus at 12noon at St. Margaret's Cave; 1pm Prayer Service at St. Margaret's tomb within Dunfermline Abbey; 2pm Procession from Glen Gates to St. Margaret's Memorial Church; 3pm Mass in St. Margaret's Memorial Church.

KSC 200 Club

In April first prize was won by Bernadette Patterson, 2nd Prize by John Toma and 3rd Prize by David & Louise Harris. Congratulations to all the winners. May's Prize totals are 1st Prize £160, 2nd Prize £80 and 3rd Prize £40. The draw will take place on Sunday 31st May during Tea & Toast. Good luck to all our supporters.

Tea & Toast

There will be tea and toast this Sunday after 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's Church hall. Come along and spend some time getting to know your fellow parishioners.

Celebration of First Holy Communion

Next Sunday during the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's, we will celebrate First Holy Communion with some of the children from our parishes. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important day in their faith journey. Mgr. Drysdale will offer the Mass in St. Serf's that morning.

CCTV installation

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week, work will take place around the church, hall and chapel house to install CCTV. I had already decided to go ahead with this before the recent problems with hall windows being broken. Hopefully this will help deter any future incidents.

Rosary and Benediction

To mark the end of this month, which is dedicated to our Blessed Mother, there will be rosary and benediction on Sunday at 4 p.m. in St. Mungo's.

Annual Diocesan Education Mass

Bishop Andrew will celebrate this annual Mass in St. John the Baptist Church, Melville Street, Perth on Thursday 4th June at 6 p.m. The staff and pupils from St. John's RC Academy, Perth will lead the liturgy.

Know your faith—Liturgical colours

Liturgical colours are an important part of Christian worship, especially within the traditions of the Catholic Church. They are used in vestments, altar cloths, and other church decorations to reflect the spiritual character of different seasons and celebrations in the liturgical year. Far from being merely decorative, these colours communicate theological meaning, help the faithful enter more deeply into the mysteries being celebrated, and mark the rhythm of salvation history.

The use of colours in Christian worship developed gradually over the centuries. In the early Church, there was no strict system of liturgical colours as we have today. Clergy generally wore ordinary, dignified clothing for worship. However, as the Church grew and liturgical celebrations became more formalised—especially from around the Middle Ages—specific colours began to be associated with particular feasts and seasons. This development was influenced partly by Roman imperial customs, where colours signified rank and occasion, and partly by biblical symbolism, where colours carried spiritual meaning. By the time of the medieval Church in Western Europe, a more structured system of liturgical colours had emerged, eventually becoming standardised in the Roman Rite. Today, the most commonly used liturgical colours are white, red, green, violet (purple), and black, with occasional use of rose.

White is a symbol of purity, joy, glory, and resurrection. It is used during the Christmas and Easter seasons, as well as on feasts of the Lord (except those of His Passion), the Blessed Virgin Mary, angels, and saints who were not martyrs. White reminds the faithful of Christ as the Light of the World and the triumph of life over death. Gold is often used on more solemn feasts like Easter and Christmas

Red represents the Holy Spirit and martyrdom. It is worn on Pentecost, Good Friday, and feasts of martyrs. Red symbolises fire and blood—fire for the Holy Spirit's power and blood for the sacrifice of those who gave their lives for the faith.

Green is the colour of Ordinary Time. It signifies growth, hope, and ongoing spiritual life. It reflects the daily journey of the Church and the call for Christians to grow steadily in faith, outside of major liturgical seasons.

Violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It represents penance, preparation, and spiritual reflection. During these seasons, the Church calls the faithful to repentance, prayer, and conversion of heart. Black, though less common today, traditionally symbolises mourning and is used in Masses for the dead. Rose is used on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday as a sign of joyful anticipation.

Overall, liturgical colours serve as a visual language of faith. They guide worshippers through the mysteries of Christ's life and help the Church pray with both the eyes and the heart, marking sacred time in a meaningful and structured way.