

**Welcome to the Parishes of
St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield
Sunday 7th June 2026 - Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (A)
Next Sunday - Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

SERVICES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

Saturday 6th June

5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Confessions

6 p.m.

Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*David Wilson, RIP*)

Sunday 7th June

9.30 a.m.

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

11.30 a.m.

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

Mass in St. Serf's

Monday 8th June

No Mass

Tuesday 9th June *Solemnity of St. Columba, Abbot (Patron of the Diocese of Dunkeld)*
(*Fr Michael's 12th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood*)

10 a.m.

Mass in St. Mungo's (*Fr. Michael's Private Intention*)

2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Prayer Group

6.30 p.m.

Parish Pastoral Council presentation in St. Mungo's Church Hall

Wednesday 10th June

10 a.m.

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

Thursday 11th June

No Mass

Friday 12th June

10 a.m.

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

10.30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Mass in St. Mungo's (*Margaret Madden/Margaret Moore, Annivs*)

Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 13th June

5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Confessions

6 p.m.

Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*Jack McKenzie, Anniversary*)

Sunday 14th June

9.30 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

11.30 a.m.

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

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

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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*St. Mungo's, Alloa and St. Serf's, High Valleyfield are parishes of the Roman Catholic
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This Sunday we celebrate a second solemnity during this period of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This day was once called Corpus Christi, which is Latin for “Body of Christ.”

Today’s Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading is part of a discourse between Jesus and a crowd of Jews. The discourse comes shortly after the miracle of Jesus’ multiplication of the loaves and fishes. In John’s Gospel, miracles such as this are identified as “signs” through which people come to

believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These signs are followed by dialogue, or discourse that interprets and explains the miracle. In John’s Gospel, Jesus’ multiplication of the loaves is said to have occurred near Passover, thus linking it to the Exodus story and God’s saving action toward the Israelites.

Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues him, perhaps seeking more food but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in today’s Gospel and tells them again that he is the living bread that came down from heaven.

Jesus’ words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat his flesh and drink his blood, they will remain forever connected to him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus’ Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ’s Body in the world. © 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, 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!

The sick list will be cleared after this week, please let me know if you wish any names to continue on the list from the next newsletter

We pray for those who have died recently:

Louis Byrne, Helen Strain, David Wilson

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Cardinal Thomas Joseph Winning, Mgr. Alphonsus Roche, Fr Jim Foley,
Jack McKenzie, Rosalind Bennett, Esther Cooney, Jennifer Burdon, Wullie Brown,
Margaret Madden, Mary Byrne, Christine O’Shea, Winnie Solomon, Margaret Moore,
Maureen Drysdale.

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

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 this Friday. 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.



At the end of Mass on Friday we will consecrate our parishes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and pray the Litany of the Sacred Heart.

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 of the diocesan evangelisation and communications group 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 update

At the recent meeting, Fr Mike Freyne MHM, was re-elected as Dean of St. Mungo's Deanery. He will be installed during a special Mass later in the year.

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, Dunfermline.

Celebration of First Holy Communion

This Sunday during the 9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's, we will celebrate First Holy Communion with 18 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.

There will be tea and toast in the hall after Mass to continue our celebrations.

Solemnity of St. Columba, Diocesan Patron

Tuesday is the solemnity of St. Columba, who is the patron saint of the diocese of Dunkeld. Columba was born of royal blood in Gartan, County Donegal. In 563AD he left for Iona, where he established a monastery. It was from this base that he and his followers set out to evangelise the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. Monks from his monastery founded an abbey in Dunkeld. Legend says that on one of his journeys he encountered St. Mungo and they exchanged pastoral staffs. Columba died in 597 and was buried on Iona. May St. Columba continue to guide and inspire Bishop Andrew, as he discerns the future for our diocese.

Father Michael's Ordination Anniversary

On Tuesday, I will celebrate the 12th anniversary of my ordination as priest. Please pray for me, that I may continue to be faithful to my vocation and the promises I made on the day of my ordination.

Lost Property

In St. Mungo's there are a number of items that have been left in the church including umbrellas, spectacles, children's jackets, rosaries and toys. They can be found in the porch, please claim these if they are yours, otherwise they will be handed into one of the local charity shops.

Finance Update for May

| St. Mungo's | | St. Serf's | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Offertory | £2862.90 | Offertory | £1129.29 |
| Standing Orders | £315.50 | Teas | £100 |
| Communications | £143.92 | Concert Income | £310 |
| Building Fund | £270 | Hall Income | £100 |
| Votive candles | £325.31 | Day by Day books | £24 |
| Repository | £60 | | |
| Hall Income | £40 | | |
| TOTAL | £4017.63 | TOTAL | £1663.29 |

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes!

Blessed Sacrament Procession

This afternoon at 3 p.m. there will be a Blessed Sacrament procession, ending with Benediction in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee. All are welcome.

A reflection on the Holy Eucharist by St Peter Julian Eymard

Jesus Christ, Who wishes to lead a soul to the Eucharist as to her sovereign grace, prepares her by a certain grace of sentiment which at first may be little appreciated. On First-Communion Day the feeling of happiness caused by the presence of Jesus is the first call; without the soul's knowing it, this initial grace grows imperceptibly, very much like the germination of a seed in the earth. Well cared for, it later develops into a need, a disposition, a habit of thought, an instinct. Everything then points to the Eucharist; if the Eucharist is missing, everything is missing with it. A soul under the influence of this grace directs her piety, her virtues to the Blessed Sacrament. She experiences the need of Holy Mass and Communion. She feels drawn to enter churches to see the tabernacle. Something continually impels her in that direction. What is that power? The sovereign grace which, after having educated her, has become the mother of all her other graces, the moving principle of all her actions. She says: "I feel drawn to the Blessed Sacrament. It is not a sacrifice for me to be in its presence. In fact, I am happy only there." It could not be otherwise, for she is living according to her special grace. . .

The sap of a tree lies in the heart of it; it is protected by the wood and the bark. Everything in the tree tends to preserve it during the winter frosts, because it is the life of the tree.

Well, your sovereign grace is the sap of your spiritual life. It will make all the branches of your life fruitful. Preserve it and defend it as the heart, the soul of your supernatural life.