

**WELCOME TO THE PARISHES OF
ST. MUNGO'S, ALLOA AND ST. SERF'S, HIGH VALLEYFIELD
Sunday 16th August 2026 - Solemnity of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

SERVICES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

Saturday 15th August

5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Confessions
6 p.m. Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*Bernadette Forsyth, Anniversary*)

Sunday 16th August - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
(*White*)

9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's (*People of the Parish*)
11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's (*Donor's Intention TH*)

Monday 17th August No Mass

Tuesday 18th August

10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's (*Donor's Intention TH*)
2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Prayer Group

Wednesday 19th August

10 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's (*Donor's Intention CT*) followed by confessions

Thursday 20th August - Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's (*Donor's Intention AM*)

Friday 21st August - Memorial of St. Pius X, Pope (*White*)

10 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's (*Donor's Intention CT*)
Confessions after Mass

Saturday 22nd August - Memorial of the Queenship of Mary

5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Confessions
6 p.m. Vigil Mass in St. Mungo's (*Robert Moore, Anniversary*)

Sunday 23rd August - Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

9.30 a.m. Mass in St. Mungo's (*People of the Parish*)
11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Serf's (*Donor's Intention CT*)

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Father Michael Carrie (*email: stmungo@dunkelddiocese.org.uk*)

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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*



Today's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven.

The Gospel for this feast day recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the Angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favour upon the people of Israel. Mary's Magnificat, in particular, echoes the song of praise offered by Hannah, the mother of Samuel.

The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. This is called the Immaculate Conception. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all.

Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation. © Loyola Press



IN YOUR PRAYERS

We pray for all who are ill/housebound: in particular we remember:
 Sophie Honeyman, Susan Malcolm, Maureen Gianandrea, Anne McEvoy,
 Andrea McGregor, Anthony McCluskey, Teresa McCutcheon, Joe Kraemer,
 Gina Orlandi, John Glass

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

We pray for those who have died recently:
 Ian Meadows

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:
 Mgr. John Roche, Canon Augustine McDermott, Thomas McPake, Rose McNally,
 Martin Heary, Robert Moore.
Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. Amen

Last week's offerings

St. Mungo's		St. Serf's	
Offertory	£477.60	Offertory	£202.29
Standing Orders	£315.50		
Building Fund	£30		
Hall Income	£100		
TOTAL	£923.10	TOTAL	£312.90

Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parishes!

A reminder that if you pay income and do not already Gift-Aid your offering, please consider doing so, as the parish can claim 25p for every £1 given. Forms are available on request. If you would like to set up a standing order for your weekly offering the details for the parishes are below. If you Gift Aid please put your name and envelope number as a reference, thanks!

St. Mungo's
 Account name: Trustees of RC Diocese of Dunkeld for St. Mungo's Alloa
 Sort Code: 80-05-28
 Account Number: 00867783

St. Serf's
 Account name: Trustees of RC Diocese of Dunkeld for St. Serf's High Valleyfield
 Sort Code: 80-06-55
 Account Number: 00720549

A trip down Memory Lane

As part of this year's Clackmannanshire Doors Open Weekend events on **27th/28th** September we'd like to welcome people into St Mungo's and share with them some of our Parish history. Do you have fond memories, anecdotes, recollections of days past, any photographs you'd like to share? We'll take good care of anything submitted & return them to you after the event. If you have anything in a digital format you can send them to StMungosSocialEvents@outlook.com If you have any suggestions for the above please get in touch & let us know.

Knights Of St Columba Race Night

In aid of the Social Events Group on **Friday 4th September**. Tickets on sale now only £10 including your own horse in a race, with a chance to win a prize.
 Hot Dogs, BYOB, fun for all and an auction. More details to follow.

WDR Country Music Evening

It's time for the annual country music picnic evening with the WDR Band. Come and join us on **Friday 21st August** in the church hall. Saloon doors open at 7pm so bring your drinks and snacks and enjoy an evening of good old toe tapping country music. Tickets are £5, available at the back of the church after Mass, there will be a raffle with all proceeds going to church funds. Any donations for the raffle will be most welcome and can be left at the back of the church. Lookin' forward to seeing y'all!

St. Mungo's Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will resumes in St. Mungo's next Sunday and is open to all 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, before rejoining us for the liturgy of the Eucharist.

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 30th 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 6th September**. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine at 3pm, the main Celebrant and Preacher being the Most Rev. William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow.

Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage

This year's pilgrimage takes place on **Sunday 20th September** at St Patrick's Church in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. It's the annual opportunity to come together to pray for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair, entombed in the Sacred Heart chapel at St Patrick's. Schedule: 12.30pm - Sale of candles & goods, refreshments; 1:30pm - Holy Hour (exposition and benediction); 3pm - Reflection from Canon Jock Dalrymple; 4.30pm - Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley (Homilist: Fr Michael John Galbraith).

Back to school

Last week the St. Mungo's pupils returned to the classroom followed by St. Serf's this coming week. I hope that the staff and pupils have had an enjoyable and restful time and are ready for the new academic year. Best wishes to all those starting school and to those moving on to high school.

Be part of the National Conversation

Catholics across Scotland are encouraged to take part in the National Conversation, a UK-wide listening exercise giving people the opportunity to share what is working well in their communities, the challenges they face, and their hopes for the future.

Our faith calls us to play an active part in society and to work for the common good. This is an opportunity to ensure that Catholic voices, experiences and values are part of this important national conversation.

Complete the National Conversation survey: www.national-conversation.ox.ac.uk

A little thought 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