Newsletter, 26th April 2026
4th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Our Lady & St. Bridget's, RC West Calder

4 West End, West Calder, EH55 8EF. Tel: 01506 871240.
Parish Priest: Fr Marcin Motyka SAC STD
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www.westcaldercatholicchurch.org

Mass schedule

Saturday 5.15pm John Walsh (RIP)
Sunday 11am S. Elizabeth & Jim Wynne (Thanksgiving)
12.30 🇵🇱

Monday 9.30am Ryan Kelly (Special Intention)

Tuesday No public Mass

Wednesday 7pm Liam McBirnie (RIP)

Thursday 9.30am Aneta Kozakiewicz (Anniv)

Friday 9.30am Anne Hutton (RIP)

Saturday 5.15pm Kathleen Sandham (6th Anniv)
Sunday 11.00am S Ann and Denis Kiernan & Family
12.30 🇵🇱

S – Mass live streamed online 🇵🇱 Mass in Polish Language.
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)- 30 minutes before Saturday & Sunday Mass and during Wednesday's Adoration.
Sick & Housebound visit – Every First Friday after morning Mass.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 6pm every Wednesday.
Rosary – 15min before every first Saturday/Sunday Mass.
Chaplet to the Divine Mercy – 15min before Wednesday Mass.
Children's Newsletters availably at the back of the church
Weekly Parish Newsletter – Online. Free Printed version at the back of the church (Sign up required)
The church is open daily from morning till 6pm (or Sunset in Winter)
HMP Addiewell Sunday Mass - Missa pro populo

Upcoming Events

May 3rd – Children's Liturgy
May 11th – PPC
May 11th – Rehearsal and breakfast for P4 children.
May 14th - Ascension Day
May 31st – Frist Holy Communion

Gospel Connection

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, we hear the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who knows His sheep and calls each by name.

As we celebrate Vocation Sunday, we are reminded that every vocation begins with listening to His voice. The Church especially prays for those called to priesthood and religious life, that they may follow with courage and trust.

The Good Shepherd is responsible for His flock: He cares for them tenderly, protects them from harm, and seeks out those who are lost. The questions is: Am I attentive to the shepherd's voice?

NEWS FROM THE PARISH

Sanctuary Lamps: Ann and Denis Kiernan & Family

World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life is today. We give thanks for the men and women in the Archdiocese who have generously answered God's call to serve His Church. We particularly pray for Fr Marcin and thank him for his service to the parish. Please pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, that more hearts may be open to hearing and responding to the Lord's call. There is a special collection for Ecclesiastical students at Mass this weekend. Your donation helps cover tuition fees and living costs for seminarians. Matthew McCafferty, a seminarian for the Archdiocese from Bathgate, said: "Knowing that the faithful of the Archdiocese are supporting us—both spiritually and in practical ways—gives great encouragement. It's a reminder that this vocation is something we share together as a Church." Donations can also be made online at bit.ly/eccstudents25

Our SCIAF Wee Boxes collection this year raised £761.38. (after updates) A big thank you to everyone who contributed!

West Highland Way Charity Walk - One of our parishioners, Ged McCormack is walking the West Highland Way (96 miles) with some of his family (Charlie, Anne & Liz) for the fantastic Marie Curie Charity that provides end of life care for cancer patients and would very much appreciate any donations. Thank You so much, Ged & family. (Poster at back of church includes QR code)
Link to the Just Giving Web page.

Seminars "Life in the Spirit – Living stones Prayer Groupe hosts every Tuesday of the week starting 21st April 2026 for 7weeks. 7.30-9pm. St. Andrew's RC, Livingston. More info on the poster.

NEWS FORM THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Gillis Centre
The Archdiocese has announced that The Gillis Centre, which has long served as its administrative home, will be placed on the market for sale later this year. This follows a long process of review and time of reflection and discernment about how best to support the mission and future needs of the Archdiocese. The Gillis Centre holds a special place in the life of many, and Archbishop Cushley asks us to keep this transition in our prayers. The Curia team will continue their work there for now and will move to new premises in due course. Further information is available on the Archdiocesan website: archedinburgh.org/news

In the Community

Pray for the sick
Irene McFadden, Frank McLinden, Margaret Mooney, Rachel Shiels, Bernard Kane, Molly Wade, Joe Thomas, Sebastian B Farrell, David Johnston, Brian Hawthorn, Rose Mooney.

Parish Mass Books
Order of Mass: p.7
Readings: 262.

Sunday collection
£454.90
+ approx. £350.75pw
(£110pw Card Payments;
£59 pw Online Donations;
£181.75 pw Direct Debits)

Bonus Ball winner:
No7 Janette Steel

Scan QR to donate online

Corpus Christi Procession - Save the Date
The annual Archdiocesan Corpus Christi procession, led by Archbishop Cushley, will take place from Our Lady & St Andrew's, Stirling Street, Galashiels, on the afternoon of Sunday 7 June 2026. Details to follow soon.

Family Picnic & Mass
Join families from around the Archdiocese at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB for a picnic at 1:00pm on Saturday 9 May, followed by a time of catechesis, games, a Rosary procession and concluding with a Vigil Mass at 4:00pm. Bring your own picnic, and the Archdiocese will provide tea/coffee, soft drinks & a dessert. The day is aimed especially at families with school-age children. Register at **bit.ly/archpicnic26**. Event hosted by the Marriage & Family and Catechetics Commissions of the Archdiocese.

Pentecost event for young adults
Join young adults from across the Archdiocese to celebrate Pentecost at St Andrew's Church, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3DP, on Saturday 23 May, beginning at 4:00pm. There will be a talk, Eucharistic Adoration & opportunity for Confession, Holy Mass and a barbecue. Organised by the Archdiocese along with the young adult ministries at Edinburgh Jesuit Church, St Mary's Cathedral and St Albert's Chaplaincy. Register at **bit.ly/pentecost26**. Come, Holy Spirit!

Edinburgh Seven Hills Pilgrimage
The Seven Hills of Edinburgh Pilgrimage route is approximately 26km, taking in Castle Hill, Corstorphine Hill, Craiglockhart Hill, Braid Hill, Blackford Hill, Arthur's Seat and Calton Hill. Starts at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral at 9:00am on Saturday 13 June with a dedicated reflection at each peak from Monsignor Jeremy Milne. Details and registration at **bit.ly/sevenhills26**

Mass for Married & Engaged Couples
From Fr Benedict Iwatt, VE for Marriage & Families: A reminder that the annual Mass for Married and Engaged Couples is at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 19 June. We will acknowledge and celebrate couples who are marking significant milestones in their married life (10th, 25th, 50th, 60th, and 70th) so please submit to me names and relevant details of parishioners (vemarriage@staned.org.uk) so that they receive a special invitation to attend the Mass from Archbishop Cushley.

St Margaret Pilgrimage
This annual national Catholic event takes place on Sunday 14 June in Dunfermline. Schedule: 12:00pm Angelus at St Margaret's Cave; 1:00pm Prayer Service at St Margaret's tomb at Dunfermline Abbey; 2:00pm Procession from Glen Gates to St Margaret's Memorial Church, East Port; 3:00pm Mass at St Margaret's Memorial Church, celebrated by Archbishop Cushley.

REGULAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Car parking – Please use the church's car parking with consideration to other users by parking your car starting with the further availably spot and not blocking lines.

Marriage Counselling If you are concerned about your relationship and feel as a couple that you are unable to reach a conclusion alone, it is likely that you will benefit from marriage counselling. The Archdiocese has an arrangement with a qualified Catholic marriage counsellor who may be able to help you. For information or advice or to arrange counselling sessions please

email in confidence marriage.counsellor@staned.org.uk or phone 07511928621 (Please note that counselling fees apply).

Help after abortion
Abortion Recovery Care & Helpline (ARCH) helps anyone struggling after an abortion with counselling and supportive help. All services are provided confidentially, compassionately, without judgement and free of charge. Call the UK Helpline: 0345 603 8501, 7pm-10pm daily & 9am-5pm Mon-Fri or email info@archtrust.org.uk

Healing weekend
Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew and rebuild your life after experiencing the trauma of abortion. Healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgemental environment to help deal with painful emotions. Participants can experience forgiveness, find peace and restore their life. The next Scottish retreat is in November. Contact Andrea at sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk or on 07816 942 824.

St. Andrew's Children's Society - Adoption and Foster Care
There are many children across Scotland who need stable, loving families to care for them on a long term or permanent basis. Their birth families are not able to provide the nurturing or safe environment that would allow them to flourish and become confident and well balanced adults. Could you provide the stability and love these children deserve? Would you like to hear more about whether adopting or fostering a child could be an option for you?
Contact us on 0131 454 3370 or info@standrews-children.org.uk Thank you in anticipation of your positive response to this message.

Bonus Ball The Bonus Ball continues to support the good work of Father Alloys in Kenya. From time to time, one of the Bonus Ball numbers becomes available. Should you be interested in taking a number when the opportunity arises, please let Peter McNaughton (MOB: 07534 620013) know and he will add your name to the waiting list. Bonus Ball members donate £1 per week. Each week, one prize winner gets £28.

Way of St Andrews
Pilgrimage in Scotland? Try the 'Little Camino', Scotland at its best. Great trails, great scenery and a great opportunity for reflection. Visit http://www.thewayofstandrews.com/

Events in the Archdiocese
For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/

Mass offering - The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is at the heart of the Catholic Faith. It is a very special way of remembering a loved one, celebrating an anniversary, making a petition or an act of thanksgiving or sharing in the feasts and seasons of the Church year. If you wish the Mass to be offered in our churches in yours intentions please use special envelops and please hand it to Fr Marcin or the sacristy. Customary Mass stipend is not for offered prayers but voluntary contribution towards up keeping of our clergy.

Note about Hospitals - We have Catholic Chaplains assigned, but they can only act when the patient declares as a Roman Catholic and asks the Catholic Chaplain to be notified. So, communication on this matter when someone is admitted to hospital is essential. Please inform the

Hospital staff that you are Catholic and you would like to see a Catholic chaplain. If you are to receive major surgery, it is recommended that you receive the Sacrament of Anointing prior to admission. If anyone has become housebound and would like Communion at home or would like to ask for the Sacrament for the sick, please contact Fr Marcin.

Candle Lighting Safety Reminder
For your safety and the safety of others, we kindly ask that candles be lit starting from the *top shelf* of the votive stands. Once the top is full, please continue to the lower shelves. This helps to prevent burn s and avoid accidents. Thank you for your care and consideration.

Child Protection Policy Statement: "The Catholic Church in Scotland is concerned with the lives, safety, wholeness and wellbeing of each individual person within God's purpose for everyone. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of people of all ages who are involved in whatever capacity with the Church and its organisations. As a Church community, we accept that it is the responsibility of all of us, ordained, professed, paid and voluntary members, to work together to prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect of children, young people and vulnerable adults."