

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

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Parish Priest: Fr Marcin Motyka SAC STD

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www.westcaldercatholicchurch.org



Upcoming Events

February 16th Finance & Fabric.

February 18th – Ash Wed.

February 21st – Sacrament of Confession P3.

March 1st - Children's Liturgy

Mass schedule

Saturday 5.15pm Bernadette (McGinty) Hogg (Anniv)

Sunday 11am S. Julia Boles & Peggie Kiernan (Anniv)

12.30 ■■■

Monday 9.30am Donor's Intention

Tuesday No public Mass

Ash Wednesday 9.30am St. Mary's PS – People of the Parish

7pm Veronica Kilkerr Everett (Anniv)

Thursday 9.30am Harry & Bella Cameron (Anniv)

Friday 9.30am Pauline Hughes (6th Anniv)

Saturday 5.15pm Agnes Mulheron (Anniv)

Sunday 11.00am S Denis Gallagher (Anniv)

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 available 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

Family Gospel Connection

Jesus does not reject the law; He fulfils it with love. In the same way, family rules and traditions—even when they are unwritten—are not meant to limit us, but to protect what is precious. Clear boundaries, shared values, and faithful customs give children a sense of security and allow love to grow in a stable way. When families respect agreed-upon rules and honour their traditions, the home becomes a place where trust deepens and God's wisdom is quietly passed from one generation to the next. What one rule or tradition could your family renew this week to strengthen love, faith, and unity at home?

NEWS FROM THE PARISH

Sanctuary Lamps: Ad Infinitam Dei Gloriam

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is a day of **fasting and abstinence**. Catholics aged 18 to 59 inclusive are required to fast. This means eating only one full meal and two smaller meals during the day, with no food in between. Catholics aged 14 and over are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday.

Mass with the distribution of ashes:

- St Mary's School, Polbeth – 9:30am
- Our Lady & St Bridget's Church – 7:00pm

Lenten Devotions – The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday, alternating between 10:00am and 7:00pm. (Please add your name to the list if you would like to lead the Stations.) The season of Lent invites us to deepen our spiritual life and to give priority to fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. We encourage you to take part in our Lenten devotions, events organised locally, online, or through Archdiocese and to consider returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Stations of the Cross Schedule:

- **February 20** – 10:00am • **February 27** – 7:00pm
- **March 6** – 10:00am • **March 13** – 7:00pm
- **March 20** – 10:00am • **March 27** – 7:00pm

Next Sunday: Special Collection for the Pallottine Fathers

This religious community of priests and brothers serves the Church across all continents through their missionary work, hospitals, hospices, and parish ministries. A few years ago, the Pallottine Fathers with Fr Marcin were invited to Scotland and to our parish to assist our Archdiocese. Your support will help the Pallottine Fathers continue their mission, train new missionaries and priests. No contribution is too small—every gift makes a difference. Thank you for your kindness. Fr Marcin.

SCIAF WEE BOXES – available at the back of the church.

The date of the SVDP trip to St Andrews has had to be changed, as it clashed with graduation. The new date is Saturday 25 July. Please add your name again to the list at the porch to confirm you can make the new date. New names are welcome."

Church Cleaning - the new rota is available in the porch. If anyone wishes to join our fantastic cleaning team please contact Catherine - cmt35@hotmail.co.uk



In the Community

Pray for the sick

Elsie Burns, Irene McFadden, Frank McLinden, Margaret Mooney, Rachel Shiels, Bernard Kane, Molly Wade, Joe Thomas, Sebastian B Farrell, David Johnston, Brian Hawthorn.

Parish Mass Books

Order of Mass: p.7
Readings: 136, Preface: 68

Sunday collection

£599.40
+ approx. £350.75pw
(£110pw Card Payments;
£59 pw Online Donations;
£181.75 pw Direct Debits)

Bonus Ball winner:

No 52. John A Lavery.

Scan QR to donate online



Our Lady & St Bridget, West C

Next year, 2027, marks the 150th anniversary of the opening of our church. The Parish Pastoral Council would like to make it a year of celebration with the planning starting soon. Anyone interested in getting involved with any aspects of planning social or spiritual events can contact Frank Boles chair of the PPC or indeed any member of the council.

We will also be looking to identify any memorabilia people might have. To register an interest contact Frank Boles in person or by e mail: francisboles@icloud.com

New Altar Servers Welcome

We warmly invite new altar servers to join the ministry at Our Lady & St Bridget's. Serving at the altar is a beautiful way for children and young people to grow in faith and to take an active role in the life of our parish. Training will be provided, and experienced servers will be happy to support newcomers. Parents and children who are interested are kindly asked to speak to Fr Marcin.

NEWS FORM THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 27th-29th March 2026 at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge For details contact: Louise on 07786 687631 or e-mail: beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com Completed Applications must be returned by 13th March 2026.

Day of Prayer for those who have suffered abuse

This annual day of prayer is observed on the first Friday of Lent (20 February). Please pray for the healing of all those who have suffered abuse.

Remembering Service

For those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. This service takes place at 5:00pm on Sunday 22 February in St John the Baptist RC Church, 37 St Ninian's Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8AL.

Stations of the Cross

The Archdiocese hosts online Stations of the Cross each Monday in Lent. The first one is on Monday 23 February at 7:45pm and will feature a reflection from Archbishop Leo. The annual event is to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/stations26

Courageous Heart: A Day to Grow in Faith for Girls S3-S6

Girls in S3-S6 are invited to 'Courageous Heart,' a day of faith and friendship on Saturday 28 February 2026 from 10:00am-3:00pm. Consists of prayer, opportunity for Confession, Mass, lunch, a craft, and time with new friends. St Andrew's Catholic Church and Convent, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh (sponsored by the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma). Please RSVP and request a parent permission form by emailing edinburgh@almamercy.org (or call 0131 343 3380) by 24 February.

What's Happening at Mass

Mass is the climax of Catholic life. Join the Archdiocese's Catechetics Commission to explore what we are ultimately doing with God at Holy Mass. *What's Happening at Mass* takes place at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 14 March, from 9:30am-4:00pm. Register: bit.ly/archmass

REGULAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Car parking – Please use the church's car parking with consideration to other users by parking your car starting with the further available spot and not blocking first 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@stanced.org.uk or phone 0751 1928621 (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 your intentions please use special envelopes 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 burns 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."