

## 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

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** - Children's Liturgy  
**March 17<sup>th</sup>** – St. Patrick's Day.  
**March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Palm Sunday & Holy Week.

### Mass schedule

**Saturday 5.15pm** Patrick Clinton (51<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

**Sunday 11am S.** Annwen Needhann (RIP)

**12.30** ■■■

**Monday 9.30am** Sarah Boyle (Anniv)

**Tuesday No public Mass**

**Wednesday 7pm** Chris McGuire (RIP)

**Thursday 9.30am** Dead of McLinden Family

**Friday 9.30am** Richard Huneter (sick)

**Saturday 5.15pm** Cissy & Richard Menzies (Anniv)

**Sunday 11.00am S** Alice Robertson (RIP)

**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

Family life often unfolds not on mountaintops, but in kitchens, living rooms, school runs and quiet sacrifices. Yet today's Gospel reminds us that even in ordinary moments, God is present.

Every Christian family is invited to climb the "mountain" together — through prayer, Sunday Mass, forgiveness, and patient love — so that Christ's light may shine within the home.

Lent is a journey. As parents, spouses, children, grandparents, we walk it together. There are moments of tiredness and misunderstanding, but also moments of grace when we see Christ in one another: in a child's trust, in a spouse's fidelity, in shared prayer and support.

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH

**Sanctuary Lamps:** Ad Infinitam Dei Gloriam

### Stations of the Cross Schedule:

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

### Fabric & Finance Committee – New Members needed

Our parish is looking for new members (men and women) to join the Fabric and Finance Committee. This ministry helps care for the practical needs of our parish community. There are usually only two meetings per year plus occasional need for consultations. If you are interested in serving in this vital ministry, please speak with Fr Marcin.

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

### Assisted Suicide final vote

This is your last chance to help stop assisted suicide in Scotland and protect vulnerable people. Email your MSPs today - visit [carenotkilling.scot](http://carenotkilling.scot) and enter your postcode to find contact details for your local MSP. Bishop's Conference of Scotland letter available at the back of the church and parish website.

**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](mailto: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 FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

### Feel called to the priesthood?

If you have been wondering whether God could be calling you to become a priest, you are not alone. If you are considering this call, take that step and get in touch today. Contact our Vocations Director at [frpatrick.burke@staned.org.uk](mailto:frpatrick.burke@staned.org.uk). Come and see where the Lord may be leading you.



## 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: 155.

### Sunday collection

£487.60.  
+ approx. £350.75pw  
(£110pw Card Payments;  
£59 pw Online Donations;  
£181.75 pw Direct Debits)

### Bonus Ball winner:

No 27 Helen Toner.

Scan QR to donate online



## Parish Appealers

Aid to the Church in Need is looking to recruit two Parish Appealers in Edinburgh. You will represent the Charity by speaking at parish Masses about the plight of persecuted Christians around the world. Appealers will receive £250 per weekend appeal and be given full training and support. To apply or learn more, please contact [scotland@acnuk.org](mailto:scotland@acnuk.org)

## World Day of Prayer

The annual World Day of Prayer take place on Friday 6 March. It is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. Find a service near you at [www.wdpscotland.org.uk](http://www.wdpscotland.org.uk).

## Get funding for your Catholic project

The Columba Trust provides funding to organisations and individuals for projects which support the practice of the Roman Catholic faith, its ministry and values. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2026. Further details about the Trust and how to apply for a grant can be found at <https://columbatrust.org.uk/>

## 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](http://bit.ly/stations26)

## 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](http://bit.ly/archmass)

## Calix Society

The Calix Society is an association of Catholic Alcoholics, promoting the virtue of daily abstinence and the spiritual development of its members. It meets on the first Saturday of the month at 1:30pm, following the 12:30pm Mass at St Patrick's Church in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. It hosts a talk on Venerable Matt Talbot on Saturday 7 March at 1:30pm. No registration required.

## Legion of Mary of the Edinburgh Curia Annual Acies Feast

The Legion of Mary of the Edinburgh Curia will celebrate their annual Acies Feast on Sunday 15 March 2026 at 3:00pm at St Andrew's Church, Ravelston, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS. The Legionaries will renew their fidelity to Our Lady and Msgr Jeremy Milne, Vicar General of the Archdiocese, will give an address. All the Legionaries and Auxiliaries are most welcome to join the occasion. Following the service, there will be teas and coffees in parish rooms at St Andrew's. Kindly use public parking, since there is limited parking on the church premises.

## National Catholic Event

Join others from across Scotland for '[Trust in God Still - a celebration of the Catholic Church in Scotland](#)'. The day takes place at Glasgow Caledonia University on Saturday 6 June 2026. It is an opportunity to discover a practical and prayerful way of discerning God's will together for the future of the Church. Tickets £65 (includes lunch). Register at [bit.ly/synodality26](http://bit.ly/synodality26)

## 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@staned.org.uk](mailto:marriage.counsellor@staned.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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 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."