Newsletter, 23rd March 2025
3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C.

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
e-mail: office.stmaryswestcalder@staned.org.uk
www.westcaldercatholicchurch.org

Mass schedule

Saturday 5.15pm Otto & Annie Tumilowicz (Anniv)
Sunday 11.00am S John Lawlor (Anniv)
12.30

Monday 9.30am Dennis Gallagher (Anniv)
Tuesday No public Mass

Wednesday 7pm Jacqueline Manzan & Dieudonne Niamien (Anniv)

Thursday 9.30am Funeral Mass: John Burns (RIP)

Friday 9.30am Agnes Mulheron (RIP)

Saturday 5.15pm Alex & Margaret Trench
Sunday 11.00am S. Agnes & Peter Mulheron (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 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

6th April - Children's Liturgy
13th April Palm Sunday & Holy Week.

Family Connection

We may be unfamiliar with fig trees, but we might know about the growth of spring flowers. Perhaps we have looked at a dry, brown flower bulb and wondered how this produces the colorful tulip or daffodil blossom that we expect to bloom in the spring. Perhaps we've even thought about the patience and hope that are required to plant flower bulbs in October. We don't have to be gardeners, however, to know about patience and hopefulness. As parents, we practice these virtues each day with our children. We may become frustrated and even angered by their willfulness and lack of cooperation. Yet we continue to offer our attention and guidance in hope that one day our efforts will bear fruit. Today's parable suggests that God is like that with us, working with us in patience and in hope that one day we will show evidence that such work is not in vain.

News from the parish and the archdiocese

Sanctuary Lamps: Ad Infinitam Dei Gloriam

Liturgical calendar: Tue – The Annunciation of our Lord.

Next Sunday second collection will be taken up for Papal & Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF).

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent collection for the Pallottine Fathers. For us its a sign of your support and willingness to share in our mission. May God bless you all. Fr Marcin.

Lenten Devotions – Stations of the Cross
28 March 7pm, 4 April 10am; 11 April 7pm.
Volunteers need to lead the prayers. List at the back of the church.

Funerals: John Burns (RIP) of Loganlea – Funeral Mass Thu 27th March 9.30m *May he rest in peace and rise in Glory. Amen.*

A message from Archbishop Cushley
"On Sunday 30 March there will be a special collection at all parishes for Papal & Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF). 75 per cent of the collection goes to SCIAF and 25 per cent to the Archdiocesan Care Fund. Last year £38,000 was raised from this collection; £28,500 went to SCIAF and £9,500 went to the Archdiocesan Care Fund. With your kind donations Care Fund grants went to: Bethany Care Trust (Homeless support), Ukraine Project (rehabilitation centre in Ukraine), Across (Pilgrimages for people with severe disabilities) and FAFCE (Promoting Family Life at the UN, EU and Council of Europe). We pray for all those involved in charities which help those in need in the Archdiocese and across the world, including the good work of SCIAF. Thank you for your generosity in almsgiving this Lent."

Young Adults' Holy Week event
The Archdiocese invites young adults (18+) to prepare for Holy Week and Easter on Saturday 12 April at St Margaret's Chapel at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB from 11:30am-3:00pm. There will be talks from speakers including Fr David Stewart SJ and the event concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley. Recollect, pray and celebrate your Catholic faith. Register by emailing frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk.

Stations of the Cross
Monday, 24 March, 7:45pm with a reflection from John Deighan, CEO of SPUC. Join John and Catholics from across Scotland to pray for the unborn, their mothers and all pro-life intentions.
Register: bit.ly/Stations25

In the Community

Pray for the sick
Elsie Burns, Irene McFadden, Frank McLinden, Margaret Mooney, Rachel Shiels, Bernard Kane, Molly Wade, Joe Thomas, John Size; Sebastian Benedict Farrell.

Parish Mass Books
Order of Mass: p.7
Readings: p.160
Preface: p.70. II.

Sunday collection
£603.10
+ approx. £350.75pw
(£110pw Card Payments; £59 pw Online Donations; £181.75 pw Direct Debits)

Second collection (Pallottine Fathers) : £385.70

Bonus Ball winner
No 28 Tommy Woods

Talk at Carmelite Convent
A series of Holy Year talks take place on the last Sunday of each month at the Carmelite Convent, Hot Pot Wynd, Dysart, KY1 2TF. The next one is on Sunday 30 March at 4:30pm when Canon James Tracey discusses *Reconciliation - Forgiveness*. The one-hour event includes evening prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and has been organised by the Fife Deanery. All welcome.

Palm Sunday Youth Day
Let your children know about this day of games and inspiring talks hosted by the Archdiocese at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB on Saturday 12 April from 11am-3pm. Includes sessions for primary school pupils (8+) and sessions for high school pupils. Register at bit.ly/youthpalm

Annual Mass
The annual Caritas, Justice & Peace Mass takes place at 7:00pm on Wednesday 2 Aprilat St Margaret's, East Port, Dunfermline, KY12 7JB. Fr Tom Magill of Motherwell Diocese will preach. All welcome.

'Courage to be Catholic' national conference
This conference takes place on Saturday 29 March at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 9:30am - 4:00pm. Register at https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHSR

Mass for Married & Engaged Couples
The annual Archdiocesan Mass for Married Couples (and those preparing for marriage) takes place at 7:15pm on Tuesday 27 May at St Mary's Cathedral. Please join us for this special occasion when we celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Archbishop Cushley will be the principal celebrant and will give a blessing to couples.

Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome
Archbishop Cushley leads our Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome for young adults (18+) which takes place 28 July to 4 August 2025. Cost £1,175 includes return flights from Edinburgh to Rome, coach transfers, bed and breakfast at Casa Santa Lucia and an opportunity to take part in the Jubilee for Young People programme, including attending Mass with the Holy Father. Limited single rooms available. Email frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk by Sunday 2 February.

Lourdes 2025
The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Holy Year 2025 takes place from 11-18 July. For more details please visit www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25

Monthly 'Catholic Conversations' for Women
Women 18-45 are invited to 'Catholic Conversations' on Saturday 22 March, 3:45pm-4:45pm, at St Andrew's, Ravelston, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS hosted by the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma. There will refreshments, a video-input, conversation, and a look at the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The conversation topic will be 'The Mass'. Afterwards, all are also welcome to Holy Hour with Vespers 5:10pm-6:10pm. To register, email edinburgh@almamercy.org.

Grief to Grace

Grief to Grace is a specialised five-day programme of spiritual and psychological healing for anyone who has suffered from sexual, physical, or emotional abuse or neglect in childhood, adolescence or adulthood, including those abused by a religious/member of the clergy. If you are interested in attending this confidential healing retreat from 29 April to 4 May in Perth, please contact: margaret.clarke@grieftograceuk.org

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/

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).

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 first lines.

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.

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.

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."