

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	
WED	9.30am Ash Wednesday Mass & distribution of ashes	
FRI	9.00am Stations of the Cross	
	9.30am Mass: Friday after Ash Wednesday: Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	

**Last week** Collection: £204.02 Maintenance Fund: £65 Att: 52

MINISTRIES	15/2/2026	22/2/2026
Church Cleaning	-	M & L Collins
Counters	Collins	Foote
Welcome	Cruickshank/Farrell	Farrell/Harvey
Hall keeper	K Cruickshank	R Hendry
Sat Reader	K Cruickshank	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EMoHC	R Hendry	M Collins
Sun Reader	M Le Mero, E Danby	M Farrell, A Mitchell
Sun EMoHC	A Mitchell, M Moir	E Danby, I Grant
Flowers	Artificial	None in Lent
Teas	Liz & Ron	Carol & Graeme

#### Useful contacts:

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 780208
	email	cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 780208
	email	poe@rcda.scot
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
	email	deacon.graeme@rcda.scot
PPC Chair:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
Parish Safeguarding Co-ord:	Elizabeth Danby	<a href="mailto:stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org">stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org</a>
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116
	or	<a href="mailto:mcfarrell@btinternet.com">mcfarrell@btinternet.com</a>
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	07387008498
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd
		01224 482657
		ARI@rcda.scot

Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith

Email: [chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk)

YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly

Website: [www.stthomaskeith.com](http://www.stthomaskeith.com)



## ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE



15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (A II) Psalter Week 2

### THE ANNOUNCER!

A true Christian, someone called to live the life of Christ, should not be seeking to know the minimum requirements, as the commandments would express, but how to maximise love in action. Today's readings invite us to reflect on how God wants us to live and how we should see the divine law for us in the practice of an authentic Christian life.

In the first reading, the book of Sirach speaks plainly and reminds us that God did not create us to sin, nor does He force us to obey Him. Instead, He sets before us fire and water, life and death, and invites us to choose wisely. Our obedience to God should arise from within us as a free response to God's love and never a burden imposed from outside. Sirach makes it clear that God's commandments are life-giving, and our choices carry real consequences.

In the second reading, St Paul deepens this understanding by speaking of a wisdom that goes beyond human reasoning; the wisdom of God revealed through the Spirit, which cannot be grasped by human intelligence alone. This wisdom is revealed to those who open their hearts to God. It is the wisdom to live according to God's commandments freely. The Spirit helps us to see God's loving will in the commandments and appreciate it.

In the Gospel, we are challenged strongly by the elevated standards Jesus taught. Jesus declares that He has not come to abolish the law but to fulfil it. He then raises the bar by moving from external obedience to internal conversion. It is no longer enough to avoid murder; anger, which can result in murder, must be healed. It is not enough to avoid adultery; the heart must be purified, and so on. Jesus calls His disciples and us to a righteousness that flows from within, shaped by love, truth, and freedom.

We are called to freely choose each day to live by Christ's standards, allowing God's law to shape our thoughts, intentions, words, and actions. In freedom and love, we are given the opportunity each day to choose life over death, forgiveness over resentment, honesty over deception, and faithfulness over convenience. May the Lord help us by his grace to choose wisely. Amen.

*Fr. Kingsley*

**Welcome:** to all our visitors, feel free to look around our beautiful church, particularly the St John Ogilvie Chapel & Exhibition.

**Hospital Chaplain:** Deacon Graeme is very happy to visit parishioners in hospital, but he needs to know if you or a loved one is in that position. Hospitals are not allowed to pass on that information, so please just give him a ring.

**Important update:** please note the parish telephone number is now **01542 780208**

**Please pray for** the repose of the soul of Maggie Maskew who died earlier this week. RIP

**Lent:** This year, Ash Wednesday falls on 18<sup>th</sup> February. There will be Masses in all 4 parishes Keith 9.30am, Buckie 11am, Fochabers 5pm, Huntly 6.30pm. During Lent, Exposition on Fridays will be replaced with Stations of the Cross, the weekday Mass will return to the church itself and the WEE Boxes will be here soon!

**Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse** will be observed by the Catholic Church in Scotland on the first Friday of Lent - **Friday 20th February 2026**. This day is set aside to provide opportunities for Catholic parishes and communities throughout Scotland to pray for the healing of all those who have suffered abuse.

**World Day of Prayer:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm will be held in St Rufus this year. All welcome.

**St John Ogilvie Mass:** To mark the Feast day of Scotland's only post – Reformation Saint. Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 11 am.

**Lenten Retreat:** early notice – we will host the annual retreat for the 4 parishes here on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Details to follow.

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen Youth Events:** Just to let you know that our diocesan youth have many opportunities to come together in Christian fellowship. Listed below are just some of the upcoming events.

20-22 February – Boys “JP11” Tomintoul Retreat for S3-S6 boys

6-8 March – S2/3 Power of Grace “Narnia” Retreat in Tomintoul

8-12 June – Mary’s Meals Generation Hope Camp for S1 to age 15 cost £382.50, deposit of £100 due on registration

For more information or to register please contact Sr. Angela Marie at op@rcda.scot or telephone 07938729895

**Prayer Group:** Monday evenings, 7pm in the hall. Contact: Elizabeth Danby

**Tea & coffee** in the hall after Sunday Mass, all welcome.

**The Light of the North:** the diocesan magazine is now published on line only - accessible via the diocesan website. There are many very interesting articles, some written by our own parishioners.

**Communications:** on the diocesan website (rcda.scot), if you click Contact on the drop down menu, and scroll down, you will find a pro forma to sign up for the Diocesan newsletter, and to opt in to other communications.

**Pope’s Prayer Intention: February: For children with incurable diseases:** Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**Safeguarding:** The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is Elizabeth Danby, and she can be contacted as shown overleaf. The diocesan Safeguarding page can be found at [Safeguarding – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen \(rcda.scot\)](https://rcda.scot/safeguarding/) and the text of **In God’s Image (V2)** is accessed through the Bishops Conference website.

Diary Dates	
Ash Wednesday	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> February
PPC	Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm
World Day of Prayer in St Rufus	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar 7.30pm
St John Ogilvie Mass	Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> March 11am
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm



**St Thomas’ Church** is open each day from **10am to 3pm** for private prayer. Please note, the church may not be open on weekdays in the event of severe weather.