

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
FRI	9.00am Exposition	
	9.30am Mass: St Teresa of Calcutta	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: Exaltation of the Cross	
SUN	10.30am Mass: Exaltation of the Cross	



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



7th September 2025
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C I) Psalter Week 3

THE ANNOUNCER!

Last week Collection:£ 370.30 Candles £18.13 Maintenance Fund £13 Att: 56

MINISTRIES	7/9/2025	14/9/2025
Church Cleaning	Danby & Harvey	-
Counters	Reid	Foote
Welcome	Gray/Harvey	Farrell/James
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	R Smith	B Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EMOHC	M Collins	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sun Reader	I Grant, M Le Mero	E Reid, M Farrell
Sun EMOHC	L Le Mero, E Danby	M Moir, R Harvey
Flowers	K Reid	Artificial
Teas	Pauline & Keith	Brenda & Mike

Useful contacts:

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 832196
		email cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 832196
		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	stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116
		or mcfarrell@btinternet.com
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	Dcn Graeme Morrison
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd
		07387008498
		01224 482657
		or ARI@rcda.scot
Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith		YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly
Email: chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk		Website: www.stthomaskeith.com

The Word of God today calls us to reflect on what it truly means to follow Christ – our call to discipleship. To be a disciple of Christ is a life-long commitment that demands the wisdom to pay keen attention to our Lord's way, the sacrifice in treating others as our Lord has done to us, and the love that is self-emptying like Christ's.

The book of Wisdom begins by humbling us: "What human being can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills?" Human reasoning alone cannot grasp the fullness of God's will. Left to ourselves, we stumble. But thanks be to God – He gives us His Spirit to enlighten us. Without the Spirit, the path of discipleship seems too difficult; with the Spirit, God makes our hearts capable of discerning His wise counsel.

The letter of St. Paul to Philemon gives us a living example of how discipleship transforms relationships. Paul appeals to Philemon not with authority but with love. He asks him to welcome back Onesimus, a runaway slave, not as a slave anymore but as a brother in Christ. This is the power of the Gospel: it breaks down barriers, heals divisions, and redefines human relationships. To follow Christ is to let His love reshape the way we see others.

In the gospel according to Luke, Jesus makes the demands of discipleship unmistakably clear. He tells the crowd that anyone who wants to follow Him must be ready to renounce everything – even family ties, personal ambitions, and possessions. He is not calling us to despise our families or abandon our responsibilities; rather, He is saying that God must come first. Like a builder who calculates the cost before starting or a king who weighs his chances before war, a disciple must understand what it takes to carry the cross daily.

Let us ask ourselves today what we need to let go of to follow Christ faithfully. It may be our Pride, unforgiveness, fears of the future, or attachment to possessions and comfort. Let us seek the Lord's counsel always on how we can be His true disciples in our daily living. May the Lord give us wisdom to know His will, courage to carry our crosses, and love to embrace one another as brothers and sisters.

Fr. Kingsley

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

Weekday Masses: there have been some changes in our sister parishes, Fochabers will have Mass on Wednesdays at 5.30pm, Huntly on Tuesdays at 10.00 am, while Buckie and Keith continue as before ie 7pm on Tuesdays and 9.30am on Fridays respectively. Each weekday Mass will be preceded by half an hour of Exposition & an opportunity for Confession.

Deacon Graeme : will be on a very well deserved holiday this week, we look forward to welcoming him back, rested and refreshed.

Web site: Emma has the new website up and running – www.stthomaskeith.com
Thanks are due to Emma for all her efforts with this.

LOTN: [Light of the North – Summer 2025 – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen](#)

New Parish Mass Books: these are now available at the back of the church. Several people have sponsored them already, and the Hall Committee have also stepped forward to help financially. Dedications can easily be placed inside the books if requested, perhaps in memory of a loved one. If you would like to sponsor a book or books, please let Deacon Graeme or Margaret Farrell have a note of any dedication in an envelope along with the donation.

Vigil Mass: Please note, as from Saturday 13th September, the Vigil Mass will be at 5.30pm. This will allow the priest to say both Vigil Masses, as Buckie will move to 7pm, and the 5pm Vigil Mass in Fochabers will cease after 6th September.

Special collections in September: 6/7 Sick & retired priests fund; 13/14 Maintenance Fund.

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.

12-14 September: “Power of Grace” Tomintoul Retreat (S1)

20th September: National Youth Pilgrimage to Perth

3rd - 5th October: “Power of Grace” Tomintoul Retreat (S4-6)

31st October – 2nd November: “Sacred” Craig Lodge Retreat.

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

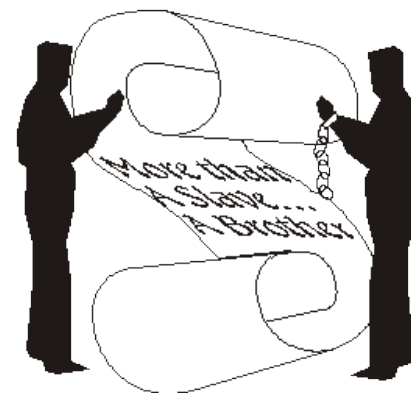
Tea & coffee in the hall after Mass each Sunday. All welcome.

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: September: For our relationship with all of creation: Let us pray that, inspired by St Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

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 \(rcda.scot\)](#) and the text of **In God’s Image (V2)** is accessed through the Bishops Conference website.

Diary Dates	
Anniversary of the Canonisation of St John Ogilvie	17 th October 11 am
Fabric & Finance	26 th Nov. 7pm
PPC	3 rd December 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.

A parish of the R.C. Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust
Registered Charity Number SC005122