

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	
FRI	9.00am Stations of the Cross	
	9.30am Mass: Friday of 1 <sup>st</sup> week in Lent	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	



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



**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent (A II) Psalter Week 1**

**THE ANNOUNCER!**

As we begin the season of Lent, we are invited to appreciate this special and sacred season of spiritual renewal – a forty-day journey with Jesus in the wilderness. It is a time for returning our hearts to God. The season of Lent helps us to face our weaknesses honestly, rediscover our dependence on God’s grace, and make every effort to return to the warm embrace of God.

In the first reading from Genesis, we are taken back to the beginning of the human story. Adam and Eve are placed in a garden filled with abundance and life, yet temptation enters subtly. The serpent does not deny God outright; instead, he plants doubt. That is how temptation often works in our own lives. It distorts God’s goodness, weakens trust, and makes disobedience seem attractive. When we fall prey to temptation, there are consequences.

In the second reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans, he contrasts Adam’s disobedience with Christ’s obedience. Through one man, sin and death entered the world; through Christ, grace and life overflow for many. Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more. That is a message of hope in Lent, since it is our time denounce sin and cling to the grace and merits of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel from Matthew presents us with the story of Jesus’ temptation and how he triumphed, so that we can learn from him to be victorious in temptation. Unlike Adam and Eve, Jesus resists the devil, not with power or argument, but with trust in God’s Word. Each temptation challenges Jesus to misuse His identity: to turn stones into bread, to seek glory without obedience, to gain power without the cross. Jesus refuses all shortcuts.

Dear friends in Christ, temptations will always come to us. Temptation itself is not sin; giving in to it is. For the moments we have given in to it, we pray with the responsorial psalm “Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned”. Let us walk daily with Jesus during this season. With Him, we can resist temptations to God’s glory and our eternal happiness. At the end of this season, may we emerge renewed, strengthened, and ready for the joy of Easter.

**Last week**      Collection: £326      Att: 54

MINISTRIES	22/2/2026	1/3/2026
Church Cleaning	M & L Collins	-
Counters	Foote	Reid
Welcome	Farrell/Harvey	Collins/James
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	K Schouwenaars-Harms	R Smith
Sat EMoHC	M Collins	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sun Reader	M Farrell, A Mitchell	J Munro, E Reid
Sun EMoHC	E Danby, I Grant	R Harvey, A Mitchell
Flowers	None in Lent	None in Lent
Teas	None this week	Brenda & Mike

**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	Dcn Graeme Morrison
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O’Dowd
		01224 482657
		or
		ARI@rcda.scot

Facebook: St Thomas’ RC Church, Keith      YouTube: St Margaret’s RC Church, Huntly  
Email: [chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk)      Website: [www.stthomaskeith.com](http://www.stthomaskeith.com)

*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. Her funeral will take place at St Francis of Assisi church, Mannofield, Aberdeen on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 11am. RIP

**Lent:** During Lent, Exposition on Fridays will be replaced with Stations of the Cross. The locations of the **Station Masses** are yet to be announced – watch this space....

**The Chrism Mass** will be held in St Peter's, Buckie on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm.

**Holy Week Ecumenical Services** will be in St Thomas's on Monday 30<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm

**SCIAF WEE Boxes** This Lent, let us unite in prayer, asking God to bring hope, healing, and the life-giving gift of water to communities in greatest need:

God of Life-Giving water, we give You our praise. We lift to you all those that seek water but do not find. Quench their thirst and provide all that they need. May we, the SCIAF family, continue to be a voice for those unheard; A pillar of hope for our sisters and brothers. We ask that You help us to play our part in building a world where justice flows like a mighty river. Amen

If you don't yet have your WEE BOX, please pick one up today.

**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 10am-1pm, ending with lunch. All welcome – not restricted to parishioners.

**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** there will be none this week as there is a dog show in the hall.

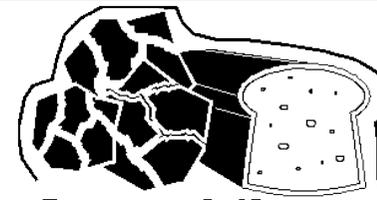
**The Light of the North:** the diocesan magazine is now published on line only - accessible via the diocesan website. There are many very interesting articles, some written by our own parishioners.

**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 \(rcda.scot\)](http://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	
World Day of Prayer in St Rufus	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar 7.30pm
St John Ogilvie Mass	Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar 11am
Chrism Mass St Peter's Buckie	Thur 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar 6pm
Parish Lenten Retreat	Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar 10am
Ecumenical Services in Holy week	M–W 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar-1 <sup>st</sup> Apr
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm
PPC	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm



Command these  
Stones

**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  
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